

Ice Age 751

Chapter 751: Surrounding and Killing Kanute

Lu Yinghao, who could control his body's hormones, could transform his bodily fluids into lethal toxins.

Therefore, Kanute's decision to devour him was undoubtedly a massive tactical error.

However, given his enormous size, poisoning him to death clearly wouldn't be that easy either.

Wu Di's eyes lit up as he found a way to deal with Kanute.

At the very least, it could prevent everyone from being eaten alive.

"Lu Yinghao, use your poison on each of us!"

Lu Yinghao shouted back: "Understood!"

He quickly ran to Wu Di's side, bit open his wrist, and drenched him with his own blood.

After being transformed by his ability, the blood became deadly poison.

The others all went through the same process one by one.

However, Kanute scoffed at this.

If he couldn't swallow them, he'd just crush them with his sheer size advantage!

"Let me give you a hand!"

Sakuraba Yoshimitsu of the Moon of Corrosion pressed his left hand against his right wrist, aiming at the entire battlefield space.

"Gravity Release!"

The moment his ability activated, everyone instantly felt their bodies become many times heavier!

Some non-melee combatants even found it difficult to lift their legs.

Yet surprisingly, the worst affected wasn't them.

"BOOM!!"

A dull thud came from the center of the battlefield as Kanute in his giant Blue Shark form suddenly sank deep into the ground.

"Damn it, what are you doing?!"

He roared furiously.

Seeing this, Wu Di suddenly threw his head back and laughed heartily.

"Such powerful gravity augmentation, yet it's indiscriminate. For a behemoth like him, it's simply disastrous!"

Daiku Kai Enzu could adapt to extreme gravity through continuous training.

But Kanute couldn't, because his current size and weight far exceeded human limits.

The tremendous gravity put extreme pressure on his internal organs.

Only then did Sakuraba Yoshimitsu realize that Kanute before him couldn't be compared to Daiku Kai Enzu.

"Sorry, I—"

Before he could finish, Kanute had already charged out from underground and— "CRUNCH!"—bit him clean in half at the waist!

Sakuraba Yoshimitsu's face was frozen in shock.

He never imagined he'd die not by the Celestial Hound Squad's hands, but in the jaws of a temporary ally.

Such was the nature of pirates—when their interests were threatened, they'd even kill their closest kin.

As for Sakuraba Yoshimitsu's death, the Moon of Corrosion members paid it no heed.

They couldn't afford to break with the Tianlong Pirate Crew now.

Besides, within their team, Sakuraba Yoshimitsu was just a low-ranking minor character.

"They're turning on each other!"

Ye He said coldly.

Xue Miao added: "Allies united by interests will also draw swords over interests. For these two groups of villains, it's not surprising at all!"

With Sakuraba Yoshimitsu's death, the gravity field returned to normal.

Kanute voraciously swallowed Sakuraba Yoshimitsu's corpse.

And the horrific wounds Zhang Yi had left on his body actually began showing signs of healing.

Wu Di's eyes narrowed sharply: "This bastard can heal himself by devouring other empowered individuals!"

Biologist Meng Siyu, positioned at the rear as support personnel unable to directly participate in combat, provided professional analysis:

"Sharks naturally possess extremely powerful regenerative abilities. Be careful—you can't feed him anymore!"

However, easier said than done.

Against this super prehistoric monster that could burrow through terrain, they struggled to devise a way to kill it.

On the battlefield, Kanute held absolute initiative.

Like a spearhead, he rampaged across the battlefield.

While the pirates behind him used his momentum to assault the Celestial Hound Squad.

Kurosawa Aga also drew his hand cannon, suppressing the Celestial Hound Squad from range.

"Qi Guangming, their sniper's yours!"

Wu Di shouted.

"Copy that!"

Qi Guangming raised his peculiar black sniper rifle, taking aim at the distant Kurosawa Aga.

Kurosawa Aga immediately took cover behind concealment.

The two snipers locked in mutual deterrence, neither daring to expose themselves carelessly.

Between snipers, life-and-death duels were decided in an instant.

Meanwhile, the frontlines had already been thrown into complete disarray by Kanute.

"Let me try handling him!"

Demolitions expert Ye Jikang, hiding in the shadows, pressed his right hand against the ground.

His ability [Time Bomb] could transform anything he touched into high-powered explosives.

Since Kanute moved underground where others' attacks couldn't easily reach,

Ye Jikang began planting numerous explosives beneath the surface.

But the one who could actually confront Kanute head-on was someone nobody expected—

Kong Sheng.

His ability [Steel Forging] could transform his body into ultra-resilient metal.

Granting him superhuman defensive capabilities, and as an enhancement-type empowered individual, his strength was equally formidable.

These traits made him the primary force stalling Kanute on the frontline.

The massive Blue Shark form burst from the ground, charging viciously at Wu Di!

Kong Sheng instantly positioned himself before Wu Di, arms crossed in a solid guard that forcefully blocked Kanute's attack.

As a martial arts expert, he knew exactly how to minimize impact on his body.

"BANG!"

Though barely withstanding Kanute's charge, he was still sent flying moments later.

But having transformed into malleable metal, his body fluidly dispersed the force like liquid, preventing major damage.

"Shadow Thorn Bind!"

"Floating Cannon!"

The Celestial Hound Squad seized this fleeting opportunity.

Ye He's shadow rapidly extended across the ground, merging with Kanute's massive silhouette.

Then from the merged shadows, hundreds of sharp black thorns erupted, stabbing into his body!

Simultaneously, Wu Di condensed a massive floating cannon in his hands, firing a tremendous energy beam at Kanute!

Both attacks precisely targeted the wounds Zhang Yi had previously inflicted.

"SCREECH!"

Kanute's body shuddered violently, emitting wisps of blue smoke.

The combined assault from Ye He and Wu Di had actually wounded him.

"ROOOAR!!!"

Kanute let out a deafening bellow.

From afar, Yang Xinxin had her angel fire a second arrow at Kanute—

This time pitch black!

Kanute had been monitoring everyone's movements carefully.

That girl's previous arrow had done negligible damage.

Yet this black arrow gave him an ominous premonition.

Choosing not to tank it, he swiftly submerged underground.

The black arrow struck empty air, but Yang Xinxin remained expressionless, showing no disappointment.

Chapter 752: Quito Sang and Shan Chai

Wu Di and Ye He's combined attack dealt some damage to Kanute, but it wasn't enough to decide the battle. This put immense pressure on the two of them. If Kanute hadn't been severely injured by Zhang Yi earlier, could they really have won against him? The captain of the Tianlong Pirate Crew's Western Squadron truly lived up to his reputation as a force to be reckoned with!

However, while they were attacking Kanute, the other pirate crew members weren't idle either. The small fry only had firearms and ordinary shoulder-fired cannons at their disposal. These weapons couldn't even penetrate the combat suits' defenses, serving merely as distractions.

Yet the Tianlong Pirate Crew's superhumans fearlessly charged toward the Celestial Hound Squad, led primarily by First Mate Quito Sang and Second Mate Shan Chai.

Shan Chai's ability resembled Kanute's, though his electric eel transformation only reached seven to eight meters in length. His smooth, glossy skin didn't suggest a close-combat expert. However, the electric arcs he shot from his mouth could penetrate hundreds of meters!

Chain-armed Quito Sang had both arms transformed into massive iron chains that served for both offense and defense. The chains could extend up to five hundred meters, their ends tipped with huge iron spikes that danced through the air like giant serpents. Even casual swings could deal tremendous damage while simultaneously providing formidable defense. The Celestial Hound Squad's bullets all bounced harmlessly off his impenetrable chain barrier.

With these two joining the battlefield and forming a triangular formation with Kanute, the frontal pressure on the Celestial Hound Squad intensified dramatically.

"BOOM!!"

Ye Jikang finally completed his minefield setup. Using the earth as his medium, he'd distributed his special explosive abilities throughout the battlefield. Hundreds of bombs would give these pirates a taste of hell!

