

## **Ice Age 661**

Chapter 661: Instant Kill

Operations Command Center.

Zhu Zheng and Tu Yunlie stared intently at the dozens of feeds displayed on the large screen.

Takeuchi Mayumi.

By now, all the battlefields had already entered intense combat.

The Outer City Enhancers had mostly withdrawn, and the Celestial Squad had taken over to directly engage Moon of Corrosion.

Thanks to the groundwork laid earlier, each member of the Celestial Squad was now paired with a suitable opponent, allowing their abilities to shine more effectively.

But over on Zhang Yi's side, things were looking a bit awkward.

They were the only Outer City team still alive on the battlefield—and not retreating either.

And their opponents? Two members from Moon of Corrosion.

Tu Yunlie's face showed no expression whatsoever.

Losses among the Outer City Enhancers weren't going to affect the overall war effort.

Zhu Zheng only gave the scene a quick glance before shifting his attention elsewhere.

In his view, there was no chance Zhang Yi's group could win.

Even if two of them managed to escape by sheer luck, it wouldn't make a dent in the overall situation.

But not far from them, Baili Changqing, who was involved in the strategic planning, had his eyes locked on Zhang Yi's location.

Only he understood: if Zhang Yi went all out, very few people on the battlefield could stop him.

But... when that happened, how was he going to explain to Zhu Zheng and the rest of the Blizzard City higher-ups that he had hidden that kind of information?

Baili Changqing was filled with inner conflict. All he could do now was silently hope things wouldn't spiral in a direction he dreaded.

On the battlefield, Zhang Yi held back Liang Yue, who was about to step in, and slowly walked forward alone.

This scene made Chen Xiaoxiao and Peng Li widen their eyes—they almost thought Zhang Yi was about to switch sides.

Meanwhile, Takizawa Takashi and Wagatsuma Nanako stared at Zhang Yi with amused expressions—he was prey in their eyes.

Wagatsuma Nanako said, “Is he trying to surrender?”

Takizawa Takashi grinned, “Too bad, we only need his corpse.”

As soon as he said that, Takizawa Takashi raised both hands, summoning a powerful lightning storm that gathered around his body before concentrating at his fingertips.

“Only my railgun!”

With a surge of electromagnetic force, six coins shot through space in an instant, streaking across the air in silver arcs straight toward Zhang Yi!

But the scene Takizawa had imagined—Zhang Yi's body being sliced through like butter—didn't happen.

The powerful railgun blasts vanished entirely three meters in front of Zhang Yi, as if they'd been swallowed by thin air.

Takizawa Takashi's pupils contracted sharply.

“What kind of ability is this? Why did my attack just disappear?”

Even the Moon of Corrosion couple showed shocked expressions.

Wagatsuma Nanako loosened her crossed arms and frowned slightly. “Looks like this guy's got something up his sleeve.”

Chen Xiaoxiao and Peng Li were stunned too.

“That's his spatial ability?” Peng Li asked.

Chen Xiaoxiao frowned, “But if it's only for defense, that's useless.”

Seeing his attack fail, Takizawa Takashi looked annoyed.

He shoved his hands into his pockets. With a metallic jingle, he pulled them out holding two full fistfuls of coins.

“Let’s see if you can block this!”

He burst into wild laughter and flicked the coins at Zhang Yi with his thumbs!

With the railgun power added, each coin packed more punch than a bullet.

And charged with electromagnetic force, their destructive power was massive—easily able to pierce through armored vehicles.

The coins fired like a machine gun barrage at Zhang Yi.

But Zhang Yi didn’t move a muscle, letting Takizawa’s assault come straight at him.

In midair, arcs of lightning snaked like silver serpents, zipping in from a hundred meters away, disappearing into Zhang Yi’s Dimensional Space without a trace—no splash, no ripple.

When all the coins had been fired, Takizawa stood dumbfounded.

This was his strongest attack, powerful enough to punch through war tanks!

Why was it completely useless against this guy?

Wagatsuma Nanako caught on.

“He absorbed your attacks!”

She pointed to the ground in front of Zhang Yi. “See? The coins are gone. That means they got sucked somewhere else. This guy’s a spatial-type Enhancer!”

But Zhang Yi wasn’t about to wait for them to finish talking.

As soon as Takizawa’s wave of attacks ended, Zhang Yi struck.

In a blink, he took a step forward—and vanished midair.

When he reappeared, he was behind Takizawa Takashi and Wagatsuma Nanako.

He raised his right hand toward them and activated his Dimensional Gate.

A surge of lightning shot out like a hundred silver snakes, blasting straight at their backs!

Wagatsuma Nanako's ability was Kamaitachi, giving her hypersensitivity to air movement.

Sensing danger instantly, she vanished with a sharp whoosh—barely dodging the strike.

But Takizawa wasn't so lucky.

The railgun bolts slammed into his back before he could even turn around, tearing through his body like hot blades through butter.

In just 0.01 seconds, he was shredded into a tattered, mangled mess—like a ruined beehive.

Takizawa Takashi, Moon of Corrosion member, killed in one strike by Zhang Yi!

The sight left Chen Xiaoxiao and Peng Li utterly stunned.

The Moon of Corrosion member they were terrified of couldn't even survive one hit from Zhang Yi?

Was Zhang Yi always this strong?

The two of them stared at him in shock, jaws practically on the floor.

Their minds went blank—frozen, unable to even think.

But Liang Yue and Hua Hua looked completely unfazed.

Wagatsuma Nanako had managed to escape Zhang Yi's attack.

When she saw her man killed, she screamed out in anguish, "Takashi!"

What was supposed to be a simple hunt ended up costing her husband's life.

Her heart ached like it was being torn apart.

But she truly lived up to the reputation of a ruthless Moon of Corrosion member.

With a look of hatred, she glared at Zhang Yi.

The next second, she vanished from her spot—her entire figure becoming a blur.

A violent storm whipped up around Zhang Yi.

Her presence was now within that storm.

Strange music started playing from all directions.

Unfortunately for her, Zhang Yi couldn't hear a thing.

Dimensional Severance was a perfect barrier. At this moment, a layer of interdimensional space stood between him and the real world.

All sound was sealed away, and any attacks hidden within the melody of her shakuhachi were absorbed completely by the dimensional space.

Zhang Yi pulled out two large handguns—silver with violet patterns—and slowly raised them, aiming into the void ahead.

Wagatsuma Nanako moved at incredible speed—far beyond the capability of normal eyes to track.

But Zhang Yi's body began to subtly shift as well, trembling ever so slightly at an eerie frequency.

20x acceleration!

“Bang! Bang!”

Barely audible gunshots rang out.

The next second, Wagatsuma Nanako's body was flung from the storm, tossed to the ground like a ragged sack.

Chapter 662: A Surprise to Everyone

Zhang Yi looked down coldly at Wagatsuma Nanako's pierced body.

He didn't bother saving bullets. He fired two more shots into her chest to make sure they hit her heart, then one last shot at her neck.

The White Owl's power was immense—especially with Zhang Yi's ability enhancing it. The shot blasted her neck apart, sending her head rolling across the ground.

Only then did Zhang Yi feel fully assured.

Under the stunned gazes of Chen Xiaoxiao and Peng Li, Zhang Yi walked over and stored the two corpses into his Dimensional Space.

This was a battlefield. Zhang Yi wasn't in a rush to absorb their abilities—after all, it wouldn't boost his strength much anyway.

But this whole scene had already been captured by the surveillance team in the Operations Command Center.

Each staff member in the command center was assigned to monitor specific fighters in real time.

With so many participants, Zhu Zheng and Tu Yunlie couldn't keep track of everything themselves.

The staff had to observe and report in time.

After witnessing Zhang Yi kill the two Moon of Corrosion members, the staffer monitoring him turned around and, with a hint of disbelief in her eyes, reported to Zhu Zheng:

"Commander, something's happened with Zhang Yi!"

Zhu Zheng looked down at her and sighed. He asked calmly, “Did Zhang Yi and his team die?”

“No,” the staffer’s expression was odd—if she hadn’t seen it with her own eyes, she wouldn’t have believed it either. “Zhang Yi... he killed both of the Moon of Corrosion members!”

