

The Great Thief Chapter 36 - I'm a Professional Player

Chapter 36: I'm a Professional Player

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"That's right." Lu Li didn't feel as though there was anything wrong with this. If he was still living in poverty, he might feel a bit ashamed. However, after earning over \$40,000 in 2 days, he felt more confident than anyone else.

Those who were truly confident in themselves could face reality head-on.

"You don't look like you're a student. Where are you working now? Do you have any proof of your income?" Huan Huan and the other girls looked at the calm Lu Li. Could he really have found a good job?

"I'm a professional player." Lu Li thought for a moment, and decided that the most suitable job title for him would be a 'professional player'. His status as a member of the Gold Collection Unit had ceased the moment he had decided to leave the Star Moon Union.

"Professional player!" the three girls said at the same time with a strange look on their faces.

"So you're a professional player. What game do you play?" The kawaii girl Dou Dou curled her lip as she asked, "Are you sure you can earn enough money?"

"Dawn."

"Ah, so you play Dawn as well. What level are you?" Huan Huan seemed a bit more awake.

"LV5."

"Huh, LV5. Not bad, Dou Dou's also LV5." Huan Huan thought for a while before asking, "It's been 2 days since the game opened; how are you so confident that you'll be able to earn enough money? How many gold coins do you have?"

"I've only got 10 or so gold coins now; I've exchanged most of it into real money," Lu Li truthfully answered.

The kawaii girl leapt up and said, "Big sis Huan Huan, don't listen to him. It's super hard to earn money in Dawn. How can he already have 10 gold coins?!"

“You seem to have sold a lot of things,” Yi Yi said in a small voice.

She was completely right - not only did he have 10 or so gold coins, but he had sold A LOT in the past few days.

“How much did you earn from selling your things?” Huan Huan was doubtful. Although she hadn’t played this game, she had heard Dou Dou yelling quite a bit about how difficult it was to play and earn money. She even had to borrow money to repair equipment.

“About 40 gold coins. I sold them for about \$45,000.” In order to convince them to let him rent a room here, he had to show that he had money in the game and also in real life.

He didn’t know that he had just poked a hornet’s nest.

“Impossible, impossible!” Dou Dou was tearing at her hair as she rolled around on the sofa, as if her mind was on the verge of collapse.

“Mister,” Huan Huan calmed down and said, “It’s not that we don’t believe you, but to earn \$45,000 in real money in just 2 days is inconceivable. What proof do you have?”

“I can show you the screenshots of my trades and exchanges. One exchange was with the Star Moon Union: I sold them a Skill Book for \$25,000. The other was with Water Fairy: I got \$20,000 from that,” Lu Li explained.

“Wait, you sold that Skill Book to the Star Moon Union? And Water Fairy? Are you... are you... that Lu Li?” Dou Dou yelled out as she stopped rolling around.

“Madman, Dou Dou has been calling you a madman for the past few days,” Yi Yi added softly.

This girl was incredibly beautiful and looked harmless, but she liked to hit those who were down.

“Be quiet, you,” Dou Dou and Huan Huan said at the same time.

Yi Yi curled up into a ball, her eyes glimmering as if she had been wronged. She looked extremely pitiful.

“Can you tell us how you earnt so much money?” Huan Huan climbed up from the sofa and ran over to sit down next to Lu Li, while Dou Dou sat on his other side. The two girls sandwiched Lu Li in between them and stared at him intently.

“Ahem, these screenshots should be enough to prove that I’m able to pay the rent, right?” This was the first time he had been so close to 2 young, beautiful women, and he felt quite a bit of pressure.

“Of course, of course,” Huan Huan quickly nodded, “Now can you tell us?”

“I don’t really know what you mean... I’m just here to find a place to stay,” Lu Li felt that there was something not quite right about these women.

“Alright, I’ll tell you why we want to know so badly...” Huan Huan’s face fell and she started to explain to Lu Li.

They had rented this house in the first half of the year. Seven university students had formed a game studio in order to do well in the game ‘New World’.

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It was a pity that things did not go as planned. 6 months after New World was released, many players moved to Dawn. As such, the girls’ investments in New World and the villa had all gone down the drain.

The passion they felt for the game quickly disappeared and everyone else left. Soon, it was just these 3 girls.