"I'll use explosives to destroy the terrain and force that shark and eel to surface. Attack immediately when they appear!" Ye Jikang instructed his team.

"Roger that!" came the prompt responses.

Yang Xinxin remained silent as she listened through her earpiece. From the beginning, none of the team members had considered her actual combat capability. Most believed Yang Xinxin only joined the Celestial Hound Squad because of Zhang Yi's influence, and nobody really understood her abilities. Throughout the battle, she'd merely been riding her giant cat around without contributing meaningfully. Her few attacks hadn't pressured Kanute at all.

Once preparations were complete, Ye Jikang detonated all his planted explosives simultaneously. Instantly, shocking explosions erupted across several square kilometers of terrain. These blasts precisely avoided the Celestial Hound Squad members while shattering the ice sheet where Kanute had been hiding into fragments.

The explosions aggravated Kanute's existing wounds, making him roar in pain as his massive body became exposed.

"FIRE!!" Wu Di bellowed, and everyone concentrated their attacks on Kanute. Origin Bullets, floating cannons, shadow assassination techniques—over a dozen attacks converged on Kanute's position.

Seeing this, Kanute's eyes flashed with hatred. How could he, the mighty captain of the Tianlong Pirate Crew's Western Squadron, be bullied like this by mere underlings? If this were his home territory, he'd have slaughtered them all already! His true battleground was the ocean—there, he could capsize even a super battleship with ease. Clearly, a shark's combat effectiveness plummets on land.

At the critical moment, First Mate Quito Sang positioned himself before Kanute. Swinging his arms, his two massive chains writhed through the air like sea snakes.

"CLANG! CLANG!" Countless Origin Bullets were deflected, sparks flying everywhere. Meanwhile, Shan Chai in his electric eel form clung to Kanute's body, shooting high-voltage currents from his mouth to intercept the floating cannons and shadow techniques.

Kanute's two superhuman subordinates were both first-rate fighters, making the Celestial Hound Squad's task of eliminating him significantly harder.

It was then that Yang Xinxin, who had been coldly observing everything, made her move again. The six-winged angel behind her drew its bow, this time plucking a crimson feather from its wings to form an arrow. It aimed directly at Quito Sang, who was effortlessly deflecting countless attacks with his impenetrable chains.

Among the barrage of Origin Bullets and special attacks, this red arrow seemed utterly ordinary as it shot toward Quito Sang. Yet this time, Quito Sang's chains failed to block it. The red arrow passed straight through dozens of chain barriers as if incorporeal, embedding itself in his chest.

By the time Quito Sang realized something was wrong, it was too late. He didn't understand what had happened, only sensing that something felt off. Why hadn't he blocked this arrow? He instinctively looked down at his chest—no wound, not even a tear in his aged combat uniform.

"No damage? What the hell is this thing?" Quito Sang froze momentarily.

Still, they had successfully blocked this wave of attacks from the Celestial Hound Squad.

"Kill them all!" Kanute growled.

Shan Chai clung to him as powerful electricity suddenly enveloped Kanute's entire body. The massive blue shark transformed into an electric shark. He dove underground—if not for their protective suits, everyone would have felt the current tingling through their feet. Even through thick snow layers, the high-voltage electricity was distinctly palpable.

Moments later, Kanute burst forth from underground with Shan Chai! Their target remained Wu Di—the only one who had truly wounded Kanute.

The intense electricity covering the blue shark's body made Wu Di's hair stand on end just from proximity. Though the combat suits were advanced technological products, their numerous electronic components and required functions prevented complete insulation. A direct hit from this attack could kill Wu Di instantly!

At the critical moment, Kong Sheng stepped forward again. As the only remaining close-combat specialist in the squad, only he could directly confront Kanute's assault. Yet when Kong Sheng positioned himself before Kanute, the furious pirate captain's eyes flashed with mockery.

"You're exactly who I want to kill, bastard!" Once he eliminated this armored man, the remaining superhumans would be easy prey.

"BOOM!!" Kanute flipped midair like a breaching whale, then brought his head crashing down toward Kong Sheng with 100,000 volts of electricity!

Chapter 753: Cornered Beast

"BOOM!!"

Kong Sheng had no way to dodge. He could only cross his arms in front of his body, attempting to block the impact.

A tremendous collision sound erupted across the battlefield as blue electric arcs intertwined in the air like ferocious serpents.

The force of this impact was too powerful, sending Kong Sheng crashing over ten meters deep into the earth.

"Kong Sheng!"

Wu Di, who had narrowly escaped with his life, looked toward the massive crater only to find Kanute had already disappeared.

The pirate captain had gone into hiding, waiting for Shan Chai to finish charging up for their second joint attack.

But Kong Sheng—that honest former member of the Black Robe Investigation Team—now lay in two charred pieces, blackened like lumps of coal.

In the end, he hadn't been able to withstand the combined assault from Kanute and Shan Chai.

Perhaps this was the greatest tragedy for tank-type empowered individuals—they always had to stand at the frontlines, bearing pressures they shouldn't have to endure.

The Celestial Hound Squad members felt a pang of sorrow.

But now wasn't the time for grief.

Losing comrades in battle wasn't something new to them—if they let themselves be overwhelmed by sorrow every time, they would have died on the battlefield long ago.

"Kong Sheng's gone. How do we handle the frontline now?" Ye He asked through gritted teeth.

Kanute's abilities were too formidable. Even severely injured, his level far surpassed theirs.

Coupled with his two elite first mates who rivaled top investigators, the Celestial Hound Squad had almost no openings to exploit.

Wu Di also wore a conflicted expression.

Originally, their team composition included two top-tier enhancement-type empowered individuals.

But the combined forces of the Tianlong Pirate Crew and Moon of Corrosion had exceeded all expectations.

Zhang Yi, Baili Changqing, and Liang Yue—their three strongest fighters—were all pinned down.

What could they do now?

Apart from fighting to the death, there were no other options.

Yet the worst was just beginning.

On the hillside where Moon of Corrosion had appeared, Shinguuji Seiichiro—who had been stalled by Zhang Yi for so long that he had to personally protect Takeuchi Mayumi—suddenly revealed a cunning smile.

"It's done!"

He murmured these words before leaping down into the battlefield below with his Shikigami in tow.

Zhang Yi saw this development clearly.

His pupils constricted sharply.

"He abandoned protecting the shrine maiden?"

Only two possibilities existed—either the shrine maiden had lost her value, or the real Takeuchi Mayumi had been secretly relocated.

Without hesitation, Zhang Yi raised his gun toward the black-robed shrine maiden on the hillside.

But this time, Phoenixin Ren showed no trace of concern—only a mocking expression as he unleashed a swarm of Hellfire Crows toward Zhang Yi.

The sky darkened with the ominous birds, threatening to completely engulf Zhang Yi in moments.

Zhang Yi still pulled the trigger.

When the "Takeuchi Mayumi" was hit, a puff of white smoke erupted before a paper talisman folded into human shape fluttered gently to the ground.

Of course Shinguuji wouldn't let Zhang Yi control the tempo.

During Zhang Yi's battle with Phoenixin Ren, he had created a decoy of Takeuchi Mayumi using talismans.

The real shrine maiden had likely been moved somewhere safe.

"Where is she?"

Zhang Yi immediately used spatial teleportation to evade the crow swarm while scanning the battlefield below.

Too many people—corpses littered the ground everywhere.

Takeuchi Mayumi had to be on the battlefield; otherwise her abilities couldn't empower Phoenixin Ren.

But without omniscience, Zhang Yi couldn't quickly locate her hiding spot.

And once this restraint disappeared, both Phoenixin Ren and Shinguuji would enter the fray!

Their participation would drastically shift the battle's momentum!

Knowing he couldn't kill Zhang Yi quickly, Phoenixin Ren made his choice—he would eliminate Celestial Hound members first!

"I'll kill your woman first! Let's see how you handle that!"