“Huh???”

As soon as she said that, the entire atmosphere changed.

Zhu Zheng, Lan Xincheng, Tu Yunlie, and Baili Changqing all turned to look at her.

Since the war began, no battlefield had achieved any meaningful victories.

Even with the Celestial Squad deployed, most fights were still deadlocked.

But an ordinary Outer City Enhancer like Zhang Yi... had just taken down two Moon of Corrosion rogues?

Zhu Zheng immediately said, “Pull up their feed!”

The staffer swiftly operated the system, bringing Zhang Yi's footage up on the main screen.

But the fight was already over. All they could see was Zhang Yi cleaning up the battlefield, storing the bodies.

Takizawa Takashi and Wagatsuma Nanako's corpses lay on the ground—undeniable proof.

Zhu Zheng's expression changed. "How did they kill those two?"

He had assumed Zhang Yi's group used numbers to swarm and overwhelm Takizawa and Wagatsuma.

Even if that were true, it'd still be impressive!

After all, this was the first time anyone had successfully eliminated Moon of Corrosion members in this operation.

The staffer took a deep breath and said, "The battle ended too fast. Zhang Yi did it alone in less than thirty seconds!"

She added quietly, almost whispering, "Maybe those two Moon of Corrosion members were just too weak. They didn't even resist. It was over in an instant."

In the face of absolute power, some fights really did end that quickly.

Zhu Zheng, Tu Yunlie, and the others quickly grasped the implications.

They had no doubts about Takizawa Takashi and Wagatsuma Nanako's strength.

In the first operation, the two of them had wiped out an entire squad of Enhancers effortlessly.

Maybe they weren't quite on the level of Daiku Kai Enzu or Tsukamoto Nobunaga, but they were certainly no pushovers.

Only Baili Changqing stared at Zhang Yi on the screen, a faint smile in his eyes.

"You always manage to surprise people," he muttered.

Or maybe... it was precisely because he was too steady and low-profile that he always gave off the impression of being unremarkable.

Just then, multiple alarms suddenly went off in the Operations Command Center.

“Commander, trouble on the northern front!”

“West line’s in danger too—Liao Honglei... something happened!”

Zhu Zheng’s pupils shrank sharply. “How could this happen? Where’s Deng Shentong?”

Tu Yunlie answered, “He went out alone—wanted to directly strike their main camp. I don’t think it’s a bad move. If he can take down their leader, Moon of Corrosion will collapse.”

Zhu Zheng’s face darkened. “Even if he succeeds, if we lose too many from the Celestial Squad, it’s unacceptable!”

Unfortunately, the Black Cloak Squad was severely damaged in the last battle at Tianhai City and still hadn’t recovered.

The other western investigation teams were all still out on missions.

So the Celestial Squad had no choice but to carry the burden.

As Zhu Zheng thought about this, his gaze shifted back to the screen—to Zhang Yi.

His eyes suddenly lit up.

“That one—he’s the perfect reinforcement!”

Zhu Zheng immediately contacted Zhang Yi and issued an order.

“Zhang Yi, do not retreat for now. Proceed immediately to reinforce the northern front—the nearest hotspot! The others may return first.”

Zhang Yi replied calmly, “Got it.”

From the comms channel, he already knew the other two fronts were in bad shape.

Since the main forces of the Celestial Squad were already deployed, it made sense for him to help.

He wasn’t the type to volunteer for battle, but if orders came from above—and the mission wasn’t suicide—he’d go.

That was just his laid-back style.

With his abilities, going alone wasn't a problem—he could always ensure his own survival.

So he turned to Liang Yue and said, "Take them and head back. I need to visit the northern front."

Liang Yue understood that now Zhang Yi had revealed his strength, the higher-ups had taken notice.

It couldn't be helped—those who were capable always ended up doing more. That kind of thing was all too common.

Even in a company, managers always liked to dump extra work on the most competent employees.

"Want me to go with you? They should be able to return on their own," Liang Yue offered.

Zhang Yi shook his head.

"You're not strong enough yet."

Liang Yue's personal combat training was excellent.

But in terms of ability level, she still had a long way to go.

Though she was a Delta-class Enhancer, she had absorbed too few Enhancer Essences.

She could go toe-to-toe with a small-time leader.

But compared to brutal criminals like Moon of Corrosion... it just wasn't enough.

Zhang Yi figured he needed to find a way to help her level up faster.

That way, she could become a true right-hand—at the very least, someone who could assist him during battle.

Zhang Yi's words made Liang Yue visibly unhappy. Her lips pouted.

As a martial arts master at grandmaster level, the last thing she could accept was being told she was weak.

Seeing this, Zhang Yi couldn't help but chuckle. Even usually-cool Liang Yue had an adorable side.

“All right, this isn’t the time to mess around. Be good, okay?”

That gentle tone made Liang Yue’s face blush slightly.

“Fine, I’ll listen to you,” she said, feigning coolness but secretly clenching her fists.

Zhang Yi turned and headed off toward the northern front, marked on the Xingyun System.

Liang Yue watched his back helplessly. With no other choice, she led Hua Hua, Chen Xiaoxiao, and Peng Li back to the armed transport helicopter to wait.

Chapter 663: King Meets King

The moment Takizawa Takashi and Wagatsuma Nanako died, Nishijumu Satoru, who was in charge of communications, immediately sensed it.

He raised his head in shock, his eyes turbulent with disbelief.

Seeing his expression, Phoenixin Ren asked, “Nishijumu, what’s wrong?”

Nishijumu Satoru looked up at Phoenixin Ren and murmured, “Ryuzawa and Wagatsuma... were killed in action.”

Phoenixin Ren's pupils shrank sharply.

Even Takeuchi Mayumi, who had been kneeling on the ground doing divinations for the group, suddenly let out a shrill scream.

"No way! That's absolutely impossible!"

She collapsed onto the ground, gripping her Takeuchi Scroll tightly with both hands. The materialized scroll from her ability was even starting to twist out of shape under her grip.

Her eyes were vacant, her face full of panic as she stammered, "There's no way my divination was wrong! Today, both of them had 'Excellent Fortune'... How could this happen?!"

Nishijumu Satoru said, "Maybe... it has to do with the Enhancer that appeared on Nobunaga's side."

That statement instantly reminded both Phoenixin Ren and Takeuchi Mayumi of something.

Not long ago, there had been an incident with a newly appearing Enhancer on that side, which had caused a disruption in Mayumi's reading.

Phoenixin Ren said coldly, "Are you saying... someone can block Mayumi's divination?"

Nishijumu Satoru calmed down and analyzed, “Both Takizawa and Wagatsuma died in the same place. In other words, could that person’s presence be enough to distort Miss Takeuchi’s divination?”

“Wouldn’t that basically mean... distorting causality itself?”

Takeuchi Mayumi’s ability, Takeuchi Scroll, allowed her to divine people’s fates and determine whether fortune or disaster lay ahead.

Since Moon of Corrosion was founded, her predictions had never been wrong.

An ability that could foresee the future like that was often referred to as a Causality-type Weapon.

You could even say her power was Moon of Corrosion’s ultimate trump card.

But now, the prediction from the Takeuchi Scroll had gone off-track!

Phoenixin Ren and Nishijumu Satoru both understood—it wasn’t that Mayumi had failed in her divination.

It was that someone had warped the result of her prediction!

Takeuchi Mayumi clutched her head in pain. “There’s someone... outside the bounds of fate! I can’t see his future. I can’t predict anything about him!”

Phoenixin Ren walked over and gently embraced her, smiling as he softly comforted her:

“It’s okay, Mayumi. You’ve already done an incredible job.”

“As for someone like that, all we have to do is kill him. And I promise you—I will be the one to do it.”

Takeuchi Mayumi slowly looked up at him, her gaze soft and filled with worry.

“But if we do that... more of our comrades could die.”

“Because I can’t read their fortunes anymore... I can’t see what’s ahead.”

Phoenixin Ren smiled.

“This is war. No matter what unexpected things happen, it’s a path we chose ourselves.”

“And up until now, things are still going according to plan.”

He gently stroked her head.

“Sometimes, you don’t need to shoulder everything alone. I’m here too.”

