

## Full Time 251

### Chapter 251 Just Pre-war Preparations

The warriors moved at breakneck speeds, but Chen Gu suddenly shouted, "Slow down!"

The warriors were puzzled. Chen Gu said, "If we run too fast, the bugs won't be able to keep up!"

Everyone chuckled, the previously panicked mood vanishing without a trace. They felt Chen Gu's "confidence" was incredibly infectious. So what if they're bugs? So what if there are tons of them? We're the ones who are going to blow them up!

The first ambush position hadn't actually killed many bugs; these disgusting creatures were extremely tenacious. When they gathered again, Chen Gu saw from his electronic eye that their numbers had decreased by about one-third.

The remaining ones were clearly angrier and more agitated. Some Artillery Bugs and Spiker Bugs, despite knowing the targets were out of range, couldn't resist frantically firing their explosive eggs and spikes.

Chen Gu led everyone at a steady pace, not too fast, not too slow, baiting them from the front. Tens of meters behind them, large swaths of spikes continuously fell, and the sound of huge explosions filled the air.

Soon, they were the first to pass through the second ambush position.

The disadvantage of the bugs lacking an "on-site commander" was exposed once more. Though already bombed once, they still charged into the second ambush position without any precautions.

Loud explosions sounded again, this time with even more massive vibrations from the earth. The huge mountains on both sides collapsed, crashing heavily onto the ground!

The bugs in front were instantly smashed into a pulp.

However, the second ambush position killed even fewer bugs than the first—only about a quarter of their remaining numbers.

All the warriors watched the carnage behind them and cheered, raising their arms. But Chen Gu, without looking back, went up the mountain to enter the cave positions.

The real battle was about to begin!

Chen Gu had chosen the second ambush position with great care. The collapsed mountains were very close to their positions, posing an obstacle for the Artillery Bugs.

The Artillery Bugs launched explosive eggs from their rear spike chambers, requiring a certain elevation angle to fire. To hit the cave positions, they had to cross the collapsed mountains, completely exposing themselves to the defenders' firepower.

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Inside the Central Operations Room, even Aviloya realized that this ambush was even more critical. It truly gave the human warriors a sliver of hope to hold on, but it was just a sliver.

Hope was still very faint.

A sense of disarray filled her heart. Was this really the same lewd little thief from back then?

「...」

After the second ambush, the bugs, having suffered heavy casualties, were furious. All of them charged over the collapsed mountain obstacles, recklessly rushing towards the humans' positions.

In the cave, a completely convinced Major Jin Yongyuan saluted Chen Gu. "Your Excellency, please issue the combat command!"

Chen Gu waved his hand. "There's only one commander here," he said solemnly, "and that's Major Andrew!"

"Yes, sir!"

At the foot of the mountain, swarms of insects surged upward. The Artillery Bugs launched the first wave of attacks. Hundreds, even thousands, of explosive eggs rained down on the mountainside. The intense explosions caused the cave to shake continuously, as if it could collapse at any moment.

Then, dense WHOOSHES echoed from outside, followed by the harsh RATTLING of numerous spikes embedding into the rock.

A warrior, peering sideways out of the cave entrance, was suddenly impaled by an incoming spike. With a cry of agony, the spike's powerful kinetic energy hurled him backward several meters, and he fell to the ground with a thud.

"Medic!"

Andrew only had time to roar once before ignoring the wounded; the bugs had already charged into firing range. Inside the cave positions, all fire points opened up simultaneously, pouring out energy ammunition. Beams of light flickered, scattering the massive swarm on the hillside into disarray. Huge bugs, rushing up the slope, were met with oncoming energy beams that splattered their fluids and sent them tumbling backward.

Chen Gu also had an energy assault rifle. At that moment, he especially missed Big Rabbit. If he had her ability to control nine weapons simultaneously, he could have wreaked havoc on this battlefield.

The dense swarm of bugs required no aiming. Everyone fought like a sharpshooter, felling one bug per shot, and the swarm dropped en masse.

At this time, Chen Gu was still using Griffin Wester's memories, and the energy assault rifle in his hands was perfectly compatible with the High-Energy Combat Art.

No one noticed during the battle that Chen Gu shot infrequently, paying great attention to conserving ammunition.

And each shot he fired pierced at least two bugs.

Sometimes, even three!

The hissing swarm suddenly retreated, revealing the Giant Armored Beetles in their ranks. These massive creatures, with their heavy armor, positioned themselves at the front, with all other bugs following behind.

Ordinary energy assault rifles couldn't penetrate their carapaces. Andrew adapted to the situation, "Switch to high-energy mode."

High-energy mode consumed more energy but could penetrate the armor.

However, due to the Giant Armored Beetles' enormous size and tenacious vitality, it often took several shots to kill one completely.

Chen Gu, however, did not switch to high-energy mode. He continued using the regular mode, yet his efficiency far exceeded that of the other warriors.

This was because each of his shots entered through the Giant Armored Beetles' vulnerable compound eyes, directly piercing their soft brains.

The physiological structure of these creatures differed from humans. Most Giant Armored Beetles died instantly once their brains were pierced. Some, however, still struggled, unable to maintain formation or charge. Their "struggles" even trampled the Ghost Claw Bugs behind them, causing additional losses to the swarm.

In the Central Operations Room, everyone could get a complete view of the battlefield through the observation posts.

Despite the continuous fall of bugs on the frontline, compared to the staggering numbers behind them, it was truly a drop in the ocean.

Then, a staff officer noticed something and, with some alarm, enlarged a small frame on the screen. "Look quickly!"

The frame showed the Troop Nest Beetles. Their bodies were writhing tremendously as huge bugs hatched from within.

These new bugs were twenty meters long and over ten meters high—massive enough to induce despair.

Their appearance was a blend of scorpion and longhorn beetle. They had a thick, rock-like carapace, and their two front claws were thick, powerful, and lined with sharp, serrated edges.

On each side of their heads, they had an ovary-shaped organ filled with dark red bio-energy plasma, capable of ejecting extremely hot flames.

"It's the Blazing Mammoth Bug!"

This was one of the Alien Insect Race's trump cards in ground combat. None of the staff officers could bear to voice it, but the appearance of these terrible bugs signified that the battle was over.

"They have no heavy weapons... There's no way to kill these Blazing Mammoth Bugs!"

Chapter 252 Blazing Mammoth Bug

Bai Yunpeng immediately asked, "How long until the fleet arrives?"

"At least three and a half hours," Bai Xianya replied instantly—she had been closely monitoring the situation with the reinforcement fleet.

Bai Yunpeng gritted his teeth and said, "The Blazing Mammoth Bugs move slowly. It will take them more than an hour to reach the battlefield. If only they can hold on... there's still a chance."

But no sooner had Bai Yunpeng's words fallen than another twist occurred on the screen.

Countless fierce mosquito bugs flew back from all directions. Hundreds, thousands of them together lifted a Blazing Mammoth Bug and flew towards the battlefield!

The Central Operations Room fell instantly silent!

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On the cave battleground, the fight continued fiercely.

Insects fell en masse, and the defensive line formed by the giant-carapaced bugs had been breached in several places. On the human side, they also suffered casualties from time to time due to explosive pods and spikes.

Fortunately, they still had sufficient reserves at the moment. As soon as one warrior fell, another immediately took their place.

Andrew burst into laughter, shouting as he kept firing, "Damn bugs, come on, come on, I'll kill you all!"

Chen Gu remained very calm. The insects that had appeared so far were not difficult to deal with, but the Insect Race's lineage was vast; there would be more than these creatures.

Suddenly, a huge buzzing noise came from the fierce battlefield above, and several black spots appeared in the sky.

As they drew closer, Andrew stared in shock, "Blazing Mammoth Bugs!"

"Quick, quick, quick... prepare the personal missiles!"

Jin Yongyuan shook his head in despair, "Personal missiles can't kill Blazing Mammoth Bugs..."

Andrew roared, "If one missile doesn't kill, then two! If two don't work, then three! I refuse to believe we can't breach their shells!"

Jin Yongyuan didn't speak further. He waved his hand, and the warriors moved all the personal missiles they had—a total of thirty-seven.

Andrew looked outside. There were at least fifty Blazing Mammoth Bugs, and his face turned deathly pale.

The fierce mosquito bugs, beyond the range of the personal missiles, settled the Blazing Mammoth Bugs in the distance on the battlefield.

Andrew had been holding a personal missile, planning a sneak aerial attack to make the Blazing Mammoth Bugs fall to their deaths. That plan was now ruined. He slumped, lowering the missile and cursing viciously.