With a vicious grin, Phoenixin Ren leapt down from his Blue Bird Shikigami, targeting Yang Xinxin riding Hua Hua in a near-vertical dive like a human missile.

At this moment, Zhang Yi faced his greatest crisis of the battle.

Even if he could protect Yang Xinxin, the Celestial Hound Squad would be annihilated in this deteriorating situation!

Yet what was Zhang Yi doing at this critical juncture?

He was smiling.

His lips curled into an unusually bright grin.

"Thank you for helping me decide."

He'd been hesitating about whether to execute that plan.

Now, having no choice made it the best choice.

Phonenixin Ren's eyes burned with madness—he wanted to personally crush Zhang Yi's convictions by killing those important to him!

Watching someone fall into despair was Phoenixin Ren's greatest pleasure!

Hua Hua sensed the descending threat.

Phonenixin Ren came with thousands of Hellfire Crows—like divine punishment, the sky filled with their ominous cawing.

The scene resembled the earth itself being set ablaze!

"MEOW!!"

Hua Hua's fur stood on end as it let out a terrified cry.

Even its speed couldn't evade this!

Yet the next moment, a familiar presence appeared beside it.

"It's alright."

Instantly, Hua Hua's eyes cleared and its expression relaxed.

That was Zhang Yi's voice.

With one step, Zhang Yi teleported before Hua Hua and Yang Xinxin.

Right in Phoenixin Ren's line of sight, he raised a single hand.

"Absolute Barrier Between Two Realms!"

He hadn't used this ability in so long.

Absolute Barrier Between Two Realms—one-way passage.

Its weakness was fixed positioning and single-direction defense, making it unsuitable for close combat.

But its advantages were massive coverage and top-tier defensive capabilities.

This time, Zhang Yi's barrier covered a five-hundred-meter radius!

Phonenixin Ren was falling too fast.

He sensed something amiss.

But the intel he'd received hadn't mentioned this ability.

He never imagined Zhang Yi would actually let an immortal like him enter that dimensional space.

Because doing so would disable Zhang Yi's Absolute Barrier Between Two Realms defense, lowering his own safety.

Yet Zhang Yi did exactly that.

Phonenixin Ren and his crow swarm plunged straight into Zhang Yi's Alternate Dimensional Space.

The dimensional gate snapped shut instantly.

Yang Xinxin cheered excitedly: "Brother Zhang Yi! You won!"

"Not yet."

Zhang Yi's gaze shifted between Shinguuji on the battlefield and other combat zones.

"I've only temporarily trapped him. Now, I need to race against time!"

Chapter 754: Kill Them All!

At the command center, a long-awaited cheer erupted when Zhang Yi sealed Phoenixin Ren within his dimensional space.

"Yes!!"

"Fantastic! Phoenixin Ren is trapped! Will he die inside Zhang Yi's space?"

"Well... not sure. Records show Zhang Yi has never killed anyone using dimensional space before."

Zhu Zheng furrowed his brows, his eyes locked on the battlefield in Tianhai City.

The situations at the other two battlefields were already clear.

The extremist organization Tu Yunlie was dealing with posed no real threat.

Meanwhile, the Reincarnation Squad was already on a plane heading to Tianhai City.

All they needed now was to buy enough time for the Reincarnation Squad to join the battle!

Zhu Zheng stared intently at the screen, murmuring, "Zhang Yi, you must hold on!"

Zhang Yi had temporarily sealed Phoenixin Ren at the cost of sacrificing his dimensional abilities.

Phoenixin Ren couldn't be killed, even within dimensional space.

With his Karmic Flame ability, he would eventually break through the spatial seal.

When that happened, Zhang Yi would completely lose access to his dimensional space for a while.

But for now, at this very moment, he was the only captain-level empowered individual left on the battlefield.

"Kill them all!"

Killing Phoenixin Ren would be extremely difficult for Zhang Yi, but eliminating lower-ranked empowered individuals would be much easier.

His first target was naturally Shinguuji Seiichiro, the second-in-command of the Moon of Corrosion faction.

Shinguuji Seiichiro was leading his Shikigami to ambush members of the Celestial Hound Squad when he suddenly sensed a terrifying murderous intent enveloping him!

Looking up in horror, he saw Zhang Yi staring fixedly at him from mid-air.

In Zhang Yi's right hand, unstable dark matter was slowly coalescing.

Shinguuji Seiichiro's pupils constricted sharply.

He knew all too well how devastating that attack could be!

Even Kanute had been severely injured by it - if it hit his physical body, death would be certain!

"Run!"

Without hesitation, Shinguuji Seiichiro summoned the Blue Bird and leaped onto its back, fleeing into the distance.

However, Zhang Yi had no intention of letting him escape.

A Void Spear materialized in his palm as his eyes locked onto Shinguuji Seiichiro's position.

Activating his flight device, Zhang Yi gave chase.

The two streaked across the sky like shooting stars. No matter how fast the Blue Bird was, it couldn't outpace Deng Corporation's flight technology.

When their speeds synchronized, Shinguuji Seiichiro appeared almost stationary in Zhang Yi's vision.

Realizing Zhang Yi was closing in, Shinguuji Seiichiro began flying in arcing patterns.

But to Zhang Yi, this no longer mattered.

The Void Spear wasn't a single-target attack - it was an area-of-effect skill.

Raising the spear high, Zhang Yi hurled it with tremendous force toward Shinguuji Seiichiro's position!

The attack instantly engulfed a spherical area with a five-hundred-meter radius, covering Shinguuji Seiichiro's entire escape route.

"Rin Pyou Tou Sha Kai Chin Retsu Zai Zen!"

Shinguuji Seiichiro's eyes bulged with terror as the shadow of death completely enveloped him.

He desperately summoned all his Shikigami as shields while erecting a protective barrier.

But against the Void Spear, his proud Shikigami and barrier shattered like glass.

The power disparity was simply too great.

In an instant, all his defenses vanished, and his body disintegrated into bloody fragments under the void's destructive force.

Zhang Yi consumed some ability-boosting food to replenish his energy.

He couldn't help feeling it was a pity.

Such a powerful empowered individual - not being able to collect his essence core was such a waste.

But time was running out. He had to clear the battlefield before Phoenixin Ren broke free from the dimensional seal.

Just then, Zhang Yi noticed strange changes occurring where Kanute was.

Turning to look, he saw a shocking sight.

The giant Blue Shark that was Kanute was actually prostrating itself at Yang Xinxin's feet, its demeanor utterly submissive. The massive shark eyes even held an expression of intense infatuation.

A faint smile touched Zhang Yi's lips - Yang Xinxin's ability had taken effect.

Yang Xinxin's acquired ability was called [Desire Angel], a special-type power.

Her three different arrows each possessed unique effects:

Blue - Punishment Arrow, focused on killing.

Red - Desire Arrow, this arrow had no physical form and couldn't be blocked as it struck directly at the heart.

Anyone hit by the Desire Arrow would genuinely fall in love with the caster from the bottom of their heart.

It was an instinctive emotion - even if they knew they'd been affected, the feelings of adoration would be inescapable.

Ultimately, they would become the caster's slave.

The third was the Hatred Arrow, infused with the caster's malice.

Those struck would develop extreme hatred toward a designated target.

Love makes you wish for their life; hatred makes you wish for their death.

The Desire Arrow turns them into slaves who would rather die than see their beloved harmed.

The Hatred Arrow turns them into vessels of malice who would stop at nothing to kill the specified target.

Yang Xinxin's ability manipulated human emotions.

This power had incredibly high potential but equally high difficulty - once successful, even the most powerful empowered individuals could be controlled.

However, the Punishment Arrow's offensive power was weak, while the Desire and Hatred Arrows moved no faster than ordinary bullets.

Thus, hitting targets in combat was the greatest challenge.

Yang Xinxin had been searching for the right opponent.

When Quito Sang faced her Desire Arrow, he chose to block rather than dodge, giving her the perfect opportunity to strike.

Then, using Quito Sang, she ambushed the severely injured Kanute from behind.