In the past, they had relied far too much on Takeuchi Mayumi’s abilities.

But before she joined them, they were still incredibly strong Enhancers.

“If we can’t read fate... we’ll just cut through it!”

A sharp battle aura flared in Phoenixin Ren’s eyes.

Maybe everything had gone too smoothly for too long, and it had dulled his edge.

But this time, things were finally getting interesting.

“This is exciting, isn’t it?”

Takeuchi Mayumi suddenly remembered something. She hurriedly said to Nishijumu Satoru, "Quick, call Hanachiyo back!"

Because according to today's Scroll of Divination, Naruse Hanachiyo had "Bad Fortune."

So Phoenixin Ren hadn't sent her on any missions—instead, she was stationed nearby for perimeter security.

Normally, if an enemy hadn't broken through the outer defenses, there was no way they'd reach this close to the command zone.

Nishijumu Satoru closed his eyes and prepared to contact Naruse Hanachiyo.

But just then, a cold and lazy voice came from not far away.

"Are you looking for her?"

The sudden voice startled all three Moon of Corrosion members.

How had someone gotten so close without them noticing?

And where was Naruse Hanachiyo, who was supposed to be on guard duty? Why hadn't she given a warning?

Out of the mist walked a tall man.

His long silver hair flowed like silk, and his features were as beautiful as a woman's.

But in his right hand, he was holding a half-dead woman—that sight had an eerie kind of tragic beauty.

“Hanachiyo!”

Seeing the woman in his hand, Takeuchi Mayumi cried out.

That woman... wasn't she their team's ninja, Naruse Hanachiyo?

Phoenixin Ren's eyes narrowed.

Though Naruse Hanachiyo wasn't among the top fighters in Moon of Corrosion, as a ninja, her scouting and escape skills were top-tier.

Yet she hadn't even had time to send an alert before being taken down by the man before them.

That alone proved how terrifying his strength was!

"Captain of the Celestial Squad—Deng Shentong, is it?"

The man who had arrived was none other than Deng Shentong.

When he heard someone call his name, a smile played at the corners of his mouth.

"Oh? Even you ronin from Nihon have heard of me?"

"Looks like you're not as backward as I thought. Better than those clowns from that coastal city."

Back in the Operations Command Center, all attention was now locked on this scene.

Zhu Zheng commanded seriously, "Zoom in on Deng Shentong's feed! Put it on the main screen!"

Everyone knew—this fight between Captain and Commander was the climax of the operation!

If they could kill the enemy commander, the battle would be over.

If Deng Shentong lost, Blizzard City's campaign would end in failure.

If Phoenixin Ren lost, Moon of Corrosion would collapse into chaos—a scattered, broken force.

And this clash's outcome would directly impact all the other fights on the battlefield.

The death of a top general would instantly affect morale across the entire Enhancer force.

Deng Shentong casually dropped Naruse Hanachiyo's body to the ground, still smiling.

"Looks like my luck's pretty good! There's three Moon of Corrosion members here. If I kill all of you, this little farce should finally be over, right?"

"But... which one of you is the top dog?"

His gaze swept over the three of them, and then he waved his hand nonchalantly.

“Ah, whatever. You’re all gonna die anyway. Might as well kill all of you.”

Phoenixin Ren lowered his head—and his body suddenly began to tremble.

Deng Shentong looked at him curiously. “That scared, huh?”

Phoenixin Ren’s trembling intensified... until he suddenly raised his head and burst into loud, wild laughter.

His eyes gleamed with manic excitement.

“You’re the Celestial Squad Captain... the strongest fighter in all of Jiangnan District, aren’t you?”

“Well, if I kill you here, then those Jiangnan idiots won’t dare bother me anymore!”

Phoenixin Ren locked his eyes onto Deng Shentong. “Today, you’ll die here!”

Nishijumu Satoru deactivated his Heartseer Demon ability.

He didn't need Phoenixin Ren to say anything—he was already rushing over to support Takeuchi Mayumi.

They were not combat-type Enhancers.

In a battle between a Captain-level and a Commander-level, they had no business being involved.

Even the slightest shockwave from such a clash could easily obliterate them in an instant.

Chapter 664: Snowfall Upon the World

The battle between the two supreme commanders was about to begin.

And this news was quickly relayed to all frontline combatants via both the Operations Command Center and Nishijumu Satoru.

Phoenixin Ren.

Upon hearing the update, Zhang Yi couldn't help but glance toward the center of Jiangning Plaza.

He narrowed his eyes. He could already sense two immense forces slowly rising there.

Forces... that might rival even his own.

A sudden thought crossed Zhang Yi's mind.

Should he go and support Deng Shentong?

But the moment that idea surfaced, he dismissed it himself.

He didn't know what Deng Shentong's abilities were, nor did he know what trump cards Moon of Corrosion still held.

If their abilities weren't compatible—or worse, restrained each other—then one plus one might end up less than two.

Besides, he couldn't guarantee that Moon of Corrosion didn't have more tricks up their sleeve.

HQ had already laid out a perfect strategy, using them—Outer City Enhancers—as bait to give the Celestial Squad the right conditions to fight.

He believed Deng Shentong could handle things there.

Zhang Yi curled his lips and said mildly, "Even in the worst-case scenario, it's still within what I can accept."

“Before, HQ used us Outer City Enhancers as bait to lure Moon of Corrosion into exposing their strength.”

“So this time, I’ll flip the table and use the Celestial Squad as bait to feel out Moon of Corrosion’s bottom line!”

He stopped paying attention to the fight at the center of Jiangning Plaza and instead, following HQ's orders, rushed toward the northern front several kilometers away.

Battles were unfolding on all western fronts. With the Celestial Squad deployed, things had escalated into full-blown, high-intensity combat.

On the western front, Bai Chunyu, Li Taichang, and Luo Tianxiang were taking on Daiku Kai Enzu, Sakuraba Yushimitsu, and Kurosawa Akira.

Seeing even the deputy captain of the Celestial Squad enter the field, Sakuraba Yushimitsu and Kurosawa Akira couldn’t stay passive any longer.

The two silently rose and moved to stand behind Daiku Kai Enzu, but still kept more than ten paces between them and him.

It seemed even teammates didn’t like getting too close to this monster.

When Daiku Kai Enzu fought, he couldn't tell friend from foe. His power was too overwhelming to control.

Several of his past teammates had already been killed during operations with him—nearing double digits.

Bai Chunyu wiped the smile off his face, his expression turning chillingly cold.

“Let’s get started. Make it quick—we don’t have time to waste here.”

As soon as he finished speaking, his body suddenly became blurry, almost illusory—and then, in a very unnatural way, began to disintegrate.

But he didn’t vanish into dust. Instead, he transformed into countless white snowflakes.

“Snowfall Upon the World!”

As Bai Chunyu transformed, the air temperature dropped several degrees, fully extinguishing the lingering heat from earlier explosions.

Even the falling snow in the sky thickened dramatically, engulfing the entire battlefield.

“He’s gone?”

Daiku Kai Enzu squinted, cautiously scanning the surroundings.

“No—he’s still here!”

Whoosh!

The snow thickened rapidly. The six-pointed flakes were now so dense they obscured visibility.

Suddenly, from three different directions, massive snow squalls surged toward Daiku Kai Enzu!

He gripped his Dragonfly Cutter and swung horizontally in all directions!

But this kind of wild attack did nothing against tens of thousands of falling snowflakes!

In the next instant, the blizzards engulfed him.

Swish! Swish! Swish! Swish! Swish!

Countless snowflakes danced in the air, but the sound they made was disturbingly like flying knives slicing through flesh.

The soft, white snowflakes had turned into razor-sharp blades. Tens of thousands of six-edged daggers began slicing Daiku Kai Enzu's body without mercy!

Tiny cuts began appearing all over his skin, blood seeping out thread by thread.

The sensation was no different from being sliced to death by a thousand cuts.

Even a body as strong as reinforced steel couldn't withstand such a dense assault.

Pain twisted Daiku Kai Enzu's face.

“Get lost!!”

He flailed his Dragonfly Cutter wildly. But no matter how powerful his strength, or how sharp his blade, there was no way to slash through millions of snowflakes.

