

## Ice Age 761

Chapter 761: No One is Born Above Others

After Gao Changkong finished speaking those ambiguous words, he ended the call.

But Zhang Yi's pupils abruptly contracted.

No, no no no!

Gao Changkong's words sent chills down his spine. For some reason, his sharp instincts detected something amiss.

Something major must have happened.

His left hand gripped Phoenix Ren's head, frantically absorbing his origin energy.

As expected of a squad leader, Phoenix Ren's origin energy was incredibly abundant.

The sensation of that power flooding into his body made Zhang Yi feel thoroughly rejuvenated.

Even his nearly collapsed dimensional space began rapidly repairing itself.

Perhaps due to absorbing Phoenix Ren's origin energy, the ability toxins left in his dimensional space—the power of Karmic Flames—started gradually dissipating.

Yet Zhang Yi had no time to rejoice. He felt like he'd grasped something, like finding a loose thread in a tangled ball of yarn.

"His tone was too strange. Those aren't words someone so socially adept would say."

"Based on his past behavior, he would have properly congratulated me, not been so dismissive."

"When someone's personality suddenly changes, it's either due to major life trauma—or—"

Zhang Yi sharply raised his head, his pupils slightly contracting under the icy white light.

"They've torn off their long-worn disguise, revealing their true face!"

But what exactly was Gao Changkong planning?

To kill him?

Zhang Yi frowned, doubting Gao Changkong would do that.

It would be meaningless. Even if he killed Zhang Yi, the credit wouldn't go to him.

And he'd completely sever ties with the Jiangnan Region.

Zhang Yi couldn't pinpoint what was off about Gao Changkong, but he now strongly suspected a connection between the Moon of Corrosion incident and Gao Changkong.

This was just an instinctive hunch.

Still, he immediately contacted Blizzard City to report this to Zhu Zheng.

"Gao Changkong seems suspicious—he might be connected to Moon of Corrosion. You should investigate when possible."

Zhu Zheng frowned. "Alright, we'll definitely look into this."

It was already confirmed someone in Blizzard City was colluding with Moon of Corrosion.

But they couldn't rashly conclude who it was yet.

Just then, Yang Xinxin arrived on Hua Hua beside Zhang Yi.

"Brother Zhang Yi, could there be another possibility?"

She tilted her head at him.

Zhang Yi looked up. "Xinxin, what are you thinking?"

Yang Xinxin spoke slowly: "You're at Tianhai City, Tu Yunlie leads the Yan Yun Guard at Huazhou City, and the Reincarnation Squad went to Linhai City."

"Right now, Blizzard City's defenses are at their weakest."

"Could something happen inside Blizzard City?"

"Could it involve the Reincarnation Squad?"

The call with Zhu Zheng was still connected, so he heard every word clearly.

Yet Zhu Zheng said: "They're still above Tianhai City—they couldn't possibly be planning that."

"Blizzard City is an iron fortress. Any issues would be easily resolved. Don't worry too much."

But before Zhu Zheng finished speaking, a massive explosion came through the call, nearly bursting Zhang Yi's eardrums.

The communication between them abruptly cut off.

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"Sometimes I often wonder—why can those important figures always stay above others, deciding life and death?"

"Eventually I realized: it's power! Power is the supreme thing."

"Money, fame, wealth—they're worthless before power."

Gao Changkong smiled as he loaded bullets into his gun, speaking to the Reincarnation Squad members.

"In my basketball career spanning so many years, I achieved success and earned countless honors. They called me a hero."

"But this so-called hero couldn't even secure his parents a chance to live in Blizzard City when the apocalypse came!"

Gao Changkong narrowed his eyes at the massive black high-rise outside.

"From then on, I understood—what's a hero? A hero isn't worth shit before power."

"Justice must be fought for with our own fists!"

"I once wanted to climb up peacefully, gain status, then change this unfair world."

"But they wouldn't even give me that chance. So now, I'll speak to them my way!"

The alloy doors before them slowly opened.

The Reincarnation Squad members stepped out one by one.

Dressed in combat suits, they stood before the Operations Command Center's main building.

The guards at the entrance saluted them with smiles.

"Captain Gao, you're back so soon! Mission accomplished?"

"I knew no mission could defeat you!"

Facing the enthusiastic guards, Gao Changkong walked forward with a smile.