Quito Sang's chains were pirate chains.

On the open seas, they could hijack massive cargo ships using just an assault boat.

Once those chains latched onto a ship's railings, they became nearly impossible to remove.

Similarly, once Quito Sang's chains hit their mark, they would persist until either the caster or target died - there was no escaping them.

After Kanute was restrained by Quito Sang, Yang Xinxin's Desire Arrow easily struck his head.

Just like that, the notorious pirate became her slave.

With two formidable opponents neutralized, Zhang Yi couldn't afford to relax.

He had to eliminate all remaining threats before Phoenixin Ren broke free.

He could already sense it - within his dimensional space, Phoenixin Ren was caught in an endless cycle, dancing between life and death.

Meanwhile, that crimson energy toxin, the Karmic Flame, was spreading like red ink dropped in water!

Once this corruption reached a certain threshold, Zhang Yi's dimensional space would collapse.

After such a collapse, Zhang Yi wouldn't be able to reopen his dimensional space for twenty-four hours.

In other words, once Phoenixin Ren escaped, Zhang Yi would be in grave danger facing him alone!

Therefore, he had to eliminate all external enemies so the entire Celestial Hound Squad could focus their efforts on dealing with Phoenixin Ren!

Chapter 755: You're Really Hard to Kill

After Zhang Yi instantly killed Shinguuji Seiichiro, his gaze turned toward the two separate battlefields in the distance.

The fight between Baili Changqing and Daiku Kai Enzu was brutal and bloody. The two power-type close combat experts were locked in a deadly melee. After taking Compound-5, Baili Changqing's strength had been greatly enhanced, allowing him to suppress Daiku Kai Enzu throughout the battle.

However, Daiku Kai Enzu's defensive capabilities were equally astonishing. Despite being beaten into a miserable state, he hadn't suffered any fatal injuries. Even when slashed by the Fangtian Halberd, only layers of greasy fat were revealed without any ruptured blood vessels. If this continued, even if Baili Changqing could win, he would likely die from overexertion.

Zhang Yi took out his enormous sniper rifle Thunderbolt and locked onto Daiku Kai Enzu several kilometers away. Already on the brink of life and death, Daiku Kai Enzu suddenly felt overwhelming danger signals screaming in his mind - a premonition of death!

Escape! His mind screamed only this thought - he had to flee or he would certainly die! But Baili Changqing gave him no opportunity. Covered in crimson aura, Baili Changqing gripped the Fangtian Halberd with a face twisted into a demonic visage by the drugs, relentlessly attacking without giving Daiku Kai Enzu any breathing room.

And then Thunderbolt fired.

"BOOM!!"

The earth-shaking roar of Thunderbolt sent a silver bullet infused with tremendous spatial power streaking across kilometers in an instant! Daiku Kai Enzu's face turned deathly pale before he released a blood-curdling scream that echoed for kilometers. The onlookers had no idea what could make the powerful Japanese sumo wrestler scream like that.

Only those present understood. Baili Changqing stared dumbfounded at Daiku Kai Enzu's bloody lower body, instinctively covering his own with one hand. Any man could deeply empathize with that pain.

"However strong your defense is," Zhang Yi said coldly from the air, "you can't possibly train that area."

Though momentarily stunned, the battle-hardened Baili Changqing wouldn't miss this opportunity. He charged forward with the Fangtian Halberd and brought it down with thunderous force!

"THUNK!"

The halberd blade bit deep into Daiku Kai Enzu's thick neck but failed to completely decapitate him. White fat mixed with blood oozed out. Even with his neck half-severed, Daiku Kai Enzu desperately clenched his muscles to trap the blade before shoving the halberd away and attempting to flee.

"Really hard to kill!" Zhang Yi frowned. High-level body cultivators like this had absurd defenses that made them incredibly difficult to finish off.

He swiftly reloaded and fired again.

"BANG!"

This shot targeted the back of Daiku Kai Enzu's knee, blasting a huge hole that sent him crashing to the ground. Baili Changqing pursued like a determined butcher chasing a dying hog.

"Die already!" He leaped up and drove the halberd straight through Daiku Kai Enzu's back with both hands!

"SHUNK!"

The weapon sank deep into Daiku Kai Enzu's body, yet he still struggled. A dying man's strength became limitless - he nearly threw Baili Changqing off. Zhang Yi quickly reloaded and shot his other leg.

With both legs ruined and covered in wounds, Daiku Kai Enzu actually began crawling away using only his arms.

"Captain! Where are you? Why won't you help me?" Daiku Kai Enzu roared. Zhang Yi's appearance had dashed any hope of turning this battle around.

"Finish it quickly. I can't trap Phoenixin Ren much longer!" Zhang Yi warned. He could feel his dimensional space weakening.

Baili Changqing grew anxious. Why was this fat bastard so hard to kill? Then inspiration struck as he looked at the crawling man. Gripping the Fangtian Halberd, he charged like lightning.

The halberd streaked through the air, its tip glinting coldly. Catching up, Baili Changqing thrust it deep into Daiku Kai Enzu from behind.

As the old saying goes - no matter how tough a man is, his intestines remain soft.

The Fangtian Halberd penetrated completely until half the shaft had disappeared inside. Baili Changqing used all his strength to lift Daiku Kai Enzu into the air like a skewered kebab.

An inhuman shriek tore from Daiku Kai Enzu's throat as he weakly thrashed in the air before going limp. His vitality was terrifying - even this didn't kill him immediately. Baili Changqing proceeded to stab repeatedly into existing wounds, turning every orifice into mush.

Only after hundreds of stabs did life finally leave Daiku Kai Enzu's body. Breathing heavily, Baili Changqing thought: Zhang Yi's methods really are effective. He planted the Fangtian Halberd into the ground, Daiku Kai Enzu's corpse hanging from it like butchered meat, blood soaking the snow beneath.

Meanwhile, Yang Xinxin pondered Zhang Yi's words. While they currently held the advantage, the situation wasn't completely in their favor. Once Phoenixin Ren broke free, they'd have to face a captain-level opponent without Zhang Yi's dimensional abilities.

"We need to find that shrine maiden!" She understood much of Phoenixin Ren's power came from the shrine maiden's abilities.

Meng Siyu approached. "Leave that to me." She activated her [Omniscient View] domain, instantly scanning everything within three kilometers. Soon she located Takeuchi Mayumi's hiding place - a container area at Chaoyu Harbor.

"She's hiding there with another Moon of Corrosion superhuman!"

"Let me capture her!"

"I'll help!"

Xue Miao and Ye He volunteered. As assassination-type superhumans, this was their specialty.

Feeling his dimensional space nearing collapse, Zhang Yi turned his attention to the final battlefield - Liang Yue's decisive battle against Tsukamoto Nobunaga.

Chapter 756: Expert Watching from Behind

The duel between Liang Yue and Tsukamoto Nobunaga grew increasingly fierce.

In terms of defense, they were no match for tank-type fighters like Baili Changqing and Daiku Kai Enzu.

Therefore, any cut could result in anything from serious injury to death.

After exchanging arm-for-arm blows, both had a clear understanding of each other's strength, and neither dared to let their guard down even slightly.

The following battles all unfolded in the blink of an eye.

To win, they had to cast aside fear, even their lives, just to seize a sliver of opportunity.

Zhang Yi instinctively raised his Thunderbolt rifle, but hesitated and did not shoot.

This was a martial artist's duel. Zhang Yi had no so-called noble ideals and naturally did not care about fairness.

But to Liang Yue, fairness mattered deeply.

If Zhang Yi fired a shot behind Nobunaga's back, it would indeed create an excellent opening for Liang Yue.

However, that could form a psychological barrier for her, striking at her pride as a martial artist.

Yet now, Zhang Yi could not miss such a good opportunity either.

After a moment, a faint smile appeared at the corner of his mouth as he came up with a brilliant idea.

He did not shoot but activated his Precision Shooting ability, locking onto the back of Nobunaga's head.

“How does it feel to have an expert watching your back?”