“ROAR!!”

Daiku Kai Enzu let out a furious roar, and an overwhelming aura exploded from his body—

Blasting away the surrounding snow with brute force!

But in the surrounding space, snowflakes only continued to multiply—until they formed a massive sky dome above him.

Snowfall Upon the World, Bai Chunyu’s transformation, was tailor-made to counter Enhancers like him who relied solely on brute strength.

Daiku Kai Enzu heard Bai Chunyu’s cold voice echo around him:

“No matter how strong you are, can you slice through snowflakes?”

Just as he was about to respond, an opening appeared in the snow wall ahead.

Through it, Li Taichang came charging in—wearing thick armor and holding a massive ship anchor, charging like a human titan!

He raised the anchor and aimed it straight at Daiku Kai Enzu's head.

BOOM!!

Daiku Kai Enzu hurriedly raised his Dragonfly Cutter to block it. The clash of weapons produced a deafening blast.

And with two top-tier Enhancement-type Enhancers colliding, even the ground beneath them cracked and shattered from the impact!

Li Taichang's eyes flashed with tension.

He had used the blinding effect of Snowfall Upon the World to launch a surprise attack—yet Daiku Kai Enzu had blocked it one-handed!

Daiku Kai Enzu bared his white fangs in a maniacal grin, his eyes locked on the ones peeking out from Li Taichang's armor.

“Nice strength! This is getting interesting!”

“Arrogant b\*stard!”

Li Taichang gripped the anchor with one hand and a long chain with the other. At the end of the chain hung a spiked mace the size of a human head.

He raised the mace high and brought it crashing down toward Daiku Kai Enzu.

Meanwhile, Bai Chunyu's assault never let up—his endless snowfall kept attacking Daiku Kai Enzu's body.

Even the strongest steel body couldn't withstand snowflakes slicing it with surgical precision at tens of thousands of cuts per second!

But Daiku Kai Enzu wasn't fighting alone either.

Behind him, Sakuraba Yushimitsu and Kurosawa Akira immediately stepped in to support.

Sakuraba Yushimitsu grabbed his right wrist with his left hand, spread the fingers of his right, and aimed at Daiku Kai Enzu.

A wave of invisible force exploded outward!

Bai Chunyu was just about to continue his attack—when suddenly, his body grew heavy and sluggish.

Li Taichang also felt it—his limbs grew heavier.

“This is... gravity?”

They immediately understood the opponent’s power.

Moon of Corrosion No.13, Sakuraba Yushimitsu, ability codename: Gravity Field.

Within a fixed area, he could indiscriminately amplify gravity.

This power was especially troublesome for Bai Chunyu.

Because his Snowfall Upon the World form turned him into countless drifting snowflakes—extremely vulnerable to gravity shifts.

But for someone like Daiku Kai Enzu, who was a brute force monster—

This level of gravity?

Might as well be nothing.

Chapter 665: Snow Mountain Thunder Falcon

Phoenixin Ren's gravity field greatly relieved the pressure on Daiku Kai Enzu.

The two had fought side by side many times before.

Daiku Kai had already adapted to this kind of amplified gravity.

But Bai Chunyu and Li Taichang were having a harder time.

Daiku Kai Enzu grinned—he wasn't about to miss a golden opportunity!

He swung his Dragonfly Cutter straight at Li Taichang's head!

As someone who came from a sumo background, he knew nothing about proper weapon techniques.

His fighting style was simple—brute force!

Overwhelm everything with sheer strength!

Li Taichang narrowed his eyes and quickly retreated to create distance.

Then he whipped out a chain over ten meters long, swinging it straight at Daiku Kai.

At the end of the chain, the meteor hammer aimed right for Daiku Kai's chest!

With blunt weapons, you didn't need to strike vital points. Just land a solid hit, and the opponent would be out of the fight.

Though Daiku Kai was arrogant, he had experienced Li Taichang's strength firsthand and didn't dare to take the hit head-on.

But from this distance, he could easily deflect the strike with just one hand using his Dragonfly Cutter.

Despite wearing heavy armor, Li Taichang moved swiftly. He had intentionally created space to adapt to the gravity field.

Soon, he got used to fighting under this pressure and began engaging Daiku Kai in close quarters with practiced ease.

In the past, he had been one of China's top martial arts performers and a master of the meteor hammer.

After gaining superhuman powers, his physical weaknesses were eliminated, turning him into a true powerhouse.

“My skills are top-tier.”

“And my strength? Also top-tier,”

Li Taichang said confidently.

So even when faced with a bear-like sumo champion, he showed no fear.

He believed in himself—and in his team.

Bai Chunyu’s assault had lost momentum. The gravity field was seriously screwing with his ability.

Snowfall couldn’t dance freely in this kind of environment.

He turned to Luo Tianxiang and said, “Take out that gravity manipulator for me!”

Luo Tianxiang replied, "Got it!"

He gave the ground a light push and launched into the sky.

Mid-air, two massive white wings spread from his back, and his entire form transformed into a gigantic bird.

Luo Tianxiang—Beast-type Superhuman, Rare Beast Class: Snow Mountain Thunder Falcon.

In a flash, Luo Tianxiang soared hundreds of meters into the air.

Even at this height, he could clearly see every movement on the ground below.

That was thanks to his ability: Eagle Eye, which allowed him to dynamically track everything on the battlefield.

He locked onto Phoenixin Ren's position and unleashed a bolt of white lightning from his mouth—

It streaked down like a sword from the heavens!

It moved incredibly fast. But this time, Luo Tianxiang had transformed right in front of their eyes.

They were prepared.

Just as the lightning struck, Phoenixin Ren's body suddenly leaped backward, flying dozens of meters away in a flash!

His body floated as if it had no weight at all.

The gravity field could be projected outward—or inward onto himself.

That made him feel like he was walking on a planet with half the gravity of the moon.

So his speed and strength received a massive boost.

Luo Tianxiang let out a piercing cry.

Lightning surged through his talons, and he fired bolt after bolt down onto the battlefield!

The entire Moon of Corrosion trio was within his strike zone.

From high above, he looked down like a king surveying his domain.

At that altitude, few could even hope to touch him.

This was his favorite kind of battle: a kite game—stay high, strike hard, stay safe.

But just then—

Kurosawa Akira shrugged off his black leather jacket and raised his massive black arm cannon.

“Hunting time.”

He lifted the cannon and took aim at Luo Tianxiang in the sky.

Without hesitation, he pulled the trigger—

A beam of yellow light shot upward, forming a brilliant column that zoomed toward Luo Tianxiang.

Whoosh!

Luo Tianxiang twisted midair and dodged the shot effortlessly.

As the ruler of the skies, his speed was top-tier. That slow, clunky cannon shot didn't stand a chance.

Just as Bai Chunyu was about to shift into his snow form to help out, he suddenly heard a desperate cry from behind:

“Vice Captain, help me out over here!”

In just a dozen seconds, Daiku Kai Enzu and Li Taichang had already clashed hundreds of times!

Daiku Kai's fighting style was brutally straightforward:

He charged Li Taichang head-on, forcing him into strength duels.

That heavy, sharp Dragonfly Cutter slammed down over and over again—

Though it was technically a blade, he wielded it like a blunt weapon.

After all, he had no real skill with weapons.

He chose the Dragonfly Cutter simply because he idolized that legendary Neon warrior, Honda Tadakatsu.

But once the fight started, he realized it worked better like a club.

Li Taichang wasn't about to back down.

Gripping his anchor in both hands, he met Daiku Kai head-on.

But after the initial clash, he realized something was wrong—

He was completely outmatched in raw strength.

That Tidal Tiger transformation—three meters tall and monstrous—

Made Daiku Kai nearly unbeatable in terms of power!

Clang! Clang! Clang!

The Dragonfly Cutter kept slamming into the anchor.

After just a few dozen collisions, Li Taichang's hands were going numb, and a chill ran down his spine.

After a hundred exchanges, his knees buckled—thud!—he collapsed.

But Daiku Kai Enzu wasn't done.

He stared at the man in heavy armor struggling to stay up—

And a savage fury welled up in his chest.

He was going to smash this coward—hiding behind armor—into meat paste!