Huan Huan’s surname was Zhou and was the boss of the studio. She had invested the most money, but when the others had left, she had given back some of what they had invested. She had taken the biggest loss.

Yi Yi’s surname was Yang and her real name was Yang Liu; Yi Yi was her nickname. She had been close friends with Huan Huan since they were young, so naturally, she hadn’t left.

As for Dou Dou, her name real name was Dou Jing Jing. However, she didn’t like her name at all. This was because her name (Jing Jing) meant ‘to calm down’. Whenever someone said they needed ‘to calm down’, she would always be made fun of. As such, everyone called her Dou Dou, since it sounded much cuter.

After what had happened, it was only natural for them to feel dejected and low-spirited. Huan Huan and Yi Yi didn’t even want to play Dawn. Only the heartless Dou Dou entered the game, but she hadn’t done well for herself.

“Back then, we were completely confident and signed a 3 year lease on the house. Now, we can only sub-lease to minimise our losses,” Huan Huan grudgingly said as she told Lu Li the reason why they were renting out the rooms.

Rich, filthy rich. This was an awesome villa in an awesome location. It was large, and had its own garden, swimming pool and balcony. It was probably worth at least \$100,000 per month and yet they had leased it for 3 years. Lu Li felt like his head was about to explode.

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He quickly comforted the 3 girls who were grasping at straws, "Let's talk about the rental terms first, then game matters. I'll definitely help you all, but don't expect too much - I'm just a normal player."

"Mmm got it, got it, that's what all experts say," Dou Dou rapidly nodded.

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Lu Li didn't know what to say. Lu Xin suddenly realised just how powerful her big brother had become and a look of worship appeared in her eyes.

"There are 3 rooms in total, 2 big and 1 small. The big ones are \$12,000 per month and the small one is \$8,000 per month. If you can teach us how to play Dawn, we can reduce the rent by \$2,000." After gathering together for a while, the 3 girls made a decision.

The rooms were all very large: even the smallest one was twice as big as the entire unit the Lu brother and sister had occupied in the Slum District.

"Big brother, let's share the smaller one," Lu Xin suggested in a small voice. She had never seen such luxurious rooms before and felt like she was dreaming.

"No way." The first person to reject this was actually Dou Dou. She furiously pointed at Lu Li as she yelled, "How can you do this, you pervert? Your little sister's already so big, but you still sleep with her, you pervert."

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She was clearly had a hyperactive imagination. Lu Li was speechless and the other 2 girls pretended that they didn't know her.

After ranting for a bit, before convincing Lu Li to rent 2 separate rooms, she finally calmed down.

"We'll charge you \$15,000 per month for the 2 rooms. Yi Yi and I will join the game next week. When that time comes, you need to give us some basic equipment and tell us what we should do." These students were all very rich; otherwise, they wouldn't be able to rent such a place. After finding out that their studio had failed because they chose the

wrong game and discovering a new hope in the form of Lu Li, they were willing to give him a sizeable discount.

“If you join our studio, we can let you guys stay here for free,” Yi Yi said in a small voice.

The Great Thief Chapter 37 - Escorting As a Party

Chapter 37: Escorting As a Party

“Yes, yes.” Dou Dou who had just been scolding Lu Li suddenly became eager, as she was actually the one who respected him the most. Even though she wasn’t an Elf, she knew that Lu Li had sold a skill book worth 20 gold on the first day and even more equips last night.

He had even gotten the first clear of the Elite-difficulty Instance Dungeon, as well as the wild Boss. This had made global news and he had become a well-known name on TV.

If she knew that the first PVP video on the forums was about him, she would be even more surprised.

“I don’t think I’ll be joining your studio, I don’t have plans like that at the moment.” Even with the beauties before him, Lu Li was clear and straightforward with his rejection.

“What about the rooms? Have you decided?” Huan Huan looked at Lu Li, wholeheartedly hoping that he would choose to stay. This was a gaming god, one that ranked among the best in China and perhaps even the world.

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Even if he didn’t join their studio, a few tips here and there from him would be greatly beneficial.

If Lu Li still thought it was too expensive, the rent could be further reduced.

“I can pay for the first month’s rent, but the rest of the initial 6-month payment will have to take a little longer.” Lu Li didn’t plan to stay for free, but he had to find a way to earn 60,000 for the Star Moon Union by next Wednesday.