Being locked on by a team leader-level figure sent a chill through anyone's heart and mind.

Especially for a powerful warrior like Nobunaga, his senses were even sharper. The moment the gun aimed at the back of his head, he sensed it.

No one could remain calm in such a moment.

His brief distraction was instantly seized upon by Liang Yue.

Martial arts masters settle fights with a single move; any mistake would determine life or death.

Liang Yue's blade was swift, like a gale sweeping across a snowy plain, vanishing in an instant.

Her strikes were both fast and ruthless.

Nobunaga's blade was also fast, but his mind was chaotic.

Though he swung his sword to block Liang Yue's, the momentum was no longer as confident or powerful as before.

“Crack!”

Liang Yue seized the moment to exert strength, gripping Dragon's Roar with both hands and slashing fiercely at his body.

The two famous swords, Daihannya Nagamitsu and Ayanokouji Tantou, shattered simultaneously beneath that strike!

“Whoosh!”

Dragon's Roar sliced from his left shoulder to his right abdomen, blood spraying from his strong body.

Nobunaga stared at the splattering blood in disbelief. He even heard the sound of blood spraying, like the wind from his hometown.

“Thunk!”

He slowly knelt to the ground. Liang Yue passed by him and, with a backhanded strike, severed his head.

Looking at his once-prized twin swords, Liang Yue said coldly, “So-called ancient famous swords are already outdated. Those immersed in history hesitate to move forward, forgetting to look ahead. How can they be called experts?”

At the command center, cheers erupted.

The Celestial Hound Squad kept slaughtering Moon of Corrosion members, how could they not be thrilled?

“Next, only their leader remains!”

Zhu Zheng said gravely, “Kill him, and this mission will be complete!”

Secretary Lan Xincheng approached and complimented, “Commander Zhu has a keen eye for talent; he discovered Zhang Yi!”

Zhu Zheng smiled and nodded, “I didn’t expect it either. This kid exploded with incredible power when pushed to the brink!”

“He has the strength of a team leader level! And as an outsider from the Outer City, his talent is unimaginable!”

Sun Luxuan reminded, "However, Phoenix Ren isn't dead yet! According to our intelligence, Zhang Yi's dimensional space cannot hold excessive energy."

"Trying to trap a team leader level may be difficult. If he breaks free, it will be extremely dangerous."

Zhu Zheng's smile faded.

He folded his hands beneath his chin.

"Believe first, then doubt! I trust Zhang Yi has made arrangements."

Meanwhile, the battle in Tianhai City was being relayed in real time to Tu Yunlie and Gao Changkong.

Tu Yunlie, codenamed Zhurong, showed a shocked expression upon hearing the news.

"Zhang Yi, is this guy really that strong?"

After speaking, he turned silently to look at the leader of the Extreme Path Demons.

This ronin organization from the surrounding islands of Neon was not to be underestimated.

Especially their three leaders—Yamada Henei, Ebinakawase, and Noyerayoda—all possessed upper-level Delta mutant strength.

"I have to speed up!"

At the Reincarnation Squad, Gao Changkong listened to Blizzard City's intelligence and, surprised, smiled with admiration.

"Unexpectedly strong! Zhang Yi."

At the Tianhai battlefield, Zhang Yi quietly put away Thunderbolt, then acted as if nothing had happened and called out over the comms, “Everyone, assemble!”

He joined the Celestial Hound Squad members.

Everyone’s faces were filled with joy; they believed the victory was certain and truly admired Zhang Yi like a god descended.

Zhang Yi, however, said coldly, “The real fierce battle is just beginning! I can no longer suppress Phoenix Ren. Get ready!”

After Liang Yue and Baili Changqing arrived on the scene,

Zhang Yi did not hesitate and first opened the dimensional space, releasing Phoenix Ren, whom he had imprisoned for several minutes.

Then he used spatial traversal to instantly leave the battlefield.

His dimensional space was on the verge of collapse, so instead of waiting for Phoenix Ren to completely destroy it, it was better to release him early.

Zhang Yi decided to leave the subsequent battle to others.

He knew clearly that Phoenix Ren’s first target would be him, so he had to run far away.

Phoenix Ren appeared surrounded by the Celestial Hound Squad members.

His body was bare, muscular lines distinct on his sturdy physique.

Yet his eyes were filled with confusion.

The flow of time inside the dimensional space was completely different from reality.

Though externally it seemed he was trapped only a few minutes, his spirit endured decades of torment in that world!

He was in a state where his body could barely move, but his nervous system and thoughts remained normal.

It was an unimaginable torture, the world's most brutal spiritual prison.

Decades passed unchanged, with only the endless whiteness of dimensional space before his eyes.

After decades, Phoenix Ren had forgotten many things.

However, his will was extraordinary.

The process of adapting to phoenix flames had subjected him to thousands of deaths, forging his will into steel.

“I am Phoenix Ren, leader of Moon of Corrosion.”

“I conquered the central plains of the Huaxu Kingdom, securing fertile ground for the Doomsday faction’s survival.”

Gradually, the confusion in his eyes faded.

“I want to kill a man named Zhang Yi!”

Phoenix Ren's consciousness returned to the present, which for him was decades ago.

He had forgotten much but not his mission.

"Kill him!"

Baili Changqing roared and charged ahead.

Liang Yue followed closely, wielding her long saber.

Beside Yang Xinxin, a huge Blue Shark floated obediently on the ground, its eyes full of adoration for her.

"Go, Kanute, kill him!"

Yang Xinxin ordered.

"Yes, Xinxin! You are my light of hope, my fire of desire, my original sin, my soul! For you, I would give everything, including my life."

Kanute said devoutly.

...

Chapter 757: Angel of Desire

Kanute charged excitedly toward Phoenixin Ren. As long as it was something Yang Xinxin asked him to do, he would do it with boundless joy.

"If you're not even willing to die for the woman you love, how can you claim to love her?"

Yang Xinxin's face showed a slightly disgusted expression.

But such was her ability, and there was nothing she could do but adapt.

Baili Changqing, Liang Yue, and Kanute - three deputy captain-level combatants - surrounded Phoenixin Ren alone!

The others formed a perimeter, ready to assist. Though they wanted to join the fight directly, the gap in their power levels was too vast for them to make a significant impact.

Meanwhile, what was squad leader Zhang Yi doing?

He leaned against a discarded shipping container, quietly pulling out a cigarette from his pocket and lighting it.

His role in the upcoming battle would be limited.

With his Dimensional Space on the verge of collapse, he could no longer engage Phoenixin Ren directly in combat.

He had to withdraw; otherwise, Phoenixin Ren would stop at nothing to kill him.

A few others stood nearby - Old You, Fatty Xu, and Xiao Honglian.

They had already wiped out that pirate crew.

But this victory had further depleted Tianhai City's already dwindling forces, with significant casualties among their base's combatants.

Xiao Honglian eyed the golden cigarette in Zhang Yi's hand and reached out. "Give me one!"

Zhang Yi glanced at her before tossing a cigarette over.

The group of men and one woman took this brief respite amid the battlefield, weary from combat.

"If you leave, can they handle him?" Xiao Honglian asked, her crimson lips exhaling a wisp of white smoke.

"Escaping from my Dimensional Space also drained a tremendous amount of his energy," Zhang Yi replied calmly.

In just over ten minutes, Phoenixin Ren had died countless times.

Each death consumed a portion of his life force.

Though he had nearly shattered Zhang Yi's Dimensional Space, he was no longer at peak condition either.

"With Baili Changqing and the others working together, they should be able to handle him," Zhang Yi said.

But as soon as the words left his mouth, a deafening explosion sounded behind them.

"BOOM!"

A massive shadow passed overhead before something enormous crashed nearby.

It was Kanute's body - his enormous Blue Shark form creating a terrifying crater upon impact, sending snow and dirt flying everywhere and covering the group in debris.

Xing Tian couldn't help but comment, "Looks like the situation isn't as optimistic as we thought."