Though they were fully armed for combat, no one stopped them.

Because the Reincarnation Squad were Blizzard City's heroes.

Who would suspect their protectors?

Yet something felt off.

Shouldn't the Reincarnation Squad be hundreds of kilometers away at Linhai City?

Why were they suddenly here?

A guard downstairs pondered, then reported this upstairs.

When Lan Xincheng received the news, he was stunned.

"What? The Reincarnation Squad is at the Command Center?"

Zhu Zheng also stood up in shock. "The Reincarnation Squad? Weren't they still above Tianhai City? How are they here?"

Staff had already pulled up the first-floor surveillance footage.

Undoubtedly, it was the Reincarnation Squad members!

Led by Gao Changkong, all nine members were present.

Only one was missing.

"How are they here? What's going on?"

Zhu Zheng suddenly recalled Zhang Yi's warning.

The Reincarnation Squad might have betrayed Blizzard City!

Cold sweat poured down Lan Xincheng's forehead: "The missing one is Chen Xiaozheng, codename [Chameleon]. He can perfectly mimic anything."

Zhu Zheng gritted his teeth and roared: "Damn it! The group that went to Linhai City were fakes! The real Reincarnation Squad never left Blizzard City!"

Yes, the Reincarnation Squad had been here all along, never leaving.

Only the Celestial Hound Squad and Tu Yunlie's Yan Yun elites had departed.

Their intentions needed no further speculation now.

Zhu Zheng immediately bellowed: "Don't let them upstairs! Activate the building's security system immediately and summon all city guards for backup!"

The building's exterior walls were instantly encased in thick special metal plates.

Simultaneously, corridors and staircases on every floor were sealed by dozens of heavy metal doors.

Piercing red alarms blared.

The Operations Command Center had the highest-level defense measures.

Once fully activated, even high-level empowered individuals couldn't breach it quickly.

Chapter 762: Revolution

No one expected that the Reincarnation Squad would suddenly launch a rebellion.

The entire Blizzard City immediately entered Level One alert status.

The Operations Command Center building also activated all its security defenses.

Zhu Zheng clenched his teeth and opened communications with Gao Changkong.

“Gao Changkong! Are you planning to rebel?”

A meaningful smile appeared at the corner of Gao Changkong’s mouth.

“No, this is a revolution!”

Zhu Zheng was so furious he almost smashed the table with his fist.

Meanwhile, the staff on the first floor were completely dumbfounded.

Although they had armed defense forces, with their strength, how could they possibly fight the entire Reincarnation Squad?

The only outcome of doing so would be death!

But they also could not just watch Gao Changkong and his men break through the defenses.

The situation reached a stalemate.

The guards held their guns hesitantly, their faces full of doubt, their hearts shrouded by fear.

At that moment, a calm voice came from the crowd.

“Alright, leave this matter to me!”

Everyone turned to look and saw Wu Zhengheng from the security department step forward.

“Supervisor!”

Wu Zhengheng walked up in front of Gao Changkong. Just as everyone was nervously sweating for him,

Wu Zhengheng took a remote control from his pocket and unlocked the security restrictions on the first floor, as well as the elevator doors.

Everyone's eyes widened in disbelief.

They couldn't believe that this diligent supervisor would do such a thing!

Was he helping the Reincarnation Squad commit treason?

Fortresses are broken from within.

No matter how strong the Operations Command Center's security measures were, they couldn't withstand the betrayal of those responsible for internal security.

Gao Changkong smiled and said to Wu Zhengheng, "Thank you. I will fulfill what I promised you."

Wu Zhengheng nodded silently and watched as members of the Reincarnation Squad boarded the elevator.

This scene left the senior officials dumbfounded.

"He's a mole too!"

"Wu Zhengheng has betrayed Blizzard City!"

"That despicable guy! I trusted him so much!"

Zhu Zheng was furious beyond words.

Lan Xincheng comforted him, "Commander Zhu, we have three layers of security measures. Don't worry. When the city's defense forces arrive, they will definitely hold them off."

“For now, for safety’s sake, let’s retreat first!”

The command center’s senior staff arranged a VTOL aircraft precisely for such special moments.

Zhu Zheng kept a stern face.

At this time, inside Blizzard City, Zhang Yi and Tu Yunlie had both been sent away, leaving the interior very empty.