“Of course, that’s not a problem. You guys can pack your stuff and move in today,” the three sisters all nodded in agreement.

Moving out didn't take very long as he and his sister didn't have much; they only brought their clothes and daily necessities, leaving the rest behind to be taken by their neighbors.

Lu Li stayed in the bigger room on the second floor, which was farther away from the girls, while Lu Xin stayed in the smallest room, which was closest to Dou Dou. The landladies had already warmed up to her and had dragged her out to go window shopping in the afternoon.

Lu Li turned down their offer; he still had a very important Quest to complete in game.

When he logged in, it was already 3PM. The sky was sunny today in Moon Shadow Valley and the sunlight rested on the green grass, reflecting a golden light. The valley didn't look dark at all.

After sending a message to tell Azure Sea Breeze to come over, Lu Li looked for a few monsters near Moon Shadow Valley to try out his new network connection and equipment.

The IV-6 game network had instantly made him more powerful. His original 80% Skill Completion on Shadowstrike had been increased by 2-3%. This was with the worst game helmet as well and when he upgraded to the best helmet, there would be a further increase.

An independent player like him needed the best equipment he could get.

He had already used the skill book he had obtained from the day before. While Backhand Backstab dealt a lot of damage, the hardest aspect of the skill was the required positioning.

However, Lu Li had read guides about this in the past and had PVPed with other independent Thieves, so executing it wasn't hard. He would have to spend a long time practicing though, if he wanted to increase his Skill Completion.

"I've been waiting for a while," Azure Sea Breeze said as he walked up and patted Lu Li's back with his shield. "Why did you only just come online? I'm almost level 7 now. Doing Instance Dungeons last night to level up was just too good."

"I was looking for a house to move into this morning and only managed to find the time to log in now," Lu Li said.

"I've already done what you told me to do yesterday. Many of them are interested, but I chose Drizzle Court because they offered us 3 Jade Spider Webs and any Steel equips if they're dropped. The only thing is, we will need to join their Guild," Azure Sea Breeze said.

“Guild?”

“Don’t you know? This morning several Guilds were established. Within the Chinese region there are currently 7 which are on our side: Drizzle Court, Gangnam Royals, Blood Red War Flag and Seventh Heaven. On the evil side, there is Glory Capital, Gale Legion and Stellar Union. The first one to establish their Guild was Glory Capital.”

“They really are quick; this is not a simple task.” Lu Li didn’t think that so much would have changed in the one morning he was gone.

“Boss, your equipment is a little overpowered don’t you think? These people only just gathered enough money to establish their Guilds today and your equips are already worth several gold coins,” Azure Sea Breeze cried out loudly, causing people around them to look at him.

“Shh keep a low profile. Don’t help them farm yet, I still have a quest I need to complete.” Lu Li turned on his communication device and called Moonlight, the Warrior that had traded Steel equips with him.

Moonlight was currently doing an Instance Dungeon. However, when he received Lu Li’s message, he left and ported home, appearing before them.

After mutual introductions, Lu Li told them about the Quest, “This is probably not unique and you guys should be able to get it as well. When we complete it, we’ll see if there are any follow up quests.”

“Is it okay if we don’t have a healer? I don’t have many potions left.” Azure Sea Breeze’s face was bitter; the Boss from yesterday had taken up way too many potions. If it weren’t for the rewards, his bag would be empty.

“Check your friends list to see if there’s anyone suitable; we can get a few more people. But just tell them that it’s an escort quest and not about the materials and rewards,” Lu Li said.

Lu Li said that with a certain truth in mind. When asked to help with a quest without the promise of a reward, most people would come up with an excuse. Azure Sea Breeze was one of the few friends that was here without a reason.

As someone who was proud to have such a large social network, he didn’t realize how many were fair-weather friends. Azure Sea Breeze looked hurt and squatted to the side, not saying anything.

In contrast, Lu Li’s friend list was small, but there were quite a few people who were willing to join.

March Rain the Priest and Lonesome Flower the Mage were the ones who had completed "Pet Escape" with Lu Li. Upon hearing that Lu Li needed help, they had asked for his location and immediately headed over.