Finally, Li Taichang's arms gave out.

Even though his battle armor had been custom-made by Deng Industries,

The gap in their strength was simply too vast.

Daiku Kai shook his right hand—

And Li Taichang's anchor flew from his grip.

Bai Chunyu saw that Li Taichang couldn't hold his own against Daiku Kai and wasn't surprised.

After all, the opponent was the No. 2 in the Moon of Corrosion—

No one expected Li Taichang to actually win.

He had brought him along just to stall Daiku Kai in a head-on confrontation.

Li Taichang may have called out for help,

But he was still moving swiftly, circling along the ground,

Whipping his heavy chain toward Daiku Kai's legs, trying to trap him.

Bai Chunyu saw this and spoke through the comms:

"You handle the other two. I'll help Li Taichang take down the big guy first!"

"Got it. They're all yours," Luo Tianxiang replied.

From hundreds of meters up, Luo Tianxiang looked down at the battlefield.

His massive talons crackled with electricity, unleashing dozens of bolts at Kurosawa Akira and Phoenixin Ren.

The two were forced into retreat after retreat.

Their methods were poorly suited to dealing with someone like Luo Tianxiang.

He soared high above—too fast, too high.

Even Kurosawa's arm cannon couldn't get a clean shot on him.

### Chapter 666: The Path of Strength

Li Taichang couldn't match Daiku Kai Enzu in a frontal fight. All he could do was rely on technique, darting and dodging to stall for time, all while yelling for Bai Chunyu to come help.

Seeing the situation, Bai Chunyu had no choice but to turn back and assist, joining him in an assault on Daiku Kai.

A massive snowstorm swept in, covering the area like a white curtain and engulfing the battlefield.

Bai Chunyu split into countless avatars—breaking a few of the snowflakes wouldn't affect him much.

But Daiku Kai, due to his Beast-type transformation, couldn't wear battle armor. His skin was left fully exposed.

Suffering Bai Chunyu's attack over time was like being slowly flayed by a blunt knife—he would be worn down sooner or later.

However, this time, Daiku Kai Enzu didn't panic despite Bai Chunyu's onslaught.

Many people assumed that hulking sumo wrestlers, weighing hundreds of kilos, were all brawn and no brains.

Daiku Kai always scoffed at that notion.

A warrior who fights with nothing but his body—if he doesn't have the smarts to handle his opponents—how could he ever survive on the battlefield?

If he were that kind of simple brute, he wouldn't have lasted this long in the apocalypse!

“Trying the same trick on me again? What a f\*\*\*ing joke.”

Daiku Kai let out a rough laugh, flashing a mouthful of sharp white teeth.

Then, right in the midst of the blizzard, he didn't dodge the bladed snowflakes—

Instead, he raised his massive Dragonfly Cutter, over three meters long, high above his head!

With both hands, he spun the blade at incredible speed.

Soon, the Dragonfly Cutter began to whirl like a windmill, generating a massive cyclone around his body!

Bai Chunyu's countless snowflake avatars got caught in the whirlwind, losing their mobility.

"That bastard!"

Bai Chunyu was startled—he hadn't expected the big brute to figure out a countermeasure so quickly.

But now, if he canceled his transformation, he would be torn apart at close range before he could blink.

"You think you can trap me like this?! Keep dreaming!"

With a furious shout, Bai Chunyu tried to scatter the blizzard to the distance—

But Daiku Kai's spinning only intensified. The whirlwind became a visible cyclone centered around him!

The immense wind pressure created an overwhelming force differential, forcefully dragging Bai Chunyu's snow bodies right back in.

No matter how he tried to escape, he was yanked back into the storm!

"Dn it! Dn it all!"

Panic finally began to creep in.

Before Li Taichang could even catch his breath and intervene—

All the swirling snow around them was gathered by Daiku Kai's cyclone, condensed into a massive ice pillar.

Bai Chunyu was frozen solid—compressed into a huge, spiraling column of ice by the crushing force of the wind.

Daiku Kai jumped high into the air—

And then slammed the ice pillar down into the ground with a massive palm strike!

Next, he stomped hard with his right foot—

BOOM! The earth shook violently, rocks and dirt flying in all directions!

Just like that, Bai Chunyu was temporarily sealed beneath the earth.

It wouldn't kill him, but it would be a while before he could break free.

Luo Tianxiang and Li Taichang were both rattled by what they saw.

Bai Chunyu had been the core of their trio. Now that he was sealed away, their fighting strength took a serious hit.

Especially against a beast-type powerhouse like Daiku Kai Enzu—

Their usual tactics might not even work anymore.

"No! We have to get Vice Captain Bai out! If we don't, there's no way Li Taichang can hold off that monster sumo alone!"

Luo Tianxiang had to change targets.

He quickly spun in midair and dove toward Daiku Kai's position—

Lightning surged from his mouth and claws, all aimed at Daiku Kai's body!

Daiku Kai wasn't known for speed—

He couldn't dodge lightning attacks from above.

Crack! Zap!

Bolts of lightning struck him directly, electric light crackling all over his body!

Zzzzaaaap!

But the lightning just danced over his skin without doing much damage.

Daiku Kai sneered,

"This kind of attack isn't enough to hurt me."

Luo Tianxiang's power was based on electricity, but it was a form of bioelectricity—not true lightning.

If it had been real, hundred-thousand-volt lightning, even Daiku Kai wouldn't have dared to take it head-on.

Luo Tianxiang's pupils shrank—

A bad feeling surged in his chest.

A split-second instinct told him to run.

They had underestimated the target of this mission.

These Neon Ronin who crossed the sea were just as powerful as the Celestial Squad!

But Luo Tianxiang clenched his teeth.

He had no choice—this battle was being watched by top brass from HQ.

There was no way he could run!

With that thought, he began charging a massive orb of lightning in his mouth—

He was preparing a killing blow.

At the very least, he needed to force Daiku Kai to retreat and give Bai Chunyu a chance to escape.

But just as he was gathering power—

Daiku Kai suddenly struck a bizarre pose.

He raised the Dragonfly Cutter high with his right hand, body slightly crouched—

His muscular frame drawn like a giant bow.

“Crap!”

Luo Tianxiang instantly realized what he was about to do.

“I have to dodge—now!”

He flapped his wings, but it was already too late—

The Dragonfly Cutter pierced through the air like a missile—

Even if Daiku Kai wasn't fast, his raw physical power was top-tier.

With that kind of force, the Dragonfly Cutter shattered the sound barrier with a deafening sonic boom!

A strike at several times the speed of sound!

Luo Tianxiang couldn't evade it.

His body was pierced midair—

The massive blade tore through him, dragging a trail of blood as it continued skyward!

He felt all the strength drain from his body in an instant.

Looking down, he saw a giant, gaping hole torn through his chest and stomach—

A full pass-through wound.

Then—head first—he plummeted from the sky.

“Old Luo!!”

Li Taichang’s eyes nearly burst with rage. His heart burned with fury—and a rising fear.

Bai Chunyu was sealed underground.

Luo Tianxiang had been skewered—his fate unknown.

Now he was alone—

How could he face these three monsters by himself?

Even wearing custom-made armor from Deng Group, he couldn’t help but tremble at what was to come.

Reality didn’t give him time to think.

Even without his Dragonfly Cutter, Daiku Kai grinned coldly and charged forward like a bolt of lightning!

“AAAH!!”

Li Taichang roared—

He dragged his iron chain, scooped up the massive anchor once more,

And charged back at him!

Chapter 667: Liao Honglei vs. Shinguuji Seiichiro

Daiku Kai Enzu sealed Bai Chunyu with a single move, and skewered Luo Tianxiang with one throw.

In just moments, two of the Celestial Squad’s three core combatants were down.

This scene was clearly visible to those monitoring the battle from the Operations Command Center.

Zhu Zheng was grinding his teeth so hard they made an audible grrk grrk sound.

It wasn't that the Celestial Squad couldn't lose—but to be defeated so quickly, so thoroughly crushed, was something he couldn't accept!

And it wasn't just him.

Even Tu Yunlie and the others hadn't expected this outcome.

They'd already used the best possible team assignments!