Zhang Yi took a deep breath, brushed the dirt off his clothes, and cautiously peered around the container to assess the battle.

Amid the raging storm on the battlefield, he saw a crimson figure darting about like a phoenix in flight.

"This is bad!" Zhang Yi inhaled sharply, his tension rising again.

Though he had significantly weakened Phoenixin Ren's power, that didn't guarantee Liang Yue's trio could defeat him - especially since all three bore serious injuries.

On the battlefield, Phoenixin Ren laughed maniacally.

His team was gone, nearly all members dead, so he would slaughter every last member of the Celestial Hound Squad!

"I haven't lost yet! As long as I live, I can start over! The Moon of Corrosion will never fall!"

Crimson flames wreathed Phoenixin Ren's body - hellfire that even other superhumans dared not touch.

Once these flames latched onto a target, they became nearly impossible to extinguish, requiring constant energy expenditure to neutralize.

Baili Changqing and Liang Yue fought with desperate fury, knowing retreat wasn't an option - this was the final battle!

All other battlefields watched this confrontation closely.

Seeing Phoenixin Ren's demonic frenzy, Zhang Yi instinctively reached for Thunderbolt, considering taking a shot.

But remembering how much Phoenixin Ren hated him above all others, he reconsidered.

"Even if I kill him, he'll just revive again. We need to find a way to seal him away permanently."

Zhang Yi checked the time.

Thirty-seven minutes had passed since the battle began.

The reinforcements Gao Changkong had promised still hadn't arrived.

"He wants me to die so he can swoop in and claim the spoils, doesn't he?"

A cold smile played on Zhang Yi's lips.

Gao Changkong - that seemingly perfect character with his humble origins and flawless personality.

Zhang Yi had never trusted such a person.

Because no one was truly perfect.

If someone appeared perfect, it was undoubtedly an act.

And someone capable of maintaining such a perfect facade was undoubtedly more ruthless than ordinary people!

"Blizzard City wants to use me to contain him, but he equally hopes for my death so the city will have to credit him with eliminating the Moon of Corrosion."

"After all, Blizzard City needs a hero to serve as an idol for the masses."

Zhang Yi abandoned any hope of waiting for reinforcements.

He activated his comms system: "Reconnect to Blizzard City!"

"Received!"

The communication channel reopened.

Zhang Yi didn't trust headquarters - there might still be moles there.

But if others made things difficult for him, he'd return the favor.

"The Reincarnation Squad failed to arrive at the designated time. Gao Changkong is compromised! He might be the Moon of Corrosion's mole!"

Zhang Yi used Gao Changkong's real name rather than his codename.

This declaration made Zhu Zheng's eyes widen in shock.

"You're saying Gao Changkong - our Investigation Team captain - is a mole for the Moon of Corrosion?"

His brows furrowed deeply.

The claim sounded utterly absurd.

What status did an Investigation Team captain hold?

In Blizzard City, they ranked just below the top leadership.

And the Moon of Corrosion was merely a small ronin organization from Japan.

What reason would he have to betray them?

Zhang Yi calmly explained, "The Investigation Team's ironclad rule is punctuality. They promised thirty minutes but are late without explanation. There's only one reason - they're colluding with the Moon of Corrosion and hoping we die."

Zhang Yi couldn't be certain Gao Changkong had actually betrayed them.

This was merely speculation.

But one thing was clear - Gao Changkong wished for Zhang Yi's death.

So he saw no harm in smearing Gao Changkong's reputation.

Zhu Zheng responded with measured calm, "We'll investigate immediately. I'll contact the Reincarnation Squad at once. Zhang Yi, now that only Phoenixin Ren remains, eliminating him completes the mission."

"Remember - at any cost!"

Zhang Yi cut the transmission, a mocking smile curling his lips.

"At any cost? Whose cost exactly?"

Certainly not his.

On the battlefield, Phoenixin Ren searched frantically for Zhang Yi, knowing he had to kill him.

But with so many Celestial Hound Squad members around and Zhang Yi seemingly vanished without a trace, he grew increasingly frustrated.

"Die! Die! All of you, DIE!"

Phoxinin Ren darted across the battlefield with terrifying speed and power. Wherever his crimson phoenix flames touched, the earth blackened instantly.

"SHINK!"

A single hand chop bisected sniper Qi Guangming's body.

"Annoying flies!"

Laughing maniacally, he turned toward the defenseless Meng Siyu.

Meng Siyu's face paled instantly.

At the critical moment, Kanute rejoined the battle, barely intercepting the killing blow with his own body.

But the impact tore a massive hole through his torso, and phoenix flames began consuming his flesh, drawing agonized screams from the beastman.

Chapter 758: The Fierce Beast Unleashed

Liang Yue and Baili Changqing were panting heavily.

Liang Yue had lost the use of one arm and could only fight with her left hand holding the knife, her combat strength less than half of her peak.

Baili Changqing forcibly boosted his power with drugs, but his body was collapsing under the strain.

If the battle continued, it wouldn't be long before the drugs backfired; even without Phoenixin Ren's intervention, he would die.

As for the other members of the Celestial Hound Squad, their situation was even more desperate.

Even the current Phoenixin Ren could kill them like chickens.

His speed, power, and the red lotus fire that ignored their superpowers made them deeply realize the terrifying strength of a captain-level fighter!

“Pfft!”

Lu Yinghao also died, very suddenly. He didn't even catch a glimpse of Phoenixin Ren's figure before the world before his eyes lost all color.

“Zhang Yi, get out here now!!”

Phoenixin Ren shouted loudly from the center of the battlefield.

Zhang Yi heard it clearly from a distant place. He frowned but didn't rush out.

“If I go out now, the only one who will die is me.”

Zhang Yi had to keep a sufficient distance from him.

“Has the miko been found?”

He asked his team members.

“Already found, Captain!”

Ye He and Xue Miao stood before the corpse of Nishijou Satoru, looking at Takeuchi Mayumi trembling in the corner of a shipping container, a cold sneer on their lips.

“Should we kill her?”

As long as Takeuchi Mayumi was killed, Phoenixin Ren would lose the precognition ability granted by Blood Bestowal.

His combat strength would be greatly reduced, giving the Celestial Hound Squad a chance to win.

Zhang Yi sighed, “Capture her alive. Don’t let her die!”

Ye He nodded, “Understood, Captain!”

He stepped forward, looking down at the woman responsible for the Celestial Squad’s destruction, his eyes filled with hatred.

He slammed a fist hard into Takeuchi Mayumi’s abdomen. She convulsed like a shrimp, vomiting a large amount of stomach acid.

“Damn neon whore!”

Ye He cursed angrily, then shoved a gun into her mouth to prevent her from committing suicide.

Soon after, Ye He and Xue Miao brought Takeuchi Mayumi over.

Yang Xinxin was also brought to Zhang Yi's side by Hua Hua.

"Captain, how should we handle her?"

Ye He stared at Takeuchi Mayumi and asked.

She looked like a broken sack tossed onto the ground.

"No, she's still useful."

Zhang Yi looked at the woman on the ground, a relaxed smile appearing on his lips.

With her, dealing with Phoenixin Ren would be easier.

Takeuchi Mayumi was so weak she barely had the strength to speak.

She was already frail and couldn't withstand Ye He's punch.

"Xinxin, shoot her with an arrow!"

Zhang Yi said.

Yang Xinxin understood and used Desire Angel to shoot a Desire Arrow at her.

This turned the woman into her slave.

“Now, tell me everything about Phoenixin Ren!”

“How exactly can we kill him?”

Yang Xinxin leaned down and looked at Takeuchi Mayumi.

A pink haze appeared in Takeuchi Mayumi’s eyes.

In her gaze, Yang Xinxin became the only person in the world she could trust and rely on.

Someone she was even willing to sacrifice her life for.

“He can’t be killed.”

“As long as there’s even a single drop of his blood left, he can regenerate. To kill him, you have to exhaust all of his origin. But at minimum, he has to die ten thousand times!”