In his friends list, there was also Holy Thunder the Mage, Water Fairy and three people from the Grand Hegemony. Lu Li decided against contacting them as he wasn't very close to them and didn't want to trouble them.

Finally, his eyes stopped on one name - Remnant Dream, who was the one who traded the skill book with him. After receiving the news, the little hunter obediently presented herself. Her skill was average and she was unsure if she could be of any help.

Lu Li was looking for an opportunity to compensate her for the skill book, so he planned to take her.

With many monsters on the way, the experience gained would not be much different from those that were training in parties. As for the danger level, they would be completely safe as long as they stayed together.

Dawn's parties had no max number, so the 6 of them could form a group.

Azure Sea Breeze and Moonlight were level 6, Lonesome Flower and March Rain were level 5, and Remnant Dream was level 4. They were all young people so they quickly warmed up to each other and went on their merry way.

The Great Thief Chapter 38 - Let's Go!

Chapter 38: Let's Go!

The party had killed many monsters before reaching the level 6 Spotted Forest Panther and had received a considerable amount of loot.

However, now that they had entered Spotted Forest Panther territory, they were starting to feel some pressure.

"Remnant Dream, how long until you level up?" Lu Li made a misstep and a shadowy figure closed in. He quickly twisted his dagger and plunged it into the back of the monster's head. He then heard the system prompt: Backhand Backstab Skill Completion 71%, dealing 79% damage.

"Ugh... still missing 1 percent," the little hunter said as she uncoordinatedly drew her bow and fired a weak arrow. Azure Sea Breeze waved his long sword to block it as it flew towards him. He was quite familiar with this action as this wasn't the first time.

“Hmm, you’ll be strong when you learn Trueshot Aura.” Lu Li didn’t have the same nasty look in Azure Sea Breeze’s eyes, instead comforting the little hunter that was about to cry.

Lonesome Flower was using Automatic mode, which was fairly normal for anyone wanting to do well. Later, when he had more skills and a full set of good equipment, he would be a force to be reckoned with. Lu Li hadn’t seen March Rain for a day, but her improvements were already significant. As for Moonlight, there was only one phrase for him: killing machine!

He wielded one of the finest Steel weapons - the Bloodseeker’s Axe, and he wore another piece of Steel equipment on his body. In addition, he had also learned a skill with an incredibly low drop rate - Whirlwind. All this complemented a Berserker Warrior’s high attack and he was dealing more damage than Lu Li.

After walking for half an hour, they reached the Cynocephali mine, which was a forbidden area to the players. The mine was filled with Cynocephali patrols, so there was currently no one training here.

Remnant Dream had now reached level 5, finally learning ‘Trueshot Aura’.

[Trueshot Aura]: Increases melee and ranged attack of all party members within 100 yards by 10%. Passive Skill. Not upgradeable.

All party members gain a benefit: attack strength is increased by 10%

“Yes! This skill is really good for parties.” Not too long ago, Azure Sea Breeze thought Remnant Dream was a burden and had only just realized her value.

Moonlight’s expression also changed and he looked at Remnant Dream with awe, like she was a high-quality equip.

Remnant Dream had always been bullied; no one ever wanted to party with her. To be valued by an expert was a completely new experience for her. It didn’t matter whether it was Azure Sea Breeze or Moonlight, as she looked up to both of them.

“Alright, stop talking. Get ready to attack. Even though the Cynocephali are high level, our party’s attack strength is pretty high too. This shouldn’t be a problem, but we can use this time to practice. March Rain, heal us well.” After a rest, Lu Li tried to get everyone ready to work.

Lu Li went into stealth first and cast Sap to stun one of them. The rest of the party ambushed the target and focused it down. The poor Cynocephali was killed in just a few seconds.

This was a level 10 monster!

“Woah, the exp is higher than in an Instance Dungeon!” Azure Sea Breeze exclaimed.

The monsters here were all 2 to 3 levels higher than he was, which granted the maximum bonus exp. This meant that they gave more exp than the level 4-5 monsters in the Instance Dungeon.

Spirits were high and they rushed in headfirst, even when there were 3 or 4 monsters grouped together. The pressure was on March Rain to heal, but the stubborn girl didn't protest, instead clenching her teeth and continuing to support. Lu Li occasionally gave some tips, but her technique was becoming good.