On the battlefield, only Li Taichang was still barely holding on.

But with both teammates gone, he was fighting alone against a monster.

Daiku Kai Enzu looked down at him with a gleam of wild excitement in his eyes—

Like a predator catching sight of prey.

It had been far too long since he'd faced a high-level Enhancement-type Superhuman like this.

All the enemies before had been crushed like clay.

Only Li Taichang had managed to hold out in close quarters for this long.

“Come on, kid! Let’s see how long you can last!”

Li Taichang was sweating bullets, but he had no other option—

It was fight to the death, or die standing.

Clenching his jaw, he triggered a switch on his right-hand glove.

Immediately, a short needle extended from the armor on his arm—

And jabbed straight into his skin!

It was Compound No. 2, a bio-tech drug from Blizzard City.

Designed to unleash explosive strength in a short time.

But it was still in the experimental stage—and came with brutal side effects.

It had only been issued to the Investigation Teams for use in desperate, do-or-die situations.

Even if it helped him survive this fight, he might not live much longer afterward.

But right now, he couldn't care less.

The compound surged into his bloodstream, rushing through his veins—

A burning sensation ignited within him.

He felt like he was about to explode.

That overwhelming power threatened to consume him from the inside out.

He had to release it—now!

Daiku Kai Enzu noticed the change and grinned even wider.

“Nobody interfere. I’m taking this one-on-one!”

Li Taichang's eyes turned blood-red.

With a roar, he charged straight at Daiku Kai!

"AAAAAHHHH!!!"

The battlefield exploded in blood and violence.

Flashes of light and the clashing of weapons echoed into the sky.

But just three minutes later—silence returned.

Zhuo Feiyu's head dangled from Phoenixin Ren's hand.

Bai Chunyu's condition remained unknown.

And Li Taichang—had vanished entirely.

All that remained were his bulky, oddly-shaped armor pieces—

And a field stained with blood.

After injecting Compound No. 2, he had pushed his limits—

But the extreme stress of the battle caused his body to break down entirely.

The Northern Front had completely collapsed.

Daiku Kai Enzu looked down, slightly disappointed.

“That’s it? What a shame... I haven’t had this much fun in ages.”

Behind him, the heavy gunner Kurosawa Akira said flatly:

“The outcome was already decided, wasn’t it? Miss Takeuchi’s divinations never fail.”

Back at the Operations Command Center, Zhu Zheng’s face turned grim and dark.

His voice trembled:

“How... how could this happen? A total loss... we lost everything!”

Lan Xincheng quickly stepped forward to console him:

“We were up against top-tier forces from Moon of Corrosion. Now we've confirmed it—they're on par with the Investigation Teams.

As long as we win in the other theaters, especially if Deng Shentong's team succeeds in their decapitation strike—we can still win overall!”

Zhu Zheng lifted his head—

His gaze was so dark it was like staring into an inkwell.

He said nothing.

His eyes locked onto the other battlefronts.

Meanwhile, the tide was shifting on the northern route.

Vice-Captain Liao Honglei had entered the fray.

Among the Celestial Squad's two vice-captains—one was Bai Chunyu, the other was Liao Honglei.

Though both held the same rank, their roles were drastically different.

Most of the time, Bai Chunyu acted as the strategist and logistics coordinator.

Liao Honglei, however, was a pure combat powerhouse.

At the cost of losing Yu Zhengyang and Zhuo Feiyu, he'd managed to assess the abilities of Kamiya Gedou and Akutsu Shinichiro.

Then he launched a surprise attack—

Catching both off-guard and knocking them out of the fight instantly!

Just as Liao Honglei was about to deliver the killing blow to these two members of Moon of Corrosion—

A giant flaming red dog burst from the mist and lunged at him!

The No. 2 of the Moon of Corrosion group—Onmyoji Shinguuji Seiichiro—had joined the battle!

He was accompanied by five Shikigami:

Golden giant ape: Kinmaru

Silver six-tailed fox: Ginmaru

Blue bird: Aomaru

Red three-headed dog: Akamaru

Gray crow: Haimaru

Seeing Shinguuji arrive, Liao Honglei's face lit up with fighting spirit.

“A Neon Onmyoji, huh? Interesting.

You’re using our stolen Taoist offshoots against us?

You seriously think that’s gonna work?”

Thanks to a translator in his earpiece, Shinguuji could understand Liao’s sarcasm.

He chuckled lightly.

“I remember an old saying from Huaguo:

‘A student does not have to be inferior to the master, nor the master wiser than the student.’

Seems like you’ve all forgotten that.”

Staring at Liao Honglei, he added with emphasis:

“We’ve found something better.”

Just as he finished speaking, Liao moved.

Like lightning, he dashed low and fast—charging straight at Shinguuji!

But Shinguuji only waved his right hand,

And the golden ape Kinmaru stepped forward to block Liao's path.

At the same time, the flaming three-headed hound Akamaru lunged in from the side, hellfire blazing across its body!

Liao Honglei stayed calm, assessing the battlefield:

“The Cerberus and the ape are melee types...

But he also has a fox, bluebird, and crow at his side.”

“That crow—everyone in Moon of Corrosion has one, but I've never seen it fight. Must be a support type.”

With that assessment in mind, he acted.

He threw a punch at Kinmaru—

The force of his Divine Fist rippled through the air, a shockwave shattering space!

Boom!

A formless blast tore into Kinmaru's massive body, ripping a gaping hole into its abdomen!

But almost instantly—

A beam of golden light shot out from the wound and healed it completely.

Kinmaru roared and charged at Liao Honglei again—

Both fists raised high, crashing down like a mountain toward his head!

Chapter 668: Core of the Curse Technique

Liao Honglei nimbly dodged Kinmaru's attack.

But the moment his feet left the ground—BOOM!—

The area he'd just stood on exploded in a thunderous blast, the earth shattered into fragments!

The sheer force was terrifying—easily on par with a Delta-level Enhancement-type Superhuman!

By now, Liao Honglei had realized:

Kinmaru wasn't a living creature.

Otherwise, there was no way anything could take his Divine Fist from within a hundred steps and come out unscathed.

The only possible explanation was that it had been formed entirely from superhuman energy.

“Onmyodo... and shikigami, huh?”

Liao Honglei's expression turned grim.

This was his first time facing an opponent of this type.

Worst of all, he had no idea how to destroy it.

But Shinguuji Seiichiro's shikigami weren't about to give him time to figure it out.

Akamaru came charging in, three enormous heads spewing lava—

Melting the ground around Liao Honglei on impact!

Liao's eyes flicked toward Shinguuji in the distance.

A plan started to form.

"If I can't take out the shikigami, then why not go straight for the Onmyoji himself?"

Easy to say. Harder to do.

Not only were Kinmaru and Akamaru relentlessly attacking,

But Shinguuji still had Aomaru and Ginmaru lurking protectively nearby.

Just then, a voice came through Liao's earpiece—an update from the Operations Command Center:

"Liao Honglei, shikigami created with Onmyodo rely on talismans as their cores.

If you can destroy the talisman, the shikigami will fall."

The intel was valuable—but it didn't lighten his heart.

The beasts were massive, while the talismans were just the size of a palm.

How the h\*ll was he supposed to find it, let alone destroy it?

"Guess I'll just have to try!"

Gritting his teeth, Liao dropped into a firm horse stance—

And fired a Divine Fist punch straight at Kinmaru's skull!

The shockwave traveled through the air and slammed into Kinmaru's head.

Its head twisted grotesquely—but didn't explode.

Kinmaru, of the five shikigami, was the embodiment of strength.

Both its power and defense were top-tier.

In moments, its twisted head regenerated fully.

It roared and lunged again—angrier and faster than before.

“So the talisman’s not in the head...”

Shinguuji saw this and sneered with mockery.

“People really do watch too much anime,” he muttered.

“They always assume the weak spot’s in the heart or head.”

Of course, what Liao knew, Shinguuji knew as well.

Kinmaru and Akamaru had Liao surrounded.

One used brutal force to pound him into submission,

The other belched rivers of lava to cut off any means of escape.

But Liao remained calm, dodging with agile footwork.

Neither beast could touch him.