This statement fell into silence among everyone.

Kill Phoenixin Ren ten thousand times?

Zhang Yi’s spatial ability was temporarily unusable, and the others couldn’t even kill Phoenixin Ren once.

“Besides this, is there any other way?”

Yang Xinxin asked calmly.

“There is!”

“Let him kill himself.”

Takeuchi Mayumi said seriously.

“The only one who can destroy him is himself.”

Fatty Xu frantically pulled his hair, “Isn’t this nonsense? He’s not sick, why would he kill himself?”

Zhang Yi slowly stood up, flicked away the cigarette butt in his hand, and stomped it out.

“I understand. Let’s do it this way!”

Everyone looked at Zhang Yi in surprise.

“Captain, do you have a plan?”

“More or less, it’s worth a try.”

Zhang Yi smiled at Takeuchi Mayumi, “Once we control her, we’re halfway to victory!”

On the battlefield, Phoenixin Ren was putting enormous pressure on the Celestial Hound Squad.

In a short time, he killed two of them.

If Baili Changqing and Liang Yue hadn’t desperately blocked him, none of the others could have survived his attacks.

But suddenly, Phoenixin Ren felt a clear change in his vision.

Something was being stripped away from his body.

He was stunned for a moment before realizing he could no longer see the future.

“Hm? What’s going on?”

“Why can’t I see the direction of their attacks clearly anymore?”

“It feels like something very important has been forgotten by me.”

Phoenixin Ren thought deeply before recalling what he had forgotten.

He previously had a partner, seemingly named Takeuchi... Mayumi?

“Phoenixin Ren!”

A somewhat familiar voice came from the sky, attracting Phoenixin Ren’s attention.

He looked up and saw a face he loathed to the core.

“Zhang Yi!!!”

Phoenixin Ren’s expression twisted into a grimace. He roared towards the sky.

Then, slightly bending his body, he charged upward like a cannonball after gathering power!

Zhang Yi piloted his flight device to swiftly dodge in midair.

Then he raised the Thunderbolt, aimed at Phoenixin Ren.

“You think you can kill me with that?”

Phoenixin Ren sneered coldly. Zhang Yi’s bullets couldn’t keep up with his movements.

After landing, he got up again, determined to kill Zhang Yi!

But after a deafening gunshot swept through the air, a massive force pierced through Phoenixin Ren’s body, and he crashed to the ground.

Before dying, he still couldn’t figure out how Zhang Yi had hit him.

Zhang Yi hovered in the air, blood-red patterns swirling across his body.

Takeuchi Mayumi’s Blood Bestowal was currently empowering him.

He could see Phoenixin Ren’s future five seconds ahead, allowing him to anticipate his position and attack in advance.

Phoenixin Ren was dead. His body was burning rapidly, preparing for the next regeneration.

The Celestial Hound Squad seized this opportunity and rushed forward, pulling out special spray guns.

White mist sprayed onto his corpse.

It was liquid nitrogen, capable of rapidly lowering the temperature to over one hundred degrees below zero, even locking cells in place.

This was the method the Celestial Hound Squad devised to deal with Phoenixin Ren.

If they could seal his cells, perhaps they could keep him on the edge of life and death, unable to regenerate.

Under the cooling effect of large amounts of liquid nitrogen, Phoenixin Ren's body froze into a white ice sculpture.

Chapter 759: No Longer Human

Phoenix Ren turned into an ice sculpture, but before anyone could relax, a blazing red flame erupted, instantly melting the surrounding ice crystals!

Phoenix Ren was reborn from the flames once more—the plan to seal him using freezing methods had failed!

"No problem, we'll just do it a few more times!"

Zhang Yi remained completely unruffled.

[Blood Bestowal] granted him the ability to foresee the future. Even without the enhancement of his spatial powers, he could still kill Phoenix Ren!

The moment Phoenix Ren revived, Zhang Yi had already reloaded and fired toward another direction.

Only after he pulled the trigger did Phoenix Ren fly toward that spot—the location where Takeuchi Mayumi stood.

The bullet collided with his rapidly moving body mid-air, as though Phoenix Ren had intentionally intercepted it.

Once again, his body was torn apart.

Even in his dying moments, Phoenix Ren continued to laugh maniacally.

"You can't kill me, you can't kill me!"

Zhang Yi watched his falling corpse with indifference.

"I can't kill you, but you can."

Hua Hua swiftly dashed over from the distance, carrying Yang Xinxin and Takeuchi Mayumi on its back.

Behind Yang Xinxin, the Desire Angel drew its bow, a black [Hatred Arrow] aimed squarely at Phoenix Ren.

"You have to hit him the moment his body reforms!" Takeuchi Mayumi reminded seriously.

"Thanks!" Yang Xinxin smiled.

Her aim was true. The instant Phoenix Ren's flesh reconstructed, the [Hatred Arrow] pierced through his solid chest.

"Loathe yourself, Phoenix Ren!"

The moment Phoenix Ren revived, he felt an arrow strike his chest.

There was no pain, yet an inexplicable sense of intense crisis surged within him.

An uncontrollable wave of self-loathing rose from the deepest recesses of his heart.

His eyes widened in shock as he looked down at his chest.

There was no wound, yet his heart ached unbearably.

Memories of his entire life flashed before him.

From childhood, he had been a born monster—he reveled in violence, cruelty, and the sadistic joy of torturing stray cats and dogs.

He hid this vicious nature well from his family and peers.

But emotions suppressed for too long only rebound with greater ferocity.

When the apocalypse arrived, he finally cast off all restraints and embraced his true self.

The first person he killed was his wife, who constantly mocked him for failing to earn enough to support their family.

After that first kill, it took him less than a minute to overcome his initial tremors and instead feel exhilarated.

From then on, there was no turning back from his path of slaughter.

Too many had died by his hand.

As a reward to himself, after the apocalypse began, he slung a backpack over his shoulders and retraced the footsteps of his life—visiting every place he had been, and killing every person who had ever wronged him.

The elementary school teacher who scolded him, the neighbor who quarreled with his family, the female college student who falsely accused him of peeping on the subway, the CEO of the company he worked for...

It was a thick death notebook.

He called it: "One Hundred People I Want to Kill After the Apocalypse."

And he truly killed every last one he could find.

To achieve this goal, he even went so far as to first save a dying enemy's entire family.

Then, as they wept with gratitude, he smiled and slaughtered them all.

Now, Phoenix Ren clutched his chest in unbearable agony, gasping for breath as hot tears streamed down his face.

"What have I done? How could I have killed so many? This sin... not even a hundred deaths could atone for it!"

"Born as a human... I am sorry!"

Yang Xinxin's voice drifted over from afar.

"No need for a hundred deaths. One will suffice."

She frowned in disgust. "You filthy pig, you wretched mutated pheasant—just kill yourself already!"

Phoenix Ren had lost all will to live.

His mind was wholly consumed by one maddening thought: Death.

"I don't deserve to live in this world anymore."

After uttering these words, he slowly closed his eyes and collapsed to his knees on the shattered battlefield.

"Just kill me!"

Without the will to survive, without activating his phoenix powers, Phoenix Ren was no different from an ordinary man.

At this moment, Zhang Yi quietly injected himself with Compound No. 2.

The drug temporarily enhanced his strength, even stabilizing his nearly collapsed dimensional space.

In the command center, everyone stood up in excitement, mirroring the scene on the battlefield.

"Hurry, kill him! Kill him, and it'll all be over!" Zhu Zheng urged impatiently.

This matter needed resolution—otherwise, as the commander of the Jiangnan Region, he would have no explanation to give.

The others in the command center stared at the screen with tense anticipation.

"Alright, let me help you."

Zhang Yi opened his dimensional space, and the Sacred Executioner blade appeared in his hand.

As he looked at the kneeling Phoenix Ren, begging for death, everyone's eyes burned with loathing and eagerness.

Loathing for his atrocities.

Eagerness, because executing him would bring not just immense glory, but immense benefits!