All of this was definitely planned by Gao Changkong long ago.

Going even deeper, it was almost certain that the entire Moon of Corrosion incident was Gao Changkong’s scheme!

How hateful!

“No, I won’t leave here!”

Zhu Zheng sat down steadily, his gaze sharp, hands crossed firmly on the table.

“I am the commander of the Jiangnan Region. I absolutely cannot hand over the command center to traitors!”

“Order all defense forces in the city to immediately come and eliminate the traitors!”

Zhu Zheng remained calm in the crisis and quickly analyzed the combat strengths of both sides.

Although both major forces had been sent away and could not return quickly,

that did not mean Blizzard City was without defense power.

Three hundred thousand permanent defense troops and many powerful superhumans within various armed departments were still present.

Including his bodyguard Sun Luxuan and his secretary Lan Xincheng, both experts in the superhuman domain!

“Right here, I will fight a good battle with Gao Changkong!”

At the same time, another question lingered in his mind.

Gao Changkong, once a national sports hero, why would he collude with the Neon Ronin and betray the Jiangnan Region?

Lan Xincheng anxiously urged, “But your life safety is the most important! What if something happens to you? What will happen to Blizzard City? What will happen to the Jiangnan Region?”

Zhu Zheng insisted, “Run? Where could I run to? I’m not going anywhere. I want to see what they can do to me right here!”

Lan Xincheng was anxious and helpless; he shouted, “Enter Level One alert status! At all costs, defend rigorously and do not let them reach here!”

The news of the Reincarnation Squad’s rebellion spread immediately throughout all armed departments and major organizations in Blizzard City.

Ordinary people remained unaware of the changes to maintain stability among the populace.

For a moment, the atmosphere in Blizzard City thickened with tension like gunpowder.

The Yan Yun troops, defense forces, and private militias of several major powers all began rushing toward the command center.

They absolutely could not tolerate Gao Changkong killing Zhu Zheng.

Because if Zhu Zheng died, it would mean the painstakingly established order of Blizzard City would collapse.

Besides them, the Celestial Hound Squad and the Yan Yun Guard led by Tu Yunlie, both hundreds of kilometers away, also received the news.

Tu Yunlie's eyes blazed with anger. He had just finished dealing with the Extreme Path Demons, and he and his elite subordinates were greatly exhausted.

Moreover, the distance was far; even if they rushed back now, it would take at least an hour.

But he still said without hesitation, "Everyone, assemble immediately and return to Blizzard City to suppress the rebellion!"

The Yan Yun Guard quickly boarded the VTOL aircraft and headed toward Blizzard City.

Upon hearing the news, Zhang Yi murmured to himself, "I really guessed it right?"

He was surprised, but not much.

After the apocalypse, he had seen too much about human nature.

Betrayal had become the norm. Nothing surprising—everyone was just maximizing their own interests.

However, there was one thing he had to consider.

What impact would this matter have on him?

After absorbing the essence of Phoenixin Ren's origin, his power had been restored and had become even stronger!

But he could sense there was still some boundary he hadn't broken through.

The Celestial Hound Squad members at the scene were already anxious.

“What should we do? Didn't expect Gao Changkong and the others to rebel!”

“Unbelievable. I thought only ugly people like you would rebel, but now even Gao Changkong, that big-browed guy, has turned traitor?”

“What exactly is his motive? How much did the Neon Nation pay him?”

Baili Changqing was exhausted both physically and mentally, with Compound-5 having drained almost all his strength.

The once robust man was now as thin as a mummy, his vitality completely squeezed out.

Still, he dragged his frail body over to Zhang Yi.

“Captain, let’s go back! Blizzard City cannot fall into chaos. If Blizzard City falls into chaos, the entire Jiangnan Region is finished!”

Zhang Yi looked at him deeply but said nothing.

Because he didn’t know exactly what Gao Changkong intended.

What did this so-called rebellion mean?

It was easy to analyze.

Gao Changkong wouldn't do anything meaningless.

With the Reincarnation Squad's strength, they could do whatever they wanted in the weakly defended Blizzard City, but they definitely could not destroy the city.

At most, they could kill someone.

Would that person be Zhu Zheng?

But even if Zhu Zheng died, others like Zhang San, Li Xi, Wang Er, or Ma Zi would stand up.

Blizzard City was not lacking capable people; elites were everywhere.