After over an hour, they had cleared a way to Tap. Azure Sea Breeze had also been pulling monsters from the surrounding area so they could increase their level.

Coming before Tap, they all received the Exploration Quest.

“The goal of the quest is to find the Sacrificial Alter in the cave. You guys go ahead. I'm going to open some treasure chests.” Lu Li already knew where they could go, and turned invisible before entering the cave.

“No wonder Lu Li's equipment is so good. A Thief can go anywhere he wants, and can't he just open any treasure chest he wants?” Lonesome Flower said with envy.

“Don't think about it; you have to consider who it is as well. Look at other Thieves. Some of them are really bad,” Azure Sea Breeze said with disdain. “Those who play as a Thief are also playing with their heart. There are so many monsters here, but Lu Li had already explored this place yesterday.”

“His technique is pretty good too; his Skill Completion is very high.” Although you damage dealt couldn't be seen, they had been together long enough for Moonlight to make an estimate on the damage Lu Li was dealing.

“Moonlight, do you play with your friends?” Azure Sea Breeze asked casually while attacking a monster.

“No, I'm alone right now, just playing however I want.” Moonlight's voice was low and deep and it sounded like there was a story to him.

Azure Sea Breeze smiled: “It's no fun playing alone. Whenever you do an Instance Dungeon you have to find a random party. The chance of you running into 'unique' people is really high. You know, I ran into quite a few of them just last night...”

Azure Sea Breeze was someone who could make good small talk and was a bit of a chatterbox. As long as he was around, there would be no fear of silence. Whenever he met a stranger, he would quickly be able to find a common topic to talk about.

Lu Li went alone and moved quickly, as he didn't need to fight any monsters. Before the others had even completed their quest, he had already opened all three treasure chests and returned.

"Lonesome Flower, you can have this Magic Bracer. I don't mind how you decide between you and your sister." Lu Li had obtained a few Bronze equips from the treasure chests, and if anyone here could use them, he would just give it to them.

Lonesome Flower and March Rain tried to politely decline, but eventually took it anyway.

"Remnant Dream, you're pretty lucky, there's two things here for you." Lu Li gave her two equips that added agility.

"This... this is too precious, isn't it?" The little hunter was shocked.

Azure Sea Breeze saw what was happening and was also shocked. "This can't be what you just got from the treasure chests right? This crossbow looks familiar... oh, that's right, it was from when we got First Clear on the Elite Spider Lair..."

Once Remnant Dream heard that, she was even more reluctant to take it.

"I have no need for a crossbow and your aim with the bow isn't very good. Try the crossbow, it's easier to operate. With Automatic Mode, the system will adjust the speed of the arrows," Lu Li decisively confirmed the transaction, but worried that the other party wouldn't accept, he added: "Think of it as a loan. When you have better equipment you can return it to me, otherwise you can keep it."

The others were shocked by Lu Li's generosity and Remnant Dream was so excited she couldn't speak.

Even the stone-faced Moonlight who didn't get along well with others was affected. He always thought that Lu Li was very good in doing business, never taking a loss. He never thought that he would just give away a Steel weapon.

Silver Light Crossbow (Steel): Damage 12-20, Agility +3, Rate of fire +1, Level Requirement 4, Durability 25/25.

Although its attributes were weaker than Bloodseeker's Axe, it was still a Steel equip, which made it better than a Bronze equip in every way. It was not very useful to someone like Lu Li, but he could easily sell it, as there were Hunters out there who were willing to pay a very high price.

"Finally, there's this. See if you can use it."

When Lu Li placed the Bronze pants in front of him, Moonlight got an even bigger shock. He did not expect this at all. If he put it on, it would increase his strength by 1, giving him a total of 2 bonus strength.

This was the first time someone had gifted him an equip since he had started playing games!

This feeling, was really weird...

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The Great Thief Chapter 39 - Cynocephali Elder

Chapter 39: Cynocephali Elder

“Hello, Carolina sends her regards. She hopes that my friends and I will escort you back to Moon Shadow Valley.” After waiting for everyone else to complete the Exploration Quest, Lu Li went up and interacted with Tap.