Chen Gu narrowed his eyes. He quietly set his energy assault rifle to the side, exited Griffin Wester's memory, and switched to Derek Kun Shen.

"This is an opportunity!" Chen Gu suddenly said.

Andrew laughed heartily, hugging Chen Gu tightly and loudly saying, "Right you are!"

Then, he whispered in Chen Gu's ear, "I know you won't give up, wanting to stabilize morale..."

Chen Gu shook his head, interrupting him, "This may well be an opportunity."

He drew the Riverwash Sword from his backpack, went to a firing port, glanced outside with his body angled, and then cross-referenced the view with the electronic eye's display.

Fifty Blazing Mammoth Bugs had already rushed to the back of the swarm. The massive swarm was squeaking wildly, opening up several passages to let the enormous Blazing Mammoth Bugs pass through.

The bugs were jostling each other, and the slower Spine Sprayers and Claw Fiends were even trampled to death by the Blazing Mammoth Bugs.

In the cave, Chen Gu silently closed his eyes and took a deep breath. He knew the task he was about to undertake was extremely dangerous, even surpassing the previous battles in the Star Sea!

Suddenly, Andrew felt an odd ripple near him, pushing him back again and again. Then, with his eyes wide and his mouth agape, he watched as faint blue energy ripples emanated from around Chen Gu and then, with a quick inward pull, vanished along with Chen Gu in the blink of an eye!

"Professionals are really magical..." he muttered, but then he slapped his forehead and exclaimed, "Where the hell did this guy go?!"

There were other warriors beside Andrew, who didn't know the secrets of professionals. They looked in amazement at the spot where Chen Gu had disappeared. Andrew turned around and pursed his lips, saying, "Don't ask too many questions. The masters are different from us."

In the midst of the vast swarm, circles of oval-shaped energy fluctuations suddenly appeared in midair. Directly below, a Claw Fiend felt very uncomfortable, howled, and looked up to see something falling from the sky, smashing its head right into its body.

Chen Gu had landed in the dense sea of insects!

He cursed his bad luck internally. He attempted to use Quantum Teleportation to transport himself directly onto a Blazing Mammoth Bug, but given the rapid pace at which the Blazing Mammoth Bugs

were moving, his landing point was still inaccurate. Looking up, he saw a Blazing Mammoth Bug about a dozen meters in front of him.

The surrounding bugs were stunned for a moment and then rushed over without hesitation.

Chen Gu shifted to the memories of Milna Katerina and swung the Riverwash Sword with all his might, activating the Nuclear Combat Technique.

BOOM—

A stream of nuclear flame surged from the Riverwash Sword, sending the bugs around it screaming in agony.

With a push from his feet, the ground beneath him cratered, and he sprang into the air. A distance of a dozen meters was instantaneous for a Second Energy Level professional.

But this time, Chen Gu was facing the Alien Insect Race. His pride in his physical prowess was not so impressive in the face of these huge bugs.

The moment he leaped into the air, swarms of Claw Fiends reacted. Their bodies sprang up, matching Chen Gu's speed and lunging towards Chen Gu from all directions.

Huge scythe-like claws surrounded Chen Gu, leaving no room to escape. As soon as he fell, Chen Gu would become a heap of mangled corpses, then the fodder for the Claw Fiends below.

This scene was transmitted back to the Central Operations Room, where Bai Xianya couldn't help but cry out in shock. Chen Jixian's anxiety caused his eyelids to suddenly shoot up. Even Aviloya couldn't help but clench her fists secretly.

However, in the next moment, Chen Gu's Riverwash Sword erupted with six massive crimson sword flames, shooting out dozens of meters, spinning and intertwining to carve and scorch all the Claw Fiends that had come at him!

CRACK! CRACK! CRACK!

The carcasses of insects rained down. Meanwhile, Chen Gu, using the Nuclear Combat Technique, defied biological laws. He accelerated in midair and lunged towards the Blazing Mammoth Bug for a second time.

But the Claw Fiends below continued to rush up fearlessly, obstructing Chen Gu layer by layer.

As Chen Gu continued to slay Claw Fiends in midair, he suddenly sensed an intense throb through his Mind Belief ability.

He dropped sharply, crashing onto the ground and crushing several Claw Fiends to death.

From a distance, Spine Sprayers were already shooting a barrage of spines. If Chen Gu had still been in the air, entangled by the Claw Fiends, he would have been an easy target.

But now, those densely packed spines, indiscriminate of friend or foe, turned a group of Claw Fiends into pincushions!

#### Chapter 253 Multi-Profession Strike

Chen Gu, having narrowly escaped one disaster, found himself in no less danger. As he landed on the ground, he was immediately swarmed by a throng of Ghost Claw Beetles, their numbers rapidly increasing. Gradually, Chen Gu was surrounded by the insects. Out of his line of sight, some larger creatures were stealthily approaching under the cover of the swarm.

These insects were the size of giant beetles but had the form of Ghost Claw Beetles. They were Large Ghost Claw Beetles, products of a second evolutionary adjustment, and part of the Insect Race's primary assault forces. Usually concealed within the swarm, they would suddenly break out to penetrate human defenses.

In a typical ground battle, just one or two of these Large Ghost Claw Beetles could cause massive trouble for a human defensive line. Now, more than a dozen of them were hiding within the swarm!

Surrounded, Chen Gu saw the insects gathering around him grow more numerous, threatening to "submerge" him.

With a sudden loud shout, the Riverwash Sword in Chen Gu's hand once again erupted with six streaks of crimson sword fire. This time, Chen Gu employed the footwork of the Nuclear Combat Technique. The six streaks of crimson sword fire resembled wings suddenly sprouting from his body as he swiftly weaved through the swarm. His movements were erratic and elusive. Wherever he passed, the six streaks of crimson sword fire slashed all insects in his path to pieces.

Finally, he charged towards a Large Ghost Claw Beetle and unleashed the full power of the crimson sword fire in a thicker, longer streak. BOOM! It demolished the beetle's head.

After this explosive outburst, Chen Gu was within arm's reach of a Blazing Mammoth Bug.

However, the earlier sneak attack had turned into a head-on battle due to this delay.

The Blazing Mammoth Bug, having noticed the commotion behind it, turned ferociously towards Chen Gu. Tossing its head back, it spewed forth a massive column of fire!

WHOOSH—

The intense flames scorched everything in their path, first engulfing the insects between the Blazing Mammoth Bug and Chen Gu. They squealed miserably, becoming giant fireballs. In an instant, a sea of fire lay before Chen Gu!

The flames shot towards Chen Gu with incredible speed!

Refusing to retreat, Chen Gu dashed to one side as a rain of sharp spikes fell from the sky. He accelerated to his maximum speed, his energy depleting rapidly. The spikes thudded into the ground right behind him, narrowly missing their target.

The Blazing Mammoth Bug kept rotating its head to follow his movements, incessantly spewing thick columns of fire and charring a vast area.

Only a dozen or so meters separated Chen Gu and the Blazing Mammoth Bug, but he couldn't close the gap.

When the Blazing Mammoth Bug finally ceased its fiery assault, it stomped on the ground and let out a fierce and triumphant roar.

Chen Gu swung his sword, slaying a group of Ghost Claw Beetles, and finally made his way behind the Blazing Mammoth Bug. But just as he was about to charge, a huge black scorpion tail stabbed through the air towards him. Chen Gu seemed unable to dodge but miraculously twisted his body, spun around, and rolled up along the scorpion tail.

The Blazing Mammoth Bug tried to fling Chen Gu away with a sharp flick of its tail.

Chen Gu, gripping the Riverwash Sword, stabbed backwards into the huge tail, pinning himself firmly to it.

HISS— The Blazing Mammoth Bug cried out in pain from the injury, its tail coiling as it turned its head to bite at Chen Gu. However, Chen Gu vibrated his wrist, releasing the Riverwash Sword from the tail. He used the momentum to flip through the air, landing dozens of meters away.

Three Large Ghost Claw Beetles surrounded him, all lunging forward with menacing ferocity.

But around Chen Gu, a layer of pale blue energy ripples began to rise, and then he vanished into thin air.

The Large Ghost Claw Beetles bit empty air, their massive heads colliding with a heavy thud, leaving them dazed and disoriented.

Before they had regained their senses, the Blazing Mammoth Bug not far off began to writhe in agony, endlessly roaring in pain.

Its body began to glow, bright light blooming from the wound inflicted by Chen Gu's Riverwash Sword.