Chapter 763: Assault on the Command Center

Zhang Yi never acted without purpose.

If Gao Changkong's rebellion was merely to kill someone unrelated to his own interests, he wouldn't interfere.

Nor did he believe Zhu Zheng's death would plunge the entire Jiangnan Region into chaos.

Personally, Zhang Yi also had no desire to clash with a fully-prepared investigation team at this moment.

Looking at his current companions - the Moon of Corrosion and Tianlong Pirate Crew had exhausted them all.

Even if they rushed to assist, time wouldn't permit it, and their strength likely couldn't match the enemy's.

"Why would Gao Changkong rebel?"

He voiced this question with genuine confusion.

"For someone of his status to collude with Ronin from the Neon Nation is utterly beneath him."

The Neon Nation wouldn't dare scheme against the Jiangnan Region.

If proven, the Jiangnan Region could simply carpet-bomb them with Death Reapers of Love.

The vast power disparity between the two nations was obvious, especially regarding H-weapons.

In this apocalyptic era, relationships between major factions had changed - sparks could easily ignite full conflict.

"Perhaps... it really is personal?"

Yang Xinxin suddenly interjected.

Zhang Yi turned curiously toward her. When their eyes met, he saw the answer reflected in her clear gaze.

"Did Zhu Zheng wrong him?"

Yang Xinxin smiled faintly. "That hardly matters now. Brother, you've already annihilated the Moon of Corrosion and dealt with the Tianlong Pirate Crew along the way."

"These achievements are enough to make you the Jiangnan Region's hero!"

"As for Blizzard City's mess... let them handle it themselves."

Hearing this, Baili Changqing grew agitated.

"Zhang Yi! You can't just stand by! If Commander Zhu is killed, the entire Jiangnan Region will descend into chaos!"

He took a deep, shaky breath. "Moreover... Gao Changkong's collusion with the Neon Ronin is practically confirmed!"

"Can you tolerate such beastly behavior?"

\*Cough cough! Cough cough cough!\*

Baili Changqing suddenly covered his mouth, blood seeping between his fingers in crimson streams.

Zhang Yi steadied him, frowning slightly. "Of course I can't tolerate it. Given the chance, I'd kill him myself!"

Undisguised killing intent flashed in his eyes.

This entire trap had been Gao Changkong's design.

Had Zhang Yi not concealed his captain-level strength, he'd have died under the combined assault of Moon of Corrosion and the pirates.

His hatred for Gao Changkong burned fiercely - he longed to execute him immediately!

Yet returning to Blizzard City now... he lacked confidence against the full-strength Reincarnation Squad.

At this moment, Yang Xinxin reminded him:

"Brother, you're overlooking something crucial."

Zhang Yi looked up at the adorable girl.

"What else?"

Yang Xinxin turned toward the shrine maiden standing obediently behind her.

"The true core of Moon of Corrosion wasn't Phoenixin Ren... but her."

After a moment's thought, Zhang Yi grasped her meaning.

Takeuchi Mayumi wasn't a combat-type superhuman, so he'd temporarily forgotten how formidable her abilities were.

And how... delicious her essence might be.

She might even surpass Phoenixin Ren in level!

"But killing her... seems wasteful?"

Zhang Yi hesitated, reluctant to lose Takeuchi Mayumi's abilities.

A shrine maiden who could foresee fragments of destiny and grant others precognition was the ultimate support!

"It's pointless, brother."

Yang Xinxin shook her head.

"My Desire Angel ability only lasts one hour. After that, she'll regain her free will."

"Who knows what she'll do then? Better to..." Her lips curled with disturbing delight. "...consume her!"

With these words, she fired a black arrow at the weakened Kanute, who widened his eyes before taking his own life.

"Brother, after absorbing their power, you can return to Blizzard City!"

"Compared to uncertain futures, Zhu Zheng's current existence benefits us most."

"And if you successfully stop Gao Changkong... you'll gain greater leverage when negotiating with Blizzard City."

Understanding dawned on Zhang Yi.

If Zhu Zheng died, someone else might take power.

But a new commander's temperament couldn't be guaranteed.

At present, his relationship with Commander Zhu remained amicable.

Personally... Gao Changkong had tried to kill him. Zhang Yi wasn't magnanimous enough to forget that hatred.