Who wouldn't want the powerful essence of a captain-level being?

This was also why Zhang Yi had injected Compound No. 2.

After being betrayed by someone in Blizzard City, he trusted no one—not even his Celestial Hound Squad teammates.

Their identities differed from his.

Now that the mission to eliminate the Moon of Corrosion was complete, their cooperation had reached its end.

Thus, Zhang Yi had to guard against them snatching Phoenix Ren's essence.

Fortunately, the others weren't fools either.

Though they coveted the essence, none would dare make a move now—not with Zhang Yi's overwhelming strength on display.

Zhang Yi advanced step by step, stopping five hundred meters away from Phoenix Ren.

His pace was steady and deliberate, refusing to let carelessness ruin his imminent victory.

The last stretch was always the most treacherous—he couldn't afford any mistakes now.

Once within the sniper range of his Twin Gates, he immediately activated both portals.

Utilizing their spatial traversal, his blade lashed out in an instant!

Thud!

Phoenix Ren's head soared into the air before rolling across the ground.

Everyone held their breath—the closer to victory, the greater the tension.

After waiting a dozen seconds, Zhang Yi turned to Yang Xinxin.

"Ask that Japanese woman how we confirm he's really dead."

Yang Xinxin looked at Takeuchi Mayumi.

Now utterly loyal to her, Takeuchi Mayumi answered truthfully:

"His [Undying] ability activates the moment he dies. Since he hasn't revived, it means he didn't use it—he's truly dead."

Zhang Yi pondered, then took out his liquid nitrogen gun, freezing Phoenix Ren's corpse before shattering it with another shot.

After several more minutes of waiting, he finally confirmed Phoenix Ren was thoroughly dead.

No unexpected twists occurred—Zhang Yi almost felt disappointed.

After being so cautious, the lack of any last-minute surprises makes me look a bit silly, he mused inwardly.

The drawn-out scene even tested the patience of his Celestial Hound Squad teammates.

While caution wasn't a bad thing...

their captain might have taken it a tad too far.

Chapter 760: The End of the Moon of Corrosion

Regardless, Phoenixin Ren was already dead.

This marked the victory of Blizzard City's campaign against the Moon of Corrosion!

The scene erupted with intense cheers.

Every member of the Celestial Hound Squad had tears in their eyes as they roared toward the sky with laughter mixed with sobs.

They had suppressed their emotions for this moment for far too long!

And endured tremendous pressure.

Similar jubilant celebrations broke out at the command center.

Even the usually stern Zhu Zheng showed a relaxed smile, settling comfortably into his chair.

"That Zhang Yi kid didn't disappoint me after all!"

Behind him, security officer Sun Luxuan adjusted his old-fashioned glasses with an exasperated expression, thinking to himself: Didn't you never expect such performance from him in the first place?

He turned to look at the large screen, where Zhang Yi was picking up Phoenixin Ren's severed head.

Sun Luxuan couldn't help but curl his lips into a faint smile, nodding approvingly.

"This kid really is promising! His potential might surpass even the captains of Blizzard City's investigation squads!"

Lan Xincheng approached Zhu Zheng with a smile, bowing slightly to congratulate: "Congratulations, Commander Zhu! Under your leadership, the Jiangnan Region has successfully annihilated the invading enemies, demonstrating our formidable strength!"

"After this battle, it will surely intimidate the troublemakers from other regions, making them think twice before disrespecting the Jiangnan Region."

Zhu Zheng was in a good mood, and Lan Xincheng's words brightened it further.

However, he hadn't become arrogant or complacent.

Suddenly, he remembered something.

"Zhang Yi just told me something - he said Gao Changkong is the mole in Blizzard City."

Zhu Zheng frowned. "Why would Zhang Yi say that? Gao Changkong has no reason to collaborate with the Moon of Corrosion."

Originally, Zhang Yi had said this merely to divert attention and cast suspicion, without any concrete evidence.

Yet somehow, Zhang Yi had sensed something.

He was certain that Gao Changkong's failure to provide support as promised indicated underlying issues.

He had exaggerated the situation when reporting to Zhu Zheng.

Now Zhu Zheng began paying attention to this matter.

Lan Xincheng also looked puzzled: "Zhang Yi suddenly made this claim without any evidence. Though it's true the Reincarnation Squad contributed nothing during this operation."

Zhu Zheng stroked his chin thoughtfully: "Contact the Reincarnation Squad immediately. Also, have Zhang Yi and his team rest where they are - no need to rush back. They must be exhausted after such a grueling battle."

"Since Tianhai City is Zhang Yi's hometown, letting him rest there would be ideal."

Lan Xincheng praised: "Yes, Commander Zhu! You're truly considerate of your subordinates."

He immediately instructed staff to contact Gao Changkong.

This was easily accomplished.

All Reincarnation Squad members carried monitoring devices allowing real-time location tracking.

Currently, they were on a plane, and according to the Nebula System, they were approaching Tianhai City.

A mocking smile appeared on Lan Xincheng's lips.

He harbored some prejudice against Gao Changkong's Reincarnation Squad.

Since Gao Changkong originated from Blizzard City's E District, most squad members came from lower-class backgrounds.

This starkly contrasted with Lan Xincheng's aristocratic origins.

Even as investigation squad members, Lan Xincheng never truly regarded them as equals.

This was the arrogance of social hierarchy.

Seeing the Reincarnation Squad accomplish nothing, Lan Xincheng anticipated their impending embarrassment upon return, feeling somewhat gleeful.

He even imagined how to mock Gao Changkong upon their return.

Soon, the communication connected.

Zhu Zheng spoke directly to Gao Changkong.

"Wheel King, no need to proceed to Tianhai City. Return to Blizzard City!"

"Zhang Yi's team has already completed the mission!"

Upon hearing Zhu Zheng's words, surprise flashed across Gao Changkong's face.

But he quickly regained composure, smiling faintly.

"What an unexpected yet pleasant surprise."

Zhu Zheng said calmly: "You can return directly. Although you didn't engage the Moon of Corrosion directly, you've worked hard. Take some proper rest upon return."

Gao Changkong smiled: "Understood. We'll return immediately."

"Immediately."

Their conversation ended.

Gao Changkong turned to his squad members, relaying Zhu Zheng's message.

Everyone looked astonished.

Ji Yushen's eyes narrowed: "That outsider actually killed Phoenixin Ren? Is he really that strong?"

Gao Changkong nodded with a smile.

"We've all been deceived! That man concealed his true capabilities too well - even the entire Jiangnan Region was kept in the dark."

"Had the Moon of Corrosion not allied with the Tianlong Pirate Crew, they might never have forced him to reveal his full strength."

"Truly terrifying!"

Gao Changkong activated his communicator, attempting to contact Zhang Yi.

"I should properly congratulate him!"

Meanwhile, Zhang Yi held Phoenixin Ren's severed head.

An esper's essence dissipates rapidly after death, so absorption needed to happen quickly.

In his current condition, absorbing Phoenixin Ren's essence wouldn't cause adverse reactions.

So he began the absorption process publicly.

He needed to restore his strength urgently.

The identity of Blizzard City's mole remained unclear.

Having eliminated the Moon of Corrosion, he might become expendable to certain factions, making him vulnerable to ambush.

Just then, Gao Changkong's communication request came through.

Zhang Yi frowned.

After brief consideration, he accepted the call.

"Chaos."

"Wheel King."

"Congratulations on completing this significant mission. From now on, you'll be the Jiangnan Region's hero."

While absorbing Phoenixin Ren's power, Zhang Yi responded indifferently: "Just empty fame. Means nothing to me."

His gaze remained sharp.

Gao Changkong was also on his suspect list.

"But you were late."

Seven minutes late - unacceptable for an investigation squad captain.

Gao Changkong laughed, avoiding the question as he gazed out the window.

Blizzard City's massive walls stood layered, dividing the city into strictly hierarchical districts.

"I admire you. At least we've proven that ordinary people like us aren't inferior to so-called nobles, right?"