The light traced along the scorpion tail and quickly spread throughout its entire body. By then, the light had grown so intense that it caused extreme discomfort to the surrounding insects!

BOOM—

A gigantic mushroom cloud soared into the sky, centered on the Blazing Mammoth Bug. Terrifying flames, radiation, and shockwaves frantically swept across hundreds of meters, with residual damage spreading up to a kilometer!

The three Large Ghost Claw Beetles were still dazed when they were instantly pulverized!

Inside the fortified cave, Andrew, Jin Yongyuan, and Dou Zhanqiong huddled together, looking down from on high, dumbfounded at the swarming insects below.

Within the hundreds of meters directly affected by the explosion, all Insect Race members had been wiped out, leaving only black dust drifting everywhere.

In the several hundred meters beyond the immediate blast zone, many Insect Race members died. Only those on the very outskirts, within a hundred-meter radius, were mostly just severely injured. They struggled to crawl, trying to stand up, but failed again and again, collapsing onto the ground.

When had the ferocious Alien Insect Race ever been so weak and helpless?

Andrew looked towards the center of the explosion, where a pit more than ten meters deep remained!

The few of them were horrified. What... what kind of technique was this? Where did Master Chen Gu hide such a terrifying bomb?

A hand gently patted Andrew's shoulder, startling him. "Ah?"

He turned around and saw the somewhat weary Chen Gu, not knowing when he had returned. He had respected and admired Chen Gu before, but now a layer of awe was added to his feelings.

"Master, you're back! That was incredible! With you here, we can definitely hold our ground. Those insects are no problem at all..."

Andrew, from a dignified ship commander, had instantly turned into a babbling fanboy.

Of the three, Dou Zhanqiong had the most complex feelings. While he had been covering Chen Gu during the destruction of the giant bubble-spitting insect, he had been guessing what kind of "bomb" Chen Gu was using. Now, having witnessed Chen Gu vanish and reappear out of thin air, he vaguely understood something.

Chen Gu waved his hand at Andrew and said, "Don't be too optimistic. I can't keep doing what I just did. I'm only human, and my abilities have limits."

Dou Zhanqiong cautiously asked, "Your Excellency, what exactly was that technique you used?"

Chen Gu pointed to Andrew. "You explain it to him. I need to rest."

"Okay, okay, leave it to me," Andrew chirped eagerly, nodding like a pecking chicken. He pulled Dou Zhanqiong aside and said, "Let's go somewhere else to talk; don't disturb the Master while he's resting!"

What a solicitous fanboy.

This explosion inflicted heavy losses on the entire insect swarm and left them somewhat bewildered, momentarily halting their attack. The warriors gained a precious opportunity to catch their breath.

In the Central Operations Room, Bai Yunpeng was greatly exhilarated. "Beautiful! As long as Chen Gu is here, they should be able to hold out until reinforcements arrive!"

But Aviloya and Chen Jixian didn't speak; their expressions remained grave.

Chapter 254 - Stared to Death (1)

Chen Jixian rarely kept his eyes wide open for so long. He had just arrived and hadn't seen Chen Gu consecutively display skills from both the Radiation Missionary and Quantum Wizard professions; he was truly shocked.

Is this... a dual profession? Or does he have a powerful Quantum Wizard item? he wondered. It can't be a dual profession; no one has ever been able to hold two professions simultaneously. But the Bureau of Mystic Security would know about any items he possesses...

Chen Jixian furrowed his brows, realizing for the first time that this young man, Chen Gu, held many secrets.

Aviloya did not make any rash judgments. In this battle, aside from his primary Radiation Missionary profession, Chen Gu had only displayed one Quantum Wizard skill: Quantum Teleportation. If there truly was a powerful item, it could indeed achieve this. However, most items could only mimic one or two skills of a given profession; it was very rare for one to mimic three or more. Only if Chen Gu had fully displayed multiple Quantum Wizard skills could one preliminarily determine that he possessed more than one profession.

Aviloya found herself looking forward to it. If it truly is a dual profession, or even... a triple profession! That would be a monumental revolution in the field of Professionals! Let's wait and see, she thought.

Bai Xianya noticed that the two Professionals present didn't react to her uncle's words and couldn't help asking, "What's wrong?"

Chen Jixian, a man of few words, remained silent. It was left to Aviloya, the senior figure from the Bureau of Mystic Security, to respond, "A Professional's abilities have limits. Chen Gu is only at the Second Energy Level. Although his Radiation Missionary profession is well-suited for combat and has astonishing destructive power, the number of times he can use his skills is limited. Simply put, lower Energy Levels mean less endurance. Take that surprise attack just now; based on my understanding of the Second Energy Level, Chen Gu can probably only manage that at most three more times."

It feels a bit strange for me to be commenting on a 'young boy's' lack of endurance, Aviloya thought, especially this particular guy!

Fortunately, no one present noticed these details.

Bai Yunpeng said with disappointment, "If we can just hold out for three more hours, our fleet will soon arrive!"

Aviloya said nothing more. No one knew if they could hold on.

At this moment, however, Bai Yunpeng placed his absolute trust in Chen Gu. "He has always been full of surprises! When we think he can't do something, he always succeeds! He will definitely lead those warriors and hold out until our reinforcements arrive! I firmly believe this!"

...

BOOM! RUMBLE...

At the foot of the mountain, the insect swarm regrouped and charged again. These creatures had extremely low intelligence, lacking even basic emotions like sympathy for their own kind. They had only been momentarily dazed by the large explosion earlier; now, their attacks were as fierce as ever!

Inside the cave stronghold, a scout monitoring the entire battlefield with mechanical eyes suddenly paled. He reported to Andrew, "Captain, another insect swarm has changed direction and is heading our way! Preliminary estimate... they'll be at the foot of the mountain in half an hour at most!"

A Blazing Mammoth Bug had already charged to the foot of the mountain. It let out a roar to the sky, and a large number of Giant-Armored Bugs, Specter Claw Bugs, and Large Specter Claw Bugs quickly gathered around it. Then, the colossal creature began its assault, starting a frenzied run up the mountain!

Andrew glanced back at Chen Gu, who said calmly, "Leave the Blazing Mammoth Bug to me."

Andrew gritted his teeth. "Did you hear that? The Master has already taken on the most powerful enemy! Are we going to bother him with these worthless grunts? Fight with all your might!"

Not a single warrior objected. Even though they knew that neither the Giant-Armored Bugs nor the Large Specter Claw Bugs were mere 'worthless grunts,' without heavy weaponry, it would be very difficult for them to harm these large insects. But as Andrew had said, could they really rely on Chen Gu for all the fighting? They were warriors, and they would maintain their pride as warriors, even if it meant dying in battle!

The sound of energy ammunition firing suddenly erupted. Specter Claw Bugs fell in droves. However, the Giant-Armored Bugs, Large Specter Claw Bugs, and the Blazing Mammoth Bug remained steadfast, advancing under the barrage of fire. Soon, they were only a little more than a hundred meters from the cave stronghold.

Some warriors couldn't help but look back at Chen Gu, who still remained motionless. Andrew angrily shouted, "Focus!"

The Master said he would handle it, and so he would—Andrew, the unwavering fanboy, was fully convinced.

Chen Gu stood sideways at a cave entrance, coldly observing the outside, but he still hadn't used Quantum Teleportation to strike.

The Blazing Mammoth Bug at the forefront was now eighty meters from the cave stronghold, closely followed by a large swarm of Giant-Armored Bugs. Some warriors began to panic, but Andrew, still firmly believing in Chen Gu, calmly fired consecutive shots. After more than ten shots, he finally killed a Large Specter Claw Bug.

The Blazing Mammoth Bug charged closer: fifty meters... thirty meters!

At this distance, its flame jets could directly strike the cave stronghold. If the fire sprayed inside, the warriors would be incinerated.

Some warriors couldn't contain the urge to flee. Just then, Chen Gu suddenly dashed out of the cave!

"Master!" Andrew cried out in alarm. Once he's outside the cave, he'll have to face a sky full of spikes and the bombardment of countless exploding artillery eggs!

When Chen Gu stood at the mouth of the cave, the Blazing Mammoth Bug had already raised its head high. In the ovary-like organs on either side of its head, large amounts of bio-plasma were being produced. It was gearing up for a double jet to completely incinerate the enemies inside the cave!

However, Chen Gu's eyes suddenly lit up with two bright beacons of light. Then, his upper body leaned slightly forward, and two terrifyingly hot rays burst forth.

**Nuclear Fusion Ray Eyes!**

His target was not the bio-plasma-filled organs on either side of the Blazing Mammoth Bug's head, but a spot slightly below its neck.