"I'll try then!"

He glanced at the severely wounded Liang Yue and Baili Changqing.

"Don't delay either. Choose your prey and absorb them. There may be... complications ahead."

Both were gravely injured - Baili Changqing especially after using Compound-5, now at death's door.

But absorbing Daiku Kai Enzu and Tsukamoto Nobunaga's essence could heal them.

As deputy-captain level foes, Zhang Yi wouldn't compete for those.

He had better options.

With a soft sigh, Zhang Yi approached the smiling Takeuchi Mayumi, gripped her throat, and snapped her neck.

Then he collected both her and Kanute's bodies to begin absorption.

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In Blizzard City's Operations Command Center, the slaughter commenced.

Gao Changkong led the Reincarnation Squad upward through the sixteen-story building.

Each floor held heavily armed defenders - elite soldiers in black powered armor at minimum, often including powerful superhumans.

Yet against Blizzard City's elite Reincarnation Squad, they proved pathetically weak.

Gao Changkong maintained his calm demeanor, hands clasped behind his back without engaging.

His vice-captain Ji Yushen handled the combat.

Ji Yushen - special-type superhuman, codename [Ghost Blade].

Little was known about his abilities beyond summoning an enormous cyan greatsword from voidspace that could bisect armored vehicles with ease.

Ji Yushen marched at the vanguard toward the command room.

The corridor ahead trembled with seismic footsteps as hundreds of soldiers blocked the passage.

A Yan Yun Guard major spoke through his cold mask: "Reincarnation Squad, stand down! None may enter without the commander's orders!"

Ji Yushen gripped his two-meter greatsword with both hands. "Still don't understand the situation?"

Like lightning, he charged forward.

"Fire!"

The major gestured, and soldiers formed battle ranks - riot shields upfront, gunners behind unleashing bullet storms.

Ji Yushen's greatsword swept horizontally.

The bullets reversed course like plastic pellets as the alloy shields split like paper.

Dozens of defenders died instantly, shattered corpses and blood painting the hallway crimson.

\*Whoosh!\*

Laser grids materialized, attempting to ensnare the Reincarnation Squad.

Ji Yushen's blade danced along the walls - green afterimages slicing through reinforced concrete like tofu, destroying the hidden laser emitters within.

#### Chapter 764: Shattering All Defenses

In the command center, Zhu Zheng sat upright in his chair, watching surveillance footage of the Reincarnation Squad on the screen.

Squads of defense troops and Yan Yun Guards charged at them, attempting to block their advance.

However, the difference in strength was far too obvious.

Gao Changkong didn't even need to make a move - just a few of his empowered subordinates completely cleared all obstacles in their path.

"Hold them back! We must stop them from reaching the command center at all costs!"

"Where are our reinforcements? Why haven't they arrived yet?"

Lan Xincheng shouted orders into the communicator, cold sweat dripping down his forehead. For the first time, he felt the threat of death.

Even after so long in this apocalyptic world, as a high-ranking official of Blizzard City, he had never imagined his own demise.

But the steadily advancing Reincarnation Squad gave him his first true sense of mortal danger.

Over the communicator, unit leaders responded one after another: "We're almost there, Commander! Rest assured, we won't allow these traitors to harm you!"

On the Reincarnation Squad's side, Gu Man detected the approaching reinforcements.

The piercing sirens grew louder as they neared the building.

She smiled faintly and snapped her fingers with her right hand.

Just as the reinforcement troops arrived near the building, they suddenly saw a massive black cube materialize around the entire structure.

The black cube completely enveloped the building.

"This is... Gu Man's barrier from the Reincarnation Squad!"

A commanding officer looked on with panic.

Gu Man, an Emission-type ability user, codename: [Barrier].

As a top-tier barrier master, her abilities were terrifying.

The barriers she erected were extremely difficult to break - unless attacked by someone with far superior offensive power.

And currently in the city, almost all empowered individuals of that level had left.

Only one remained - Zhu Zheng's bodyguard, Sun Luxuan.

But under these circumstances, Sun Luxuan couldn't leave Zhu Zheng's side for even a moment.

"Break through this barrier!"

The gathered soldiers outside began attempting to breach the barrier with explosives.

A hail of bullets rained against the black barrier, supplemented by explosive charges.

Yet the black barrier remained as immovable as if made of diamond.