Even without using powers, Liao Honglei was a master of Bajiquan, with a body honed through intense training.

Combined with a Deng Group combat suit and customized weapons,

He was a force to be reckoned with in close-range combat.

If he could be beaten by two shikigami, he wouldn't deserve to be Vice-Captain of the Celestial Squad.

With a sidestep, he slipped past their synchronized attack.

Then reached to his belt, pulled out a black grenade, flipped the pin with his thumb—

And hurled it straight at the two beasts.

BOOM!

A black spherical explosion erupted, engulfing them both.

Even Shinguuji Seiichiro turned to take notice.

After all, ordinary firearms had almost no effect on shikigami.

This grenade clearly wasn't standard issue—it was designed for superhuman combat.

But seconds later—Kinmaru and Akamaru emerged, completely intact,

And resumed their frenzied pursuit.

Their red eyes burned with killing intent.

Shikigami didn't think—they followed their orders blindly.

And the command now was simple:

Kill that man.

Shinguuji frowned.

His two melee shikigami couldn't even scratch Liao.

He waved his right hand—

And the six-tailed white fox Ginmaru stepped forward.

It lifted its head, pale white neck stretched elegantly toward the sky.

Its delicate pink mouth opened—

And above it, a glowing white orb began to form, growing to the size of a human head.

In the next instant—

The orb turned into a blazing white beam and shot straight at Liao Honglei!

Its speed was so fast the naked eye couldn't follow it.

Liao was already busy evading Kinmaru and Akamaru,

Now he had to deal with Ginmaru's curse technique too.

Things were getting messy.

But he hadn't ignored Ginmaru's presence—he'd kept tabs on its movements all along.

As the curse beam blasted toward him,

He struck back with a Divine Fist!

BOOM!

The two energies collided midair—

The shockwave rattled the battlefield.

Meanwhile, Kinmaru and Akamaru had already flanked him from both sides.

Still, Liao Honglei didn't panic.

His eyes stayed fixed on Shinguuji in the distance.

This time, he wasn't dodging—he was on the offensive!

No matter how powerful shikigami were,

They were just mindless constructs of spiritual energy.

Once you understood how they moved and attacked,

You could counter them.

First, he weaved past the flame-clad three-headed demon hound.

Then he charged straight at Kinmaru, the embodiment of raw strength.

“ROAR!!”

Kinmaru was wrapped in glowing Onmyodo light,

An aura that made it ferocious and powerful.

But Liao kept his cool. He didn’t stop.

The two exchanged strikes—but their fists didn't actually collide.

Kinmaru's punch whiffed. Liao ducked it cleanly.

Then—he slipped right inside Kinmaru's massive frame,

Wrapped both arms around its waist—

And unleashed his Divine Fist from point-blank range!

At close range, his technique was even more devastating—

Capable of punching through any defense and shattering internal organs.

Kinmaru's body twisted and cracked under the blow.

Then—Liao bent back and executed a brutal suplex—

Flipping the three-meter-tall giant ape like a sack of potatoes!

BOOOOM!!!

Kinmaru slammed into the ground like a felled tree.

Liao quickly sprang back up—

And drove his fist straight down between Kinmaru's legs!

From deep underground came a pitiful, ghostly wail.

The light around Kinmaru's body began to flicker—

A shattered talisman floated slowly to the ground.

Liao blinked in surprise—

The talisman had been hidden there?

Still, he'd only found it because of his successful strategy.

He didn't need to know where it was—

All he had to do was find it.

Chapter 669: You're Already Dead

Liao Honglei swiftly took down Kinmaru, eliminating one of the five major Shikigami guarding Shinguuji Seiichiro.

This development made everyone at the Operations Command Center sit up in excitement.

An Onmyoji's combat strength comes from their Shikigami and Curse Techniques.

As long as all the Shikigami are taken out, Shinguuji Seiichiro would be nothing more than a lamb waiting to be slaughtered, and Liao Honglei could wipe him out effortlessly!

A smile tugged at the corner of Liao Honglei's lips as he stared hard at Shinguuji Seiichiro in the distance. The murderous intent in his eyes was utterly unrestrained.

Yet Shinguuji Seiichiro remained expressionless as he pushed up his gold-rimmed glasses.

Then, casually reaching into his pocket, he pulled out another talisman folded in the shape of a monkey.

“Go.”

He murmured a chant and tossed the talisman into the air.

Golden light enveloped the charm, and in an instant, another identical Kinmaru materialized.

Liao Honglei’s pupils contracted sharply at the sight.

Even the smiles on the faces at the Operations Command Center froze.

They had just killed a Shikigami, and the guy summoned another one like it was nothing?

But Tu Yunlie said to Liao Honglei, “It’s not that simple! The talisman is the core of a Shikigami. Destroying the talisman does indeed kill it.”

“But if the guy prepared enough talismans, there’s no way you can wipe out all the Shikigami in one go.”

“Still, the energy cost of his ability is very real. If you keep killing his Shikigami, he won’t be able to keep up with the drain.”

“Maintaining five Shikigami at once takes a ridiculous amount of energy.”

Liao Honglei nodded.

“I get that. But this kind of energy drain isn’t exactly a good deal for me.”

His expression grew heavier.

He was a close-combat Enhancement-type Superhuman by nature, while Shinguuji Seiichiro was an Onmyoji skilled in special techniques.

Different paths, different strengths.

Liao Honglei relied on hand-to-hand combat.

So in terms of total energy reserves, he was at a disadvantage against Shinguuji Seiichiro.

A battle of attrition like this? Odds were, he’d lose.

If taking out the Shikigami didn't work, there was only one option left—kill the Onmyoji himself!

That thought crystallized in Liao Honglei's mind.

He realized he couldn't waste any more time on the Shikigami!

He quickly drew a large-caliber pistol with his left hand and aimed at Shinguuji Seiichiro several hundred meters away—then fired!

As a battle-hardened warrior from the military, even shooting left-handed, he was deadly accurate.

Black Origin Bullets shot out from the barrel in rapid succession.

If Shinguuji Seiichiro represented arcane arts, then Origin Bullets were his natural nemesis!

Shinguuji Seiichiro's brows furrowed. The Blue Bird guarding him flapped its wings violently, whipping up a massive tornado-like gust around him.

The Origin Bullets could break through magic, but the ferocious wind threw their trajectories off.

A hint of caution flickered in Shinguuji Seiichiro's eyes.

Someone from the Jiangnan District had warned him about these Origin Bullets.

If he got careless, they could kill him instantly!

Even as a Delta-level Superhuman, he wouldn't survive.

"Keep attacking—kill him!"

Shinguuji Seiichiro raised his right hand, extended his index and middle fingers, and began channeling Shikigami power!

The aura around the Shikigami glowed even brighter in five colors. Kinmaru and Akamaru lunged toward Liao Honglei again.

Liao Honglei kept a cold expression as he tried to use Origin Bullets to strike them.

They did have an effect—but not enough to destroy the Shikigami cores. At best, they drained some of their energy.

That approach wouldn't yield any real result.

Worse, Ginmaru was still eyeing him like a hawk—and out of nowhere, it fired an energy cannon blast at him!

If things kept going like this, Liao Honglei would be stuck on the defensive.

One wrong move, and he had no doubt these terrifying Shikigami would tear him apart!

Even in such dire straits, Liao Honglei remained calm.

He'd been through countless life-and-death missions.

His unshakable will, forged in the military, let him stay level-headed under pressure.

He fought on, entangling with the Shikigami while silently calculating the distance between himself and Shinguuji Seiichiro.

“About 350 meters. If I want to get close enough to kill him, I'll need 3 seconds.”

“But first, I need to get rid of these two Shikigami.”

“Then there’s that wind-controlling one—that’s going to be a pain.”

A plan was already forming in his mind.

Clatter!

He holstered the pistol, then with a sweep of his left hand, scattered over a dozen bombs across the battlefield!

Shinguuji Seiichiro’s gaze sharpened, and the Blue Bird whipped up a gale to prevent the explosives from reaching him.

But the moment those bombs hit the ground—they activated!

To his surprise, there were no chain explosions. Instead, blinding white light burst forth, so bright it made his eyes water.