The mighty Nuclear Fusion Ray Eyes instantly burned through the Blazing Mammoth Bug's thick carapace. In a mere instant, the two beams pierced out from its back!

The enormous Blazing Mammoth Bug, dealt a fatal blow, crashed down in front of the cave stronghold without a struggle.

The Radiation Field had enabled Chen Gu to accurately locate the Blazing Mammoth Bug's true weak spot. This was also one of the reasons he had allowed it to get within fifty meters.

Andrew had no time to cheer and shouted loudly, "Master, come back quickly!"

From the sky, countless spikes and hundreds, if not thousands, of exploding artillery eggs sped towards him!

Chen Gu suddenly raised his hand. The spikes and exploding artillery eggs within a hundred meters in front of him began to slow, decelerating steadily until they all halted in midair.

Then, Chen Gu flipped his hand over, and all those spikes and exploding artillery eggs reversed direction.

With a fierce wave of his hand, Chen Gu sent the spikes and exploding artillery eggs hurtling back towards the Giant-Armored Bugs trailing the Blazing Mammoth Bug, at a speed even faster than their approach!

Chapter 255 - Stared to Death (2)

SWOOSH! SWOOSH! SWOOSH!

BOOM! BOOM! BOOM!

The spikes, with their potent armor-piercing effect, effortlessly penetrated the carapaces of the Giant Armored Bugs. Simultaneously, the exploding egg cannons detonated in succession. This surprise barrage obliterated all the Giant Armored Bugs before the defensive position!

Andrew was dumbfounded, a single thought echoing in his mind: The Master is truly mighty and formidable!

The warriors by his side excitedly raised their firearms high, cheering, "The Master is so powerful!"

Chen Gu quickly moved forward, took cover beneath the Blazing Mammoth Bug, and then gestured to Andrew, "Come here!"

Andrew was stunned for a moment, then overjoyed. The Master truly is the Master!

Due to the time constraints, the cave fortress they had constructed had a significant flaw: the defensive line lacked "three-dimensionality" and "layers."

A standard defensive line usually has several layers. If the first layer couldn't hold, troops would fall back to the second, buying time for the defending forces.

Now, the Master had used these Bug corpses to establish another defensive line in front of the existing one, resolving the issue of layering.

This was Chen Gu's second reason for maneuvering the Blazing Mammoth Bug to within fifty meters.

As for "three-dimensionality," there was truly no solution for that.

Andrew immediately led a group of warriors to risk rushing over. The Blazing Mammoth Bug's enormous carapace was thick and robust, sufficient to block all attacks from the current Bug swarm.

The corpses of the Giant Armored Bugs could also be utilized, though their carapaces could still potentially be pierced by spikes, requiring caution.

Of course, this was unlikely. Chen Gu had killed the Giant Armored Bugs with spikes because, under his "Entanglement Control," the spikes were faster than those of the Spitting Bugs.

Moreover, his spikes had only killed them; they hadn't punched clean through the Giant Armored Bugs' corpses. Therefore, hiding behind their remains was largely safe.

"Fire! Hit them hard!" Andrew yelled, full of excitement.

Chen Gu, however, did not join the ensuing battle. He drew his Riverwash Sword and carefully sliced off the two ovary-like organs on either side of the Blazing Mammoth Bug's head.

The Blazing Mammoth Bug was massive; each of these organs was larger than Chen Gu himself.

Andrew saw what the Master was doing but had no idea of his intentions.

In the Central Operations Room, Chen Jixian's and Aviloya's hearts skipped a beat: the second skill of a "Quantum Wizard"!

This strongly suggested that Chen Gu was very likely dual-classing!

They couldn't help but exchange glances. Chen Jixian tried to read something in the Director-General's eyes. He was deeply worried: Even if Chen Gu survives this, will he be dragged into the headquarters' complex "investigation" procedures?

However, he could discern nothing from the Valkyrie's expression.

Conversely, the Valkyrie could tell from his eyes that Chen Jixian was unaware of Chen Gu's true situation.

Bai Yunpeng was so excited he threw his arms up. "Impressive!"

"Did you see that? Did you all see that? Chen Gu is truly a tactical genius, with an impeccable grasp of battlefield opportunities!"

"And he astutely identified the true vital spots of the Blazing Mammoth Bug!"

"Immediately take this footage for analysis! Transmit the exact location of the Blazing Mammoth Bug's vulnerabilities to the ground troops!"

The Blazing Mammoth Bug was colossal. In past engagements, ground forces had to employ large Mechas or massive cannons to deal with it.

Tanks were simply inadequate against a Blazing Mammoth Bug.

Over years of battling the Blazing Mammoth Bugs, several differing theories about their fatal weaknesses had persisted. Now, Bai Yunpeng felt, the matter could finally be settled.

Elsewhere, Aviloya finally made her decision. She dialed a communication number and uttered just two words: "Depart!"

Chen Gu sheathed the Riverwash Sword. Gripping an ovary-like organ in one hand, he peeked out. A faint blue energy ripple once again shimmered around him.

Andrew was ecstatic, his energy assault rifle spewing rounds wildly. "Hahaha, the Master is about to strike again! I can't wait to see what he achieves this time!"

Chen Gu vanished on the spot.

The next moment, he reappeared behind the Bug swarm, his target still a Blazing Mammoth Bug. His skill uses were limited, so he naturally prioritized eliminating this most dangerous threat first.

This time, Chen Gu materialized above the swarm, and, as expected... he was still slightly off target.

As he descended, he had already spotted two of the densest clusters of Bugs. He forcefully hurled the two ovary-like organs in his hands towards them.

When the organs landed, some unsuspecting Bugs, not knowing what they were, swiped at them with their claws, slicing them open.

The biological energy plasm, upon contact with the air, immediately ignited in a violent conflagration.

BOOM!

BOOM!

Two massive fireballs erupted, and countless Bugs were incinerated, their screams cut short.

Meanwhile, Chen Gu had drawn the Riverwash Sword and charged towards his target, another Blazing Mammoth Bug. To maximize his impact, he chose one hundreds of meters away, as the nearby Bugs were already mostly incinerated.

Another "Biological Nuclear Explosion" to clear the area would have been somewhat wasteful.

As Chen Gu moved, the Bugs ferociously pounced. They swarmed forward, stacking on each other, some even impatiently trying to drag their comrades out of the way to get to him.

Chen Gu gripped his sword with both hands. WHOOSH! A twenty-meter-long crimson sword flame erupted from the Riverwash Sword!

"Kill!"

With a great shout, he charged. This time, however, he dared not recklessly leap into the air, as that would draw the concentrated fire of the Spitting Bugs.

Through this brutal melee, the Nuclear Combat Technique had become thoroughly integrated into his instincts. The sword flame flickered, and Bug after Bug, engulfed in fire, collapsed.

Viewed from above, a narrow, dancing streak of fire could be seen cutting a straight path through the dense Bug swarm.

It was unstoppable!

Shattered Bug limbs, splattered ichor, and flying spikes filled the air so densely that Chen Gu himself, the swordsman, was barely visible.

As Chen Gu fought, the Riverwash Sword in his hands moved with increasing agility. With one fluid strike, he effortlessly cleaved a large Ghost Claw Bug in two!

Light green ichor sprayed all over him. Suddenly, Chen Gu had an epiphany. This is... a rapid switch between Griffin Wester's and Milna Katerina's memories! The High-Energy Combat Art and Nuclear Combat Technique... they're starting to synergize and merge!

Chen Gu raised the Riverwash Sword high. Following that sensation, he struck. A crimson shadow shot out, moving with incredible speed, instantly carving a path hundreds of meters through the swarm.

This rapid assault wasn't a straight line but zigzagged like red lightning, making several quick turns, avoiding strength and striking at weaknesses, embodying principles of military strategy.

The colossal Blazing Mammoth Bug now loomed not far ahead.

At that moment, Chen Gu's mind was somewhat dazed. That last strike... it felt a lot like a 'finishing move' from those games in my past life!

I need to study this carefully later. It could become a trump card for the Radiation Missionary, something beyond just my skills.

Chapter 256 Stared to Death (3)

The Blazing Mammoth Bug roared and charged at him, but Chen Gu pushed off powerfully with both feet, sticking close to the ground and darting unpredictably, now to the left, now to the right. Amidst his straightforward assault, he suddenly threw in a reverse feint that completely bewildered the bugs. At last, he seized an opportunity to leap up and flash behind the Blazing Mammoth Bug.