The commotion plunged all of Blizzard City into chaos.

"What's that noise? Are we under attack?"

"How can there be gunfire in Blizzard City? What's happening?"

The citizens huddled in fear, powerless to do anything but hide and pray they wouldn't be caught in the crossfire.

At the Operations Command Center, Ji Yushen carved a path forward single-handedly with his sword, effortlessly dismantling every defense and trap in his way.

With the defense layout provided by Wu Zhengheng, they easily bypassed many obstacles, heading straight for Zhu Zheng's command center.

"Halt! Don't take another step!"

An empowered individual blocked their path, spreading his right hand to erect ten crimson barriers across the corridor.

Ji Yushen grinned, flashing his white teeth, then casually advanced with his greatsword in hand.

"Useless! Useless! Useless!"

Each swing of his blade shattered a barrier with ease.

The difference in power was too great - the defenders stood no chance against Reincarnation Squad members.

Soon, the man fell to Ji Yushen's blade, dying in despair and terror.

Watching this unfold, Gao Changkong murmured: "Killing was never my intention. If possible, I'd only take Zhu Zheng's head and rebuild Blizzard City's order."

"But throughout history, no revolution has ever been bloodless."

"I will remember you all. But today, you must die."

Genuine sorrow flashed in his eyes for this civil war.

Yet his steps forward remained resolute.

In the command center, all staff members were drenched in sweat.

"Commander Zhu... they've reached this floor!"

How could they defend?

They were just technical personnel - if the Reincarnation Squad came, they could only await death.

Lan Xincheng rushed to Zhu Zheng: "Commander Zhu, we must leave now!"

Zhu Zheng replied calmly: "Do you really think we can escape?"

Even if they boarded a VTOL aircraft, the Reincarnation Squad would shoot it down.

Modern weaponry proved far less effective against powerful empowered individuals than imagined.

Moreover, the building was already enveloped in Gu Man's barrier - no one could escape now.

Sun Luxuan slowly approached and bowed: "Commander Zhu, allow me to go."

Zhu Zheng nodded. "Go ahead."

A smile tugged at Sun Luxuan's lips.

Truth be told, it's been a while since I last fought. These old bones will rust without exercise.

He didn't appear particularly tall or imposing - somewhat gaunt even.

But no one dared underestimate this powerhouse. His position as Zhu Zheng's personal bodyguard spoke volumes.

Sun Luxuan turned and exited the command center. A flash of white light accompanied the door closing behind him.

The corridor had become a scene of carnage.

The last defensive squad had been slaughtered - severed limbs and viscera everywhere, thick crimson blood coating walls and ceiling.

Ji Yushen stood gripping his massive sword, pristine white skin splattered with blood like a demon from hell.

At the sight of Sun Luxuan, everyone froze.

They recognized him.

Gao Changkong smiled at the older man.

"Even you've been mobilized, old friend. Does this mean Zhu Zheng's last line of defense stands here?"

Sun Luxuan stared coldly at Gao Changkong.

"Gao Changkong, I never imagined you'd betray us. Don't you understand this path only leads to your destruction?"

"To betray the Jiangnan Region is to betray Huaxu Nation. The consequence can only be death!"

Gao Changkong's lips curled slightly.

He retorted mockingly: "Since when did you elitists, who treat ordinary lives as worthless, get to speak for everyone?"

"Enough talk. Today, all you rebels will die here!"

Sun Luxuan let his arms hang naturally. The space behind him distorted suddenly as light bent unnaturally.

Absolute darkness swallowed everything behind him.

From his sleeves, two streams of black mist billowed forth, spreading behind him.

Upon closer inspection, it wasn't smoke but countless thin black filaments emitting a faint eerie glow - soul-chillingly terrifying.

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### Chapter 765: You Go and Take Out Gao Changkong

Facing Zhu Zheng's personal bodyguard, Gao Changkong dared not be careless.

However, he had no intention of making a move himself.

Instead, Ji Yushen, the deputy squad leader beside him, stepped forward.

"Mr. Sun, let me have the honor of testing your skills!"

Sun Luxuan furrowed his brows and said coldly, "You?"

"Heh, even at my worst, I'm not someone a mere deputy squad leader can mess with."

“Are you planning to use your life to delay me?”

Gao Changkong smiled as he stepped forward, placing a hand on Ji Yushen’s shoulder.