“Send my thanks to Chief Carolina. O brave Elf, you are finally here.” Upon seeing Lu Li, Tap regained some strength and stood up before saying: “Your friends have brought me some new information. The Cynocephali are trying to transport something from the other side of Sacrificial Altar. Go with your colleagues to destroy them. A couple of years ago I found a few skill books; they can be your rewards.”

Skill books!

Everyone’s eyes lit up.

All of them were only here to help out Lu Li with his Quest; they had no expectation that would yield such high exp and potentially net a skill book.

There were both newbies and strong players here, but this was the first time that any of them had heard of a quest with a skill book as a reward.

Only Lu Li who had experienced ‘rebirth’ knew that Dawn Quests didn’t have a set pattern. There was no guarantee that if you completed a quest with a certain number of stars you would receive a skill book. Sometimes, a quest that only required killing a few monsters could reward you with a skill book or a skill point. Other times, a quest of high difficulty would not reward you in this respect at all.

Skill Points would be part of the update next Monday. Every 2 levels, a Skill Point would be gained. Otherwise, you could gain them by getting lucky in quests or beating bosses. With these Skill Points and some gold, you could increase your skill level.

When Lu Li was reborn, he found out that many quests that gave Skill Points were currently compulsory. However, the current players had no idea about them.

Of course, that was something to be considered next Monday. Lu Li gawked for a bit, before decisively saying: "As one of the Elves, we will defend the dignity of Master Elune with my life. The dirty Cynocephali sacrificial offering will be completely torn to pieces."

"Moon Goddess be with us." What Lu Li had said was so inspiring that Tap began shaking with excitement. If not for the fact that he was determined by the system to be wounded, he would have already rushed into the Cynocephali mine.

The others had never seen a player talk to an NPC like this before and were dumbfounded. They slowly realized that Lu Li's success wasn't just because he was lucky; he played this game with a certain kind of earnestness.

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"Let's go," Lu Li didn't say any more, leading his party back into the mine.

The way to the Sacrificial Altar was clear, but after they had taken the quest, the Sacrificial Altar had changed significantly. Other than the 8 Cynocephali Mages that were gathered around the altar, there were 4 more level 12 Cynocephali Priests.

"There are 8 of them with shared aggro; I'll stun one and kill another. Then, we'll focus-fire one of them together, and after I've gotten aggro, we'll just attack the closest ones. Remnant Dream, you can take one on, Azure Sea Breeze and Moonlight should be able to take 2 each." There was not much strategy involved in this situation; they just needed DPS and healing.

"I can't do this." March Rain was the most nervous.

"Don't worry about me or the other two Warrior's HP. Just take care of your brother and Remnant Dream. Let's go." Lu Li went invisible and Sapped one of the Mages. He then turned around and used Cheap Shot on another.

Everyone else then selected their targets and started casting all of their spells.

March Rain who was the most worried found that after the fighting had started it wasn't so bad. Azure Sea Breeze and Moonlight had a full set of equipment and a high level of armor. Even when they were hit by the Cynocephali Mages who were 3 to 4 levels higher than them, they only lost a little bit of HP.

Lu Li was responsible for two of the monsters; one of them was completely motionless and the other completely stunned, unable to raise its staff.

With Lu Li and Lonesome Flower both attacking, it quickly keeled over and died. After dealing with that, Lu Li escaped from the fight by going invisible and giving the target that was sapped another Sap (Sap can be chained but the stun duration will be reduced by a third). His next target was the monster that had already been taken to half-health by Moonlight.

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Before long, the 8 Mages were all killed before they could do anything. Although the Priests were high-levelled, this didn't translate into their attack damage. What was challenging about defeating them was their ability to restore HP.

However, this wasn't really an issue either as there were 3 who could be considered experts in this party. Whenever, they saw a Healing skill being cast, they immediately stunned the caster to interrupt the skill.

Even if they missed a few times, this didn't have much of an impact on the overall situation. Soon enough, all the Priests lay dead on the floor too.

"The power of darkness is coming and you insects will soon bow down to the Great Yogg-Saron," the last priest said before falling into the Sacrificial Altar, his blood flowing like a river.

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"Too bad they didn't drop anything," Azure Sea Breeze disappointedly said as he kicked the body of the Mages.

"You can't be sure, maybe it's not over," Lu Li shook his head.

Even though he hadn't done this quest in his previous life, his experience told him that it wouldn't be this easy.