Half a minute later, Chen Gu once again used Quantum Teleportation to escape, followed by the second Biological Nuclear Explosion! The power of this explosion was no less formidable than the last, its colossal mushroom cloud a testament to the battle power of the Biological Nuclear Explosion. The tremendous force swept away all life within hundreds of meters, its aftereffects lingering extensively and persistently.

With a THUD, Chen Gu landed in the cave. He lay on the ground, unwilling to move, gasping deeply for breath.

On the corpse-strewn battlefield ahead, Andrew seized the moment. Exploiting the Alien Insect Race's confusion from the recent blast, he ordered a ferocious counterattack that killed many Ghostclaw Bugs.

Inside the Central Operations Room, Bai Yunpeng exclaimed in admiration. He had grown "accustomed" to Chen Gu's various "outstanding" performances.

He then calculated in his mind: according to Aviloya, Chen Gu could carry out two more such surprise attacks. The epicenter of the previous explosion had been a Blazing Mammoth Bug. That bug, along with seven others caught in the blast, meant Chen Gu's first assault had eliminated eight Blazing Mammoth Bugs. As for the results of this current assault... Bai Yunpeng was still calculating when an operations staffer beside him, fully understanding his superior's train of thought, had already tallied the total, "Seven!"

Bai Yunpeng felt a tinge of regret, but there was nothing to be done. The number of Blazing Mammoth Bugs within the core of the explosion wasn't something Chen Gu could control. These creatures were so formidable that they were unlikely to be killed unless directly within the blast's core.

In other words, including the one Chen Gu had "glared to death" earlier, he had now eliminated sixteen Blazing Mammoth Bugs, leaving thirty-four. With two more surprise attacks possible, even if spectacularly successful, he might take down another sixteen. That would still leave eighteen. Were they all supposed to be "glared to death" by Chen Gu?

Nuclear Fusion Ray Eyes wasn't an innate skill but unique to Chen Gu, so Aviloya at the Central Operations Room didn't know its nature. Bai Yunpeng had given it what he considered a "domineering" name: "glare to death!" But even Bai Yunpeng, who had the utmost confidence in Chen Gu, felt it was asking too much of the young man to have him "glare to death" another eighteen Blazing Mammoth Bugs.

Bai Yunpeng felt a heavy weight on his heart and suddenly, somewhat annoyed, bellowed, "Where are the reinforcement troops? How much longer do they need?"

His subordinate reported the situation, then hesitated before saying, "General, even if the reinforcement troops arrive on time, there's still the Alien Insect Race's main fleet in orbit. Our forces need to defeat their space units before they can rescue Chen Gu and the others on the planet."

The Confederation's supporting fleet lacked an overwhelming advantage against the Insect Race's space forces. A swift victory, followed by immediate support to the ground troops, was unlikely.

Bai Yunpeng's expression darkened ominously, but there was nothing more he could do at this point.

「...」

The Insect Race adapted much quicker to the second explosion than to the first.

They barely paused before charging again towards the mountain peak.

The huge crater from the second Biological Nuclear Explosion was soon concealed by the swarming bugs that followed.

The massive casualties among their kind only made the Alien Insect Race even more frenzied, sacrificing their lives even more readily in their charge.

The pressure on Andrew and the others' defenses increased greatly.

Chen Gu could now boldly observe the Alien Insect Race army outside the cave, as the entrance was currently shielded by the massive corpse of a Blazing Mammoth Bug, protecting him from direct attack.

Next time, I need to figure out a way to gather more Blazing Mammoth Bugs together... Chen Gu pondered, stroking his chin. His "Best Actor" persona had racked its brains for a long time but remained clueless, so he obediently switched his memory to that of Griffin Wester.

The tactical mastermind indeed had a unique flair when it came to these matters, and Chen Gu soon had an idea.

He took a break and reached into a nearby safety box, pulling out several portions of compressed military rations. These were the Confederation's latest individual rations, offering comprehensive nutrition and extremely high calories. A single palm-sized piece could sustain a fully armed warrior through three days of intense combat.

Chen Gu grabbed a whole ten pieces and gobbled them down in one go.

The warriors still in the cave watched in dumbfounded awe. Is this a legendary fierce general from ancient tales? they thought. Able to eat so much and fight so hard—truly extraordinary!

After replenishing his energy, Chen Gu paused for a moment to observe the situation outside. The defense line made of insect corpses was about to collapse, with warriors continually falling, replaced one by one by reserve troops from the cave.

At the foot of the mountain, the Insect Race was now extremely crowded. Several groups had even split off, attempting to flank the humans from different directions for a pincer attack.

Chen Gu didn't rush to engage. Crouching low, he moved behind the insect-corpse defense line. While efficiently shooting down bugs, he silently activated the Sonic Fork.

This time, he used the artifact without a specific target. Instead, he controlled the Sonic Fork's power to release a fan-shaped area attack.

Instant confusion erupted among the insects in front of Chen Gu.

This group of insects was led by a large Ghostclaw Bug and a Giant Carapace Bug, with a large swarm of Ghostclaw Bugs following them, their charge ferocious. A little further behind, Spine Shooters and Cannon-egg Bugs provided support.

But as soon as the Sonic Fork activated, dozens of Ghostclaw Bugs turned around like headless flies and savagely killed the two Spine Shooters behind them!

The previously unstoppable Giant Carapace Bug turned sharply, knocking the large Ghostclaw Bug into a stagger.

Chen Gu nodded inwardly. The Sonic Fork is indeed useful.

When he purchased the remains of the Great Demon Emissary, he had originally planned to trade the Sonic Fork. However, the seller disagreed and he ended up trading the Roar of Mokosaras instead, a decision that had caused Chen Gu a pang of regret.

Yet, he hadn't anticipated the strange ways of "fate." Facing the vast Insect Race army, the Sonic Fork proved unexpectedly effective.

The human race had long ago concluded that the vast armies of the Insect Race were commanded through ultrasonic waves. They weren't commanded solely by ultrasonic waves; other methods, such as scents, likely played a role as well. But ultrasonic waves were their preferred mode of communication.

The Sonic Fork interfered with their command system!

The Insect Queen relayed commands to the frontline combat troops, which were then passed down by some special insects within the units using sonic waves.

Exactly which type of special insect carried out this role is something the human race has yet to definitively identify.

Chapter 257 Desperate Battle (1)

Chen Gu looked toward the Insect Race army. Dozens of massive Blazing Mammoth Bugs were only a few hundred meters from the insect-corpse front. If he didn't strike now, it would be too late.

Around Chen Gu's body, the familiar pale blue energy ripples appeared. Then, with Andrew's loud cheering, Chen Gu vanished on the spot with a whoosh, leaving a lingering aftermath. The warriors looked toward the swarm, filled with expectation.

Chen Gu flipped and fell from mid-air, his brain reeling with dizziness!

Not good, this is the result of overloading my skills!

Chen Gu cursed inwardly, then landed solidly on something very hard, sending a buzzing through his head and stars before his eyes.

When he managed to get up, he discovered, to his surprise, that his luck wasn't bad at all this time; he had landed right on the back of a Blazing Mammoth Bug. The Goddess of Fortune had finally smiled upon a loyal worshipper.

But before Chen Gu could enjoy his moment, he saw countless spikes shooting towards him from all directions!

The Blazing Mammoth Bug's thick shell offered ample protection from the spikes, so the Spitting Thorn Bugs began firing without hesitation upon spotting Chen Gu.

Chen Gu dropped prone, taking cover in the crevices of the Blazing Mammoth Bug's shell.

CRACK! CRACK! CRACK!

The sound of innumerable spikes striking the shell resounded.

Chen Gu didn't come out right away. He pressed down with his hand and, under the ability of the Radiation Field, the entire biological structure of the Blazing Mammoth Bug became clear in his mind.

He quickly found the Blazing Mammoth Bug's auditory organ and then activated the Soundless Tuning Fork.

The Blazing Mammoth Bug, feeling Chen Gu on its back, was extremely irritated. It was waiting for him to be shot dead by the Spitting Thorn Bugs. But then, it began to hear strange sounds and started to blindly carry out the 'commands' these sounds conveyed.

It spun on the spot, its huge scorpion-like tail sweeping out, flinging dozens of Ghost Claw Bugs into the air!

The swarm was thrown into chaos. The weaker Ghost Claw Bugs, Spitting Thorn Bugs, and Cannon Egg Bugs all retreated, unsure what had possessed their powerful kin.