“Mr. Sun, don’t underestimate him! He might just surprise you!”

“You should know, my ability is ‘Death Is Reincarnation.’ So I can repeatedly use my powers within reincarnation to run simulations over and over.”

Gao Changkong grinned and asked, “Guess how long I’ve been preparing for today?”

A trace of caution appeared in Sun Luxuan’s eyes.

“What are you trying to say?”

Gao Changkong continued, “Of course I know there’s someone like you by Zhu Zheng’s side.”

“So I simulated battles against you repeatedly, and I’ve long since figured out your abilities.”

He looked proudly at Ji Yushen beside him.

“And he is the one I specially prepared just for you.”

Sun Luxuan's heart suddenly sank. He of course knew what Gao Changkong's ability was.

If a person like that spent enormous time and energy scheming something, no one could guard against it.

Because he has countless chances to fail and then try again.

But his opponent only has one chance. Lose, and it's truly game over!

"You don't really think you can beat me with just this, do you?"

Sun Luxuan was not shaken by Gao Changkong's words.

As a top-tier powerhouse, having a resolute will was the most basic code of conduct.

"No need to beat you. Just delaying you is enough!"

Gao Changkong smiled.

Ji Yushen had already drawn his enormous greatsword and charged at Sun Luxuan at lightning speed.

Sun Luxuan's black silk threads in both hands grew wilder. "Come on, I want to see if you have what it takes to hold me back!"

Ji Yushen slashed down with his sword, and a dazzling green light erupted throughout the entire floor.

After a few seconds, the green glow vanished from the spot.

But both Ji Yushen and Sun Luxuan had disappeared.

Suddenly, Sun Luxuan sensed that the space around him had changed.

It was a green-hued space, completely engulfed in green mist, with nothing visible.

Only he and Ji Yushen were inside this space.

Ji Yushen raised his giant sword, aiming at Sun Luxuan's head.

“I named this ability ‘SOLO,’ isn’t it cool?”

“Before you kill me, you cannot escape this space.”

“So, don’t even think about disturbing the captain from killing Zhu Zheng!”

Sun Luxuan’s face instantly twisted into a ferocious demon-like expression.

He stopped wasting words as countless black silk threads shot wildly toward Ji Yushen!

“It’s useless, old man!”

Ji Yushen laughed loudly as he wildly swung his greatsword, deflecting the thousands of black threads.

“The captain said that among hundreds of reincarnation simulations he ran, my best record was only a draw against you!”

“But you must win, and as long as I don’t lose, this battle ends here!”

Sun Luxuan roared, “Then I’ll kill you first, and then Gao Changkong!”

The black silk threads in his hands were extremely tough, like soul-stealing, life-cutting blades. Soon, the dense threads filled all the space around Ji Yushen.

Under such an inescapable net of blades, no one could dodge the endless slashes.

But Ji Yushen retracted the smile on his face and said coldly,

“By the way, one more thing. My strength is also at the captain level!”

Zhang Yi once guessed,

If someone could truly trigger reincarnation infinitely,

Then the time and experience they would possess would far surpass everyone else.

In that case, even if they were a waste at first, they would be tempered into a strong warrior through endless years.

Gao Changkong not only could do this himself,

But he could also help those around him achieve it.

Ji Yushen was the uncut gem he had discovered. Although nominally a deputy squad leader, he already possessed combat power not weaker than the captain level!

The Reincarnation Squad had two fighters at the captain level.

This was the very foundation of their confidence to openly confront Blizzard City's top brass.

Sun Luxuan was trapped inside the 'SOLO' domain by Ji Yushen and could not appear for a short time.

Gao Changkong walked up to the command center's heavy door, his lips curling slightly with a trace of excitement in his heart.

He then reached out and pressed on the door.

The tightly sealed metal door opened effortlessly at his touch.

Everyone inside looked at him with complicated expressions.

Many of the staff were Gao Changkong's fans.

They didn't know how to face this former hero turned traitor today.

Lan Xincheng stood before Zhu Zheng. "Gao Changkong, do you really want to commit such a heinous betrayal? Do you understand the consequences of what you're doing?"

Gao Changkong ignored Lan Xincheng.

He only looked at the staff inside the command center, lifting the corners of his mouth into his usual smile.

"Shift's over."