"Are you talking about the blood?" Moonlight was similarly curious.

"This blood flow is definitely more than usual." The others were beginning to become suspicious.

The 4 Priests that were killed on the altar weren't moving. However, their wounds hadn't stopped bleeding after they died. The whole Sacrificial Altar was now filled with blood.

The symbols on the Sacrificial Altar gradually lit up.

“Oh no, there’s no way Yogg-Saron will really be summoned right? That’s just too insane.” Azure Sea Breeze held his shield tightly, somewhat anxious.

“Yogg-Saron was one of the Old Gods, dubbed The Beast with a Thousand Maws. Even the Titans couldn’t destroy its evil, they could only imprison it deep underground. There’s no way it would be so easy to summon,” Lu Li thought otherwise.

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In his previous life, 25 people who were level 40 couldn’t even defeat the Tentacle of Yogg-Saron, which was the final Boss of an Instance Dungeon.

The dark light on the Altar shone unceasingly, before finally gathering together to form a Cynocephali Elder—Cynocephali Elder Allen.

“Why is it a Cynocephali?” Azure Sea Breeze had been anticipating something bigger, but was disappointed.

“Don’t underestimate it, this is a Boss.” Lu Li suddenly thought of something that he had read before about Bosses, one of which was Cynocephali Elder Allen. One of its skills was Charm, which possessed players.

For players, Charm was a Warlock skill that made the target aimlessly wander around for a while.

But for Allen, it was different: he could directly control the players. He could control a healer to heal him or force a damage dealer to attack a teammate.

Other than Allen, there was a level 15 public Instance Dungeon boss that knew this skill. When Lu Li was fighting this boss in his previous life, he became so frustrated that he wanted to kill himself.

At the moment everyone was only level 5-6, but they had bumped into Allen who was level 10. Even Lu Li felt a bit of despair.

The Great Thief Chapter 40 - Charm Skill

Chapter 40: Charm Skill

“Have you fought this Boss before? Is this Boss difficult?” Moonlight saw that something was wrong based on Lu Li’s facial expression and sent him a private message.

“I have a friend who was in the beta that ran into this Boss. Its attack and defence is very ordinary, but it has a skill that is very hard to deal with...” Lu Li generally described what the Boss could do and saw that Moonlight was also frowning.

But Moonlight wasn't disheartened, messaging back: “I heard from Azure Sea Breeze that you intend to make a fixed group. If you are, you will need someone to take on the role of commander. You cannot be hesitant like this. The question is simple, what do we give up and where can we attack back? Even if we lose, we only lose some exp. On this trip today, I've already gained more than 50% exp.”

Upon hearing this, Lu Li felt like his mind had cleared. That's right, it was only some exp. He didn't feel nervous anymore, instead clapping his hands and saying, “Let's give it a shot. If anyone has any ideas speak up!”

“We're waiting for your direction; how do we fight it?” This was the blind trust that Azure Sea Breeze had for Lu Li.

Lu Li waved his hand, saying, “Main Tank attack the Boss and receive healing, everyone else deal damage.”

“That's it?” Everyone stared at him in disbelief.

“It's my first time too; I don't know what to do either. This Boss probably has Charm, so whoever is controlled will either heal it or attack us. If that happens, don't panic. If a healer gets controlled, then we can use crowd control to stop it, but if an attacker gets controlled, we should all hide.”

The text that he read didn't have any strategy written to beat the boss; it only described its despicable skill. As such, Lu Li could only arrange a countermeasure based on that description.

Although they were unwilling, they could only attack it with the standard method for now.

Azure Sea Breeze charged in and successfully stunned the Boss for a second. It looked like the Boss wasn't immune to Crown Control.

2

Some Bosses in Dawn could be Crowd Controlled, but others had attributes that stopped this from happening. All you could do was hit them when they cast a spell, or counterattack with a Mage to cancel it.

There had been people who tried to take Professions with a higher number of crowd control abilities to control Bosses. However, they soon discovered that some Bosses were immune to crowd control skills. Moreover, attempting to use these skills on a Boss may cause it to go into berserk mode earlier and wreak havoc.

After Allen was stunned by Charge, Lu Li's cast Cheap Shot, which only stunned for 2.5 seconds out of the usual 4 seconds. It appeared as though the Boss had some kind of gradual immunity to crowd control skills.