Meanwhile, Chen Gu continued to activate the Soundless Tuning Fork, making the Blazing Mammoth Bug grow even more aggressive. Several large Ghost Claw Bugs leaped forward, trying to stop the 'frenzied' Blazing Mammoth Bug. But with a turn of Chen Gu's Soundless Tuning Fork, these large Ghost Claw Bugs became confused as well: Which command should we follow?

The commotion here caught the attention of the other Blazing Mammoth Bugs. Aside from the Blazing Mammoth Bugs themselves, no other insect could contend with such powerful kin.

The Insect Race's disadvantage of lacking an on-site commander became apparent once more. They couldn't figure out what had happened to this particular Blazing Mammoth Bug. If it was being controlled by human sonic waves, why were the other insects unaffected?

Therefore, the Insect Race did not abandon ultrasonic command.

The fierce assault from the mountaintop also slowed due to this unexpected turn of events. The pressure on Andrew and his team lessened considerably, granting them a much-needed respite.

After a while, the Insect Race finally devised a response as several Blazing Mammoth Bugs charged over. By this time, this one Blazing Mammoth Bug, along with the few large Ghost Claw Bugs, had already caused thousands of casualties among the other insects.

The Blazing Mammoth Bugs pounced, biting and ramming. They finally subdued their 'frenzied' kin by pinning it down, temporarily restraining it.

Chen Gu once again pressed down with his hand, and the Biological Nuclear Explosion was initiated for the third time!

Chen Gu smoothly used Quantum Teleportation to retreat. This time, however, as he activated the skill, he momentarily lost focus and nearly fumbled the activation!

Chen Gu himself broke out in a cold sweat. He hastily concentrated all his will, but a sharp pain still throbbed through his brain!

The Quantum Teleportation was consequently a bit slower. Fortunately, Chen Gu was now at the Second Energy Level. His control over Biological Nuclear Explosion was greatly enhanced, allowing him

to delay the detonation; otherwise, he would have had to personally bear the brunt of his own skill's power.

Chen Gu stumbled back into the cave, his head buzzing, blood streaming from his nostrils.

He lay on the ground, not wanting to move at all, not even bothering to check the results of this latest assault.

In the midst of the insect swarm, a bright light burst forth. The location of the third Biological Nuclear Explosion was no longer behind the swarm, as the Blazing Mammoth Bugs had already charged forward. The explosion's epicenter was just over a thousand meters from the insect-corpse front. As the shockwave hit, the enormous Blazing Mammoth Bug carcasses shook uncontrollably, while the bodies of the giant armored bugs were shoved more than ten meters backward.

Inside the Central Operations Room, the staff had already tallied the results of this attack: "Killed sixteen Blazing Mammoth Bugs!"

Bai Yunpeng was overjoyed, cheering for Chen Gu remotely, "Little Chen, well done!"

Of the fifty Blazing Mammoth Bugs, thirty-two had now been killed, leaving eighteen. If he could do it one more time and take down another sixteen, only two would remain. With Chen Gu's 'death stare' ability, finishing off those two stragglers shouldn't be a problem, right?

Bai Yunpeng instantly became optimistic.

But Aviloya said gravely, "I mentioned earlier he could launch three such assaults. That was his absolute limit. Do you understand what 'limit' means for a professional?"

Bai Yunpeng had a good understanding of professionals, but these kinds of details were often elusive to anyone other than professionals themselves.

A sense of unease grew within him; he felt that Aviloya was about to deliver bad news. "What does it mean?"

"It means that Chen Gu completing that final assault will be his end."

Bai Yunpeng immediately pressed with urgency, "What do you mean? Explain clearly!"

"After the final assault, Chen Gu will either die on the spot or... he will mutate!"

Bai Yunpeng stood frozen, speechless for a long time.

Chen Jixian stood motionless nearby, a flicker of pain crossing his eyes.

Chen Gu felt dazed, his mind bombarded with dangerous thoughts!

Thoughts like: Why should I be fighting so desperately alongside them here? I'm a professional. I could flee on my own, and these bugs couldn't touch me. What do the lives or deaths of these warriors have to do with me?

And: It's not enough. To turn defeat into victory, I need even greater power! I'm willing to make any deal with whoever can give me that power!

Chen Gu was horrified by these thoughts and forcibly suppressed them. He had almost succumbed to mutation and become a Mutant at the Moonlight Hotel previously.

Qing Ruyan had helped him that time. But Chen Gu knew with stark clarity that this time, no one around could help him. Once the mutation began, he would be finished!

He struggled to sit up. The warriors beside him asked with concern, "Master, how are you?"

But to Chen Gu, their concerned inquiries sounded exceedingly grating. A resentful thought surfaced once more: If it weren't for you lot dragging me down, I wouldn't be in this state!

Immediately, he realized the risk of mutation was still immense. He was teetering on the very edge of his limit; it wasn't something he could suppress merely by wanting to.

His heart heavy, he forced a bitter smile. "It's okay. Just let me rest for a bit."

Forcing himself to get up, he went to the entrance of the cave to look out. Eighteen Blazing Mammoth Bugs remained. A strong sense of unwillingness surged in his heart: Victory is right there! Just one more time, like before, and we'll make it through!

But Chen Gu knew full well that if he tried it one more time, he probably wouldn't survive.

His heart sank...

Chapter 258 Desperate Battle (2)

Andrew was still firing wildly, laughing excitedly as he yelled to Chen Gu behind him, "Master, rest up! Leave these grunts to us! Watch my fierce firepower, accurate enough to pierce a willow leaf from a hundred paces! Hahaha..."

RAT-TAT-TAT—

His energy assault rifle was indeed taking down one bug with each shot, felling those Ghost Claw Bugs.

Chen Gu couldn't help but smile; certain beliefs in his heart grew even more resolute.

Someone appeared behind Chen Gu and hesitated for a moment before asking, "Can you... still hold on?"

It was Dou Zhanqiong.

Chen Gu turned and looked at him. "Even if I can't hold on, I must! Between us and the Insect Race, it's either they die, or we perish!"

Dou Zhanqiong cracked a smile. "You're right."

Chen Gu noticed Dou Zhanqiong dragging a safety case half a man's height behind him. "What's that?"

Dou Zhanqiong patted the case. "Our old buddy, the 'Silver Warrior III' Mecha."

Chen Gu was startled. This was the current main light Mecha of the Confederation's ground forces. The lifeboats were cramped, unfit for heavy equipment, but they could carry this type of light Mecha.

Dou Zhanqiong opened the case, revealing the folded, compact silver Mecha. He pressed a button on it, and the Mecha activated, automatically fitting onto Dou Zhanqiong with hisses and clicks.

"I was selected to be a Star Armor pilot right when I enlisted. I was excited for days, only to be issued a 'Silver Warrior III'. We were told to start getting accustomed to using the most basic light Mechas—my goodness, that 'getting used to it' lasted over two years.

"Besides Star Armor, the 'Silver Warrior III' is the Mecha model I'm most familiar with. It's been years since I've used this old buddy."

Behind Dou Zhanqiong, in the cave, dozens of Mecha pilots emerged, each dragging a similar case.

They donned their Mechas without a word.

The light Mechas stood 2.2 meters tall, sleek with smooth lines, exuding the beauty of modern industry.

"What are you planning to do?" Chen Gu interjected. "Facing the swarm with light Mechas is suicide!"

Dou Zhanqiong produced a can of paint from nowhere and sprayed three bright red stripes on his Mecha. "As you said, it's either them or us. We are Mecha pilots. We're not as good at shooting as other infantrymen, but we must use our familiar weapons to contribute to this battle for survival!"

"You've put everything on the line. We are warriors too; we can do the same!"

He saluted Chen Gu solemnly. "Master, rest for a while. We'll buy you some time! In the end, it's still up to you!"

After saying this, he waved to the Mecha pilots behind him, and all the light Mechas charged out of the cave.

BOOM—

Once outside the cave, the 'Silver Warrior III's' rocket engines ignited, blasting flames as they sped towards the sea of bugs!

Dou Zhanqiong, agile and quick, spiraled through the air, passing beneath a large Ghost Claw Bug whose belly burst open, screeching as it fell.

Again, Dou Zhanqiong agilely grabbed the antenna of a Giant Armored Bug, using the momentum to somersault onto its back. He whipped out his hand cannon and fired continuously at the bug's relatively weak neck. After a dozen shots, its neck snapped, and it crashed to the ground with a thunderous thud.

Chen Gu closed his eyes, silently resting and regaining his strength. But the extreme strain wouldn't vanish with a brief rest, and the risk of mutation remained high. Chen Gu was well aware of this, but at that moment, he no longer cared.