They were high-intensity flashbangs.

The entire battlefield lit up like daylight—so bright that no one could see a thing.

And Shinguuji Seiichiro couldn't see where Liao Honglei had gone.

But Liao Honglei was wearing a tactical scope—one of the latest from Deng Technology. It allowed him to see in pitch black and even maintain vision under intense light.

The effect of the flashbangs? Shinguuji Seiichiro was temporarily blinded and immobilized—he couldn't even locate his attacker.

The moment those lights went off, Liao Honglei moved!

His legs swelled with strength, and his speed shot through the roof!

Three seconds—that's all he needed to close the distance.

Against an Onmyoji, if Liao Honglei could get up close, he didn't even need his powers. His fists alone would be enough to pound the guy into meat paste!

Shinguuji Seiichiro sensed the danger and realized exactly what Liao Honglei intended to do.

“B\*stard!”

He cursed and immediately turned to flee deeper into Jiangning Plaza.

But how could an Onmyoji possibly outrun an Enhancement-type Superhuman?

In the blink of an eye, Liao Honglei appeared right in front of him, wearing a cruel smile.

“You’re already dead.”

Liao Honglei said coldly.

But just then, the fear on Shinguuji Seiichiro’s face vanished.

He looked at Liao Honglei with a twisted smile, eerie and unnatural.

That grin kept stretching—until it reached all the way past his ears.

A chill shot down Liao Honglei’s spine. In that instant, he realized—he’d been had.

But it was too late to retreat. Shinguuji Seiichiro had already grabbed hold of his arm!

Chapter 670: The Stalking Predator

Liao Honglei had used a clever tactic to get up close to Shinguuji Seiichiro.

He thought he had it in the bag—one punch away from blowing the guy's head off.

But right then, Shinguuji Seiichiro took a terrifying turn.

He grabbed hold of Liao Honglei's arm, and his body began to crack apart. In just an instant, he had completely lost all traces of human form.

Cracks split across his body, and from within them, an eerie white light poured out, sending a chill through anyone watching.

“Boom!!!”

A voice suddenly echoed from a distance.

The white light around "Shinguuji Seiichiro" flared violently!

A deafening explosion—BOOM-BOOM-BOOM—shook the entire battlefield.

It was so loud, it could be heard clearly across the other battlefronts as well.

Due to the intense light, those in the Operations Command Center couldn't immediately tell what had happened.

But the overwhelming energy surge from that area instantly drew everyone's attention.

Everyone stared anxiously at the area glowing white.

Only after more than ten seconds did the blinding brightness begin to fade, allowing them to see again.

What came into view made Zhu Zheng's pupils shrink—and nearly sent him bolting from the command platform.

They saw Liao Honglei lying bloodied and broken on the ground, his body wrecked, his most resilient combat uniform now in tatters.

But in that spot—Shinguuji Seiichiro's figure had completely vanished.

“Roar!!”

Kinmaru and Akamaru snarled and pounced, sinking their teeth into the gravely wounded and dying Liao Honglei, tearing into him with bloody, brutal ferocity.

The savage scene twisted the faces of everyone watching in the Operations Command Center.

One female operator couldn't take it. She covered her face and broke down sobbing.

They were no strangers to life and death. They'd seen their fair share of brutality.

But the man being torn apart by those Shikigami... was the Vice-Captain of the Celestial Squad.

They couldn't accept it. That someone of his stature could die in such a horrific, miserable way.

In the thick fog, Shinguuji Seiichiro calmly lit a cigarette for himself.

He exhaled slowly and said in a faint voice,

“Who told you an Onmyoji would be stupid enough to show up in the middle of a battlefield?”

The one who appeared before Liao Honglei wasn't the real Shinguuji Seiichiro at all.

It was a puppet he had crafted using a large number of explosives and talismans.

From the very beginning, it had all been a trap set for Liao Honglei.

Because Shinguuji Seiichiro knew: just those few Shikigami alone weren't enough to kill the Vice-Captain of the Celestial Squad.

"It's all thanks to that person's intel."

He murmured, as if reflecting aloud.

Without that, if he had faced someone like Liao Honglei head-on, there was a very real chance he would've died.

Back at the Operations Command Center, the room was dead silent. No one even dared to breathe too loudly.

Everyone was nervously stealing glances at Zhu Zheng's expression, feeling as if a heavy, dark cloud was hanging right over him.

Both battlefronts had failed. Two Vice-Captain-level figures from the Celestial Squad had been slain!

Such a disastrous outcome—since the founding of the Jiangnan District—was almost unheard of.

And this mission was being carried out by the Celestial Squad, the team that ranked first on the Points Board, with a 100% mission completion rate!

Zhu Zheng's face was expressionless, but his eyes churned with violent emotion.

If it weren't for all his subordinates watching, he probably would've flown into a rage on the spot.

Tu Yunlie spoke in a low voice:

"Now we can only pin our hopes on Deng Shentong. If he can secure a win, then we'll come out of this battle on top."

But if Deng Shentong lost too, the consequences would be more than the Jiangnan District could afford.

Because not only would it mean the entire operation had failed...

It would also let the situation spiral in the public eye, damaging the Jiangnan District's credibility on a massive scale.

Zhu Zheng's personal guard, Sun Luxuan, adjusted his glasses.

Looking at the surveillance feed, a seed of doubt began to form in his mind.

He glanced at Zhu Zheng, then shifted his gaze across the senior Blizzard City officials present.

From Tu Yunlie, to Lan Xincheng, and then to Baili Changqing.

His eyes lingered a little longer on Baili Changqing before moving away.

Now wasn't the right time to voice his thoughts—after all, the battle still wasn't over.

But something about the Celestial Squad's defeats across the board... didn't sit right.

They no longer held out hope for the other fronts—only that Deng Shentong could deliver a clean decapitation strike!

But right at that moment, someone they hadn't paid much attention to—Zhang Yi—was already approaching the western front.

Shinguuji Seiichiro emerged slowly from the mist.

Kamiya Gedou and Akutsu Shinichiro were barely clinging to life.

Their internal organs had been blasted to pieces by Liao Honglei's shockwaves.

If not for their abnormally tough bodies and stronger-than-average vitality, they'd have died on the spot.

Shinguuji Seiichiro walked over and pulled out some healing injections, administering a shot to each of them.

“What a mess.”

He sighed.

Kamiya Gedou still had blood at the corners of his mouth, and scowled at the comment.

“You mocking us?”

“Not at all.”

Shinguuji Seiichiro shook his head.

“I’m just thinking... if it weren’t for that person’s help, it really would’ve been impossible for us to stand against the Jiangnan District with just our own strength.”

“Pfft!”

Akutsu Shinichiro scoffed.

“No matter how strong they are, they still lost to us, didn’t they?”

Shinguuji gave him a sidelong glance.

“Don’t forget—the Jiangnan District has more than just the Celestial Squad in their ranks. If next time we run into another team, it may not be this easy.”

Akutsu grinned.

“Still, we got a massive win today, didn’t we?”

He tilted his head up and said with emotion,

“Miss Takeuchi’s divination was spot-on. My fortune today was ‘Small Luck.’ Even if I got a little hurt, I still made it out alive!”

But before the words were fully out of his mouth, Kamiya Gedou suddenly shouted,

“Look out!”

Shinguuji Seiichiro’s gaze sharpened, and he instantly summoned his Shikigami to shield himself.

Akutsu also felt a surge of danger approaching.

But his body was in no shape to move. Even though he sensed the threat, he couldn't dodge the attack at all.

Thwip!

A silver bullet pierced through the center of his forehead—and blew out through the back of his skull!

Akutsu Shinichiro, of the Moon of Corrosion, was dead!

Seeing Akutsu go down, Kamiya Gedou let out a furious roar,

“Ambush!”

He shouted while rolling to the ground.

But even that couldn't save him.

Even with his head tucked low, that death-dealing Sacred Silver Bullet still pierced his skull—entering from the top of his head and shattering through his brain.

That was the power of a Spatial-Type [Precision Shot] ability.

To the current Zhang Yi, even with his eyes closed, his bullets wouldn't miss by a single inch.

And his targets... were just two gravely injured members of the Moon of Corrosion.