Fortunately, most Cynocephali's had weak defense, and the Elder was no exception. Azure Sea Breeze could deal 3 damage, while Lu Li's normal attack could deal around 5 damage.

2

However, its total HP was 45,000!

Not accounting for any incidents, it would take an hour if the 5 of them kept attacking it.

They didn't have a choice though; the highest-level member was not even level 7 and the Boss was level 10. The difference in level was simply just too great. If the Boss was a wild beast that had high defence, there would be no chance of them ever taking it down.

"Dammit, this dog's hits hurt. It's much stronger than the turtle boss." Azure Sea Breeze was knocked down by the Cynocephali Elder and lost 23 HP.

"Of course, it's a level 10 Boss," Lu Li responded.

"I'm really curious as to how you beat the first Wild Boss," Moonlight said.

"How else? The two of us just kept hitting until it died," Azure Sea Breeze answered, "But that Boss was easier to kill, because its attack wasn't very high and it didn't have such a special skill. It just had high defence and a lot of HP."

"That Boss lives in the water and when its HP reached a certain level, it would return to the water to heal. So we pulled the boss into the woods..."

"You guys are so vulgar, what did you do to the Boss in the woods?" Lonesome Flower hadn't said anything all day, and this was what he contributed when finally did.

2

"Hehe, just the same as before." Azure Sea Breeze was just as bad.

"For the two of you to be able to kill a Boss is something to be proud of," Moonlight said emotionally. He was an expert and had played several games in his career, but he had never heard of two people killing a Boss on the second day in a game. He could already feel Dawn's developers crying about this.

They talked while they fought the boss so they wouldn't be bored.

Occasionally, the Boss would use its stick to cast a spell that was like Blizzard. It dealt a lot of damage; Lu Li was hit and he lost over 30 HP. If not for the fact that it only occasionally cast this spell, they would have already given up.

When the Boss HP dropped below 70%, it held up its stick (Magic Staff) and started an incantation in an obscure language. Remnant Dream slowly aimed her Crossbow at Lonesome Flower with a stone face.

“Sister, why do you resent me? Why are you pointing your weapon at me?” Lonesome Flower stepped aside and put on a long face.

“Help, help, what do I do? I can’t control myself” Remnant Dream was already nervous, but this made her unable to speak properly.

“Don’t panic, the Boss is using its skill to control you. Look at your own UI; how long does it last for?” Lu Li calmly called out, attempting to comfort the nervousness of his party members.

“There’s 52 seconds left,” Remnant Dream immediately called out after checking.

“Get out of here, don’t let Remnant Dream hit you.” It was the good thing that the respawn time of the monsters wasn’t very fast, so they had some space to fight.

The little Hunter now had a Steel Weapon equipped, so her attacks would be something to watch out for.

While casting Charm, the Boss didn’t attempt anything further, which was good news in their current predicament. The pressure on Priest March Rain to heal had finally been relaxed for a while.

Lu Li attacked Allen while explain to her, “When you are healing don’t panic. If you can, don’t over-heal, especially when someone receives a minor wound. Don’t heal every time Blizzard is cast; we can be hit 2 or 3 times before we die. But make sure to keep everyone relatively healthy as well, you never know what the Boss might do. The best you can do is keep everyone above half health.”

“If one of the damage dealers is controlled, the Healer can go and drink a mana potion,” Moonlight added.

Although Lu Li’s damage output wasn’t very high, this wasn’t the biggest problem with this Boss. The biggest problem was healing!

After fighting for over an hour, it became apparent that managing the mana potions was key. Each mana potion needed to be used to its maximum restoration potential. March Rain over healed a lot, which meant that they were safe, but a lot of the healing was also wasted.

As these two experts were giving advice, Charm was cast a second time. This time Lu Li was the target and March Rain decisively ran off to restore mana.

This was the difference between fighting a Wild Boss and an Instance Dungeon Boss. The aggro range was different: a Wild Boss' aggro range was much smaller, while an Instance Dungeon Boss' aggro range was based on terrain and vision. Some of them would stick to you for as long as you were in their Instance Dungeon.

After Lu Li had been controlled, the person that he started chasing after was Lonesome Flower.