The swarm was massive, and the Insect Race formidable. Among the dozens of Mecha pilots who had charged out, seven or eight had already fallen in combat within a short time.

Without exception, each Mecha pilot detonated their rocket engines in their final moments, taking the surrounding bugs with them!

Chen Gu opened his eyes and quietly moved behind the carcass of the Blazing Mammoth Bug, saying to Andrew, who was deep in the fray, "Pull back."

Excited, Andrew asked, "Master, are you preparing to strike again?"

Chen Gu nodded. The swarm had surged forward, and the Blazing Mammoth Bugs were only a few hundred meters from the cave outpost. If another Biological Nuclear Explosion were to occur, the warriors would need the cave's protection.

"Okay!" Andrew, thrilled, immediately ordered all warriors to withdraw into the cave.

Chen Gu emphasized, "The Mechas too. Pull them all back."

"Okay!"

Lastly, Chen Gu said, "After I go out this time, don't allow me to come back."

Andrew was stunned. What did this mean? Chen Gu continued, "If I do return, don't hesitate. Kill me on the spot!"

"What?" Andrew was shocked. "Master..."

Chen Gu interrupted him. "Remember my words. Don't hesitate. If I appear in the cave, kill me immediately!"

Andrew seemed to realize something, tears welling in his fierce eyes. Chen Gu embraced him firmly. "You are an outstanding commander. It has been an honor to fight alongside you!"

"The rest is up to you now!"

Familiar energy ripples once again emerged around Chen Gu. Andrew felt the intense energy, his figure swaying. He couldn't focus on that, reaching out to grab Chen Gu. "Master, let's think of another way! We haven't reached the point where you need to fight to the death..."

He grasped at nothing; Chen Gu had already vanished.

Andrew stood there, dazed, his eyes stinging with involuntary tears.

In the Central Operations Room, the image transmitted from the high-altitude lookout showed energy ripples emerging on the battlefield. Chen Gu had appeared once more.

Chen Jixian slowly, heavily, bowed his head. Aviloya remained silent. They both understood what this meant.

Bai Yunpeng clenched his teeth. "This—this is a true soldier of our Confederation!"

Eighteen Blazing Mammoth Bugs remained. Even if Chen Gu managed to kill them all in this final attack, the vast sea of insects would still stretch endlessly, filled with Giant Armored Bugs and large Ghost Claw Bugs that ordinary warriors found incredibly difficult to kill.

Moreover, the Troop Nest Beetles in the rear could potentially spawn vast numbers of new Blazing Mammoth Bugs.

In other words, even if Chen Gu risked his life, he was merely buying everyone a fleeting glimmer of hope.

But without this effort, the warriors wouldn't stand the slightest chance of survival.

There was one possibility everyone present understood but no one voiced, for to speak of it after Chen Gu launched his final, desperate assault would be an insult to him: if he abandoned his comrades, Chen Gu alone could survive.

That was why, when Bai Yunpeng called him "a true soldier of the Confederation," everyone wholeheartedly agreed.

The front line of the insect sea was now less than eighty meters away from the cave outpost. With the insects' massive size, it would take them just half a minute to reach the cave entrance.

The Blazing Mammoth Bugs had already rushed to within three hundred meters of the cave.

The reason they had not dared to come any closer was because of the deterrent effect of Chen Gu's previous "Nuclear Fusion Beam Eyes."

Chapter 259 Desperate Battle (3)

The Blazing Mammoth Bug was among the more "intelligent" insects; otherwise, it wouldn't even know what "fear" was.

Chen Gu appeared above the swarm, falling heavily.

This time, the insects were prepared and immediately scattered, leaving a large open space. Chen Gu didn't manage to crush even a single one.

The surrounding insects watched Chen Gu in the center warily, a hint of fear in their eyes, only to find him lying motionless on the ground.

After overusing Quantum Teleportation, his head throbbed excruciatingly, and intense ringing in his ears further disturbed him.

In the Central Operations Room, tears moistened Bai Yunpeng's eyes. The old general had witnessed many gallant moments from soldiers, but this time, Chen Gu still deeply moved his strong heart.

Behind her uncle, Bai Xianya's cherry-red lips unknowingly parted slightly, her eyes filled with admiration.

Her cooperation with the "Idol Actor" had hardly been pleasant, and Bai Xianya had been full of complaints about this "disgusting old man." But at that moment, she felt that the figure lying on the ground was unbelievably glorious and towering.

If they were a group of wild beasts, they might still hesitate, testing Chen Gu several times. But the Insect Race's intelligence was far inferior to that of wild beasts, and they simply couldn't consider that much. Since Chen Gu wasn't moving anymore, they charged.

The lead Ghost Claw Bug approached Chen Gu, raised its sharp claw high, then struck down without hesitation!

Bai Yunpeng and the others turned their heads away, unable to bear watching.

SSCH—

The claw plunged deep into Chen Gu's body. The pain made Chen Gu's body shudder, which ironically jolted him to consciousness, and the Radiation Field vividly reflected everything around him into his mind.

With a swing of his hand, Chen Gu sliced off the claw. Then, using all his strength, he vaulted into the air, twisting cleverly to avoid the flurry of oncoming insect claws.

He then curled up and swiftly navigated under the massive bodies of the bugs; for a moment, they couldn't locate him.

Suddenly, Chen Gu leaped up from the dense swarm and landed on the head of a Giant Armored Bug.

The Giant Armored Bug, with its thick and short limbs, comically struggled to reach its own head, trying to dislodge Chen Gu, but to no avail.

Despite its bouncing, Chen Gu remained as solid as Mount Tai atop it. From his elevated position, he surveyed the entire sea of insects.

He was acutely aware of his own condition and didn't know how long he could hold on.

Any moment, the darkness from the Endless Realm might completely devour me.

So this final blow must yield significant victories. Even in death, I will take as many and as powerful members of the Insect Race with me as possible!

Before the Spitting Thorns could shoot their spikes, Chen Gu jumped into the swarm. Then, a bright flame of sword-light squeezed through at breakneck speed, exploding continuously. None could withstand him; even the large Ghost Claw Bugs were blasted away, limbs flying everywhere.

Chen Gu ran wildly for hundreds of miles, zigzagging. His attacks, seemingly random and disordered, actually passed near every Blazing Mammoth Bug, each receiving a stroke of his sword.

Such attacks could instantly kill ordinary insects but couldn't inflict fatal damage on the Blazing Mammoth Bugs. It was, however, more than enough to enrage these gigantic creatures.

Chen Gu was baiting the monsters.

Eighteen Blazing Mammoth Bugs roared furiously, a sound that made one's skin crawl.

When Chen Gu finally stopped, he staggered. An idiotic Ghost Claw Bug charged him just then, its claw leaving a deep gash across his leg as blood spurted out like a fountain!

Chen Gu smashed the Ghost Claw Bug's head with a punch but couldn't help stepping back a few paces, a burning pain emanating from two wounds on his body.

If I weren't a Professional, I'd surely be unable to hold out by now.

However, Chen Gu also felt that the effects of the two Fifth-Tier Gene Potions he had used earlier seemed to be ongoing; his wounds were healing at a rapid pace.

This gave Chen Gu a slight sense of relief. Finally, a sliver of good news.

But this bit of good news was, in his current situation, just a drop in the bucket—better than nothing, at least.

The Blazing Mammoth Bugs had already caught up. They moved quickly when sprinting. Chen Gu, pushing himself, headed in the opposite direction of the cave stronghold.

But this time, he really felt his strength failing. He couldn't unleash the sharp sword force of the Nuclear Combat Technique like before. After swinging his sword in a flurry, he had only managed to advance a few dozen meters.

A Blazing Mammoth Bug roared from behind, and two terrifying, huge columns of fire spewed out!

Chen Gu put all his effort into a side dodge. Normally, this move would have taken him over a dozen meters, but this time he only managed seven or eight.

The edge of the fire column grazed him, setting the exoskeleton on his body ablaze!

Chen Gu smashed a button with his hand. The exoskeleton clattered off as he rolled on the ground several times, desperately avoiding the flames in a disheveled heap.

In the Central Operations Room, seeing the once formidable Chen Gu—who had moved in and out of the sea of bugs as if it were flat ground—reduced to this state, everyone clenched their teeth and held back their tears.

Yet he propped himself up with his sword and stubbornly stood. Then, with both hands on his sword, he pointed forcefully at the Blazing Mammoth Bug.

As Chen Gu made this motion, Bai Xianya felt an infinite courage emanating from him. This courage could inspire all of humanity, sustaining every warrior in their fight against the Insect Race until the final moment!

She was overwhelmed with emotion, speechless and choked up, her beautiful eyes shimmering with an extraordinary light.

Another Blazing Mammoth Bug charged Chen Gu from behind, piercing him with its sharp, long horn!

The Blazing Mammoth Bug was thrilled. It lifted Chen Gu high, bellowing to the sky and shaking its head nonstop!

Chen Gu kept spouting blood, yet he revealed a smile. Idiots! My tank's really empty. If you hadn't come close, I might never have been able to get near you.

He exerted his last bit of strength to grasp the thick bug horn, triggering Biological Nuclear Explosion for the fourth time!

Then Chen Gu let go, his consciousness fading. It was as if he saw that dark void descending from the infinite heights of the universe. Demonic shapes, bizarre forms, avatars of desire, and even the Evil God gazed greedily from the darkness.

Chen Gu felt too exhausted, so tired he didn't know if he could resist the temptations of the fallen.

He tried to turn his head. Through his blurred vision, he seemed to see the cave stronghold; Andrew and Dou Zhanqiong appeared to be standing at the cave entrance.

Too close... he thought. He had wanted to lure the Blazing Mammoth Bug further away, but they were still less than four hundred meters from the cave stronghold.

He wasn't worried about Biological Nuclear Explosion; the warriors had the protection of the cave stronghold and would suffer only minor injuries at most.

But if I mutate here, a few hundred meters is nothing—Andrew and the others will be in danger.

As a Radiation Missionary, if I mutate while experiencing Biological Nuclear Explosion, the most likely outcome wouldn't be death from the explosion, but becoming even more powerful because of it.

Since I'm already done for, I shouldn't drag them down with me.

Chapter 260 I am a Hero (1)

An almost invisible layer of energy ripples surprisingly appeared around Chen Gu's body!

These ripples seemed very weak. They expanded and contracted several times, trying to take Chen Gu away, but failed each time.

Nearby, the Blazing Mammoth Bug subjected to the Biological Nuclear Explosion writhed in agony. Intense light had already spread throughout its body. Then, the brightest light burst forth. The circle of energy ripples "struggled" to contract inward once more and, just an instant before the Blazing Mammoth Bug completely exploded, Chen Gu slowly disappeared.

BOOM!

Andrew and the others, already hidden deep inside the mountain cave, felt the violent shaking of the mountain. Their faces were filled with sorrow. Andrew still remembered Chen Gu's entrustment. He had waited a long time without seeing the Master return and now understood everything. He silently lowered his head and wept.

Inside the Central Operations Room, there was prolonged silence. Only after the aftermath of the explosion had completely settled did one of the staff officers, filled with solemnity and respect, announce, "The last eighteen Blazing Mammoth Bugs, all annihilated!"

No one spoke. On the screen, warriors quickly appeared inside the cave defenses, their guns aimed at the base of the mountain.

The Insect Race had suffered numerous strikes and was now reduced to about one-fifth of its original size. However, it was still a formidable enemy to the warriors, and nobody knew if they could hold out.

The sea of insects started its assault again, and fierce human firepower rained down.

Dou Zhanqiong once again led the Mecha troops into battle. They wove through the sea of insects, claiming the lives of many large bugs, though some Mecha would perhaps suddenly sink and be overwhelmed by the insect tide.

Then one would see that familiar, dazzling firelight of rocket engines self-destructing!

But gradually, the human gunfire grew weaker. As the bugs rapidly approached, the firepower dwindled, unable to stop them.

"They... have run out of ammunition!"

The escape ships could only carry limited supplies; they were out of ammo!

Bai Yunpeng was incredibly distressed. Chen Gu had gambled everything, but was this still the outcome? Had nothing changed?

It was so infuriating, so hard to accept!

Bai Xianya quickly said, "The support fleet is about to arrive at the battlefield!"

But everyone knew it was too late. The support fleet would need time to defeat the vast Insect Race army, and in a few minutes, the sea of insects would overwhelm the cave defenses.

At that moment, a bright light suddenly streaked down from the sky at high speed on the screen—a figure as agile as a dragon. He landed heavily amidst the swarm of insects. The massive shockwave and impact directly killed hundreds of bugs.

Then he stood up suddenly. To everyone's amazement, just as the bugs were about to pounce on him with fearsome roars, they stopped abruptly and then began to ferociously attack one another!

Andrew, leading hundreds of warriors, had fought until their ammunition was spent, all to no avail. Yet, within minutes of this person's arrival, the sea of insects turned on itself, decimating its own numbers!

The man activated the interstellar communication equipment on his back, and Aviloya's voice followed. Everyone heard Aviloya let out a light sigh and say, "Gong Shuxu, you're too late... Go check on Andrew and the others."

On the screen, the man paused for a moment, then, resigned, shook his head and walked toward the cave defenses.

Aviloya ended the communication and suddenly felt a sensation like a thorn in her back. Turning around, she saw Chen Jixian glaring at her with angry, bell-like leopard eyes.

Those eyes were tinged with blood!

Aviloya glanced at him impassively before disregarding him. His inability to accept the death of a loved one was understandable to Aviloya.

But the Valkyrie was the Director-General of the Bureau of Mystic Security, and Gong Shuxu was a Sixth Energy Level Psychological Spy. Such figures were extremely important to the entire Bureau of Mystic Security, and even to the whole Confederation. Naturally, they could not take risks lightly.

Aviloya didn't feel she had done anything wrong. As for not managing to rescue Chen Gu in time, perhaps... it was because Chen Gu was destined to perish here, she reasoned.

She shook her head slightly, suddenly feeling that all past grudges had vanished like smoke in thin air. Death is like a snuffed-out lamp, she thought. And besides, the young thief met such a heroic end; what was there not to reconcile with?

Gong Shuxu was on Witch Star, the best suited to rush to Chen Gu's support.

Even if a Sixth Energy Level professional's impact in space combat was limited, Aviloya should have immediately informed Gong Shuxu to go to the rescue when Chen Gu and his team crashed onto the planet and the Insect Race continued their pursuit.

But it wasn't until Aviloya confirmed that Chen Gu was very likely holding two positions that she gave Gong Shuxu the command to "depart."

This was why Chen Jixian was resentful.

But from Aviloya's perspective, sending Gong Shuxu to Chen Gu's aid was extremely risky. There were no other fleets near Witch Star. Gong Shuxu could only take a civilian spacecraft to get there. Facing the vast army of the Insect Race in the Star Sea with no escort, he could easily fall with a moment's carelessness.

Chen Gu had performed well after joining the Bureau of Mystic Security but was not worth trading a Sixth Energy Level operative for a Second Energy Level one.

However, if Chen Gu possibly held two positions—that would be worth it.

The squabbles within the hierarchy of the Bureau of Mystic Security went unnoticed by the military personnel, as a communication had just come through: "Our fleet has arrived!"

A vast star battle scene appeared on the displays. The Confederation's fleet was well-prepared, and the Insect Race's army was retreating in defeat. Yet, there was not a hint of a smile on anyone's face in the Central Operations Room.

Bai Yunpeng kept thinking to himself: Where has that young man gone, and what has become of him?

On a bare Gobi, there was a huge crater. The winds that swept across the planetary surface wailed like ghosts and howled like wolves.

Ever since a small asteroid struck here more than three million years ago, leaving behind this enormous meteorite crater, this place had remained unchanged.

Suddenly, a faint energy fluctuation broke the silence. A figure dropped from the sky, crashing heavily into the crater, then rolled all the way to the bottom.

This time, Chen Gu's "random" teleportation had occurred. He had believed it meant certain death, yet unexpectedly, he had succeeded. However, he truly had no idea where he had been teleported.

At this moment, however, Chen Gu couldn't care less about such matters—the infinite darkness had descended!

Chen Gu had lost all sensation in his body. His consciousness was submerged in that darkness, with countless evil, extreme, mad, and distorted thoughts emerging.

No beings from the Endless Realm appeared around Chen Gu, yet this corruption seemed irresistible.

He struggled to maintain his true self, constantly recalling the people and matters he cared about, from his past life and this one, but to little avail.

In this darkness, those corrupt thoughts flourished like black lotuses, soon enveloping Chen Gu's entire being.

Yet Chen Gu stubbornly refused to fall into corruption, no matter how enticing those thoughts were.

Resisting was incredibly difficult, and Chen Gu had almost exhausted his last shred of strength.

Finally, he grew impatient and roared in his mind, I am a hero!