Everyone exchanged confused glances, not understanding what Gao Changkong meant.

They looked at each other, but their gazes finally settled on Zhu Zheng.

At this moment, Zhu Zheng was their backbone and also Gao Changkong's target.

Gao Changkong continued, “I’m here to find Zhu Zheng. The others are irrelevant. You can leave now, or you might get caught in the crossfire.”

Lan Xincheng angrily shouted, “Don’t spread sedition here! None of us will surrender to you, the traitor!”

“If you want to get to Commander Zhu, you’ll have to get past us first!”

He shouted to everyone, “Come with me to protect Commander Zhu!”

But few inside the office actually charged forward.

What a joke, most were clerks without any combat ability.

Charging forward would only be suicide.

Seeing Gao Changkong not kill them, they naturally wanted to keep their lives.

However, a few did rush in front of Zhu Zheng, hoping to take a gamble to turn a single bike into a motorcycle.

Although extremely dangerous, if they survived, they might have a chance to be valued by Zhu Zheng in the future!

Lan Xincheng stared at a black-clad bodyguard and said, "You go take out Gao Changkong!"

The black-clad guard looked at him in disbelief.

"Uh... me?"

Lan Xincheng was furious, grabbed his collar, and stared at him, asking word by word, "Don't you want to die for our great commander?!"

The black-clad guard broke out in cold sweat, not knowing how to answer, yet without the courage to really challenge Gao Changkong.

Zhu Zheng's gaze remained fixed on Gao Changkong.

"Gao Changkong, answer me! Why did you betray us? Why conspire with those damned Ronin from Neon Nation to fight against our own people!"

Zhu Zheng's voice grew louder until it was almost a scolding.

He could accept Gao Changkong's betrayal, but an alliance with outsiders was absolutely intolerable!

Gao Changkong sneered contemptuously.

"Ronin? They're just my tools."

"Even if Deng Shentong dies and Zhang Yi is defeated, in the end, I'll personally slaughter them!"

"Only a slight accident occurred, but it won't affect the final outcome."

Chapter 766: Righteousness and Hypocrisy

In Gao Changkong's initial plan, Deng Shentong had to die.

Deng Shentong died, allowing Gao Changkong to naturally take over the mission to eliminate the Moon of Corrosion.

This way, he could become the most prestigious figure in Blizzard City.

Then he could gradually approach the core of power.

Finally, by orchestrating an "accident" to kill Zhu Zheng, he would become the new commander of Blizzard City.

He could rebuild Blizzard City entirely according to his own vision!

Unfortunately, Zhang Yi didn't die and instead successfully eliminated the Moon of Corrosion.

Thus, Gao Changkong's Plan A failed, leaving only Plan B.

Taking advantage of Blizzard City's weakened defenses, he would kill Zhu Zheng directly!

Zhu Zheng stared coldly at Gao Changkong.

"From the very beginning, you were behind everything, weren't you?"

"You were the traitor in Blizzard City. It was because you leaked our operation intel that the Celestial Squad's mission failed!"

"Even Zhang Yi's ambush by the Moon of Corrosion and the Tianlong Pirate Crew was your doing."

Gao Changkong replied cheerfully: "Ah, as expected of Commander Zhu, figuring it out so quickly. Though your realization comes slightly too late."

His gaze swept across the others present.

"What, do you want them to stay here and die with you?"

"I dislike unnecessary killing. They're all exceptional talents that the Jiangnan Region will still need. The only person I want dead is you."

"So," he addressed the others, "do you really wish to die alongside Zhu Zheng?"

Gao Changkong's eyes carried a questioning tone, his lips curved in a gentle smile.

Yet no one doubted his deadly seriousness when he spoke of killing them all.

The office atmosphere grew increasingly tense, some staff members beginning to tremble.

Faced with life or death, one employee finally cracked.

A woman cried out: "I want to leave! I want to go home!"

Gao Changkong chivalrously stepped aside: "You may leave immediately!"

The woman dared not meet Zhu Zheng or Lan Xincheng's gazes as she fled sobbing.

Her example broke the dam. Others, driven by survival instinct, stampeded toward the exit.

Zhu Zheng closed his eyes and waved at his hesitant subordinates: "All of you, leave. Their target is only me."

The men sighed in relief. After murmuring "Stay safe, Commander Zhu," they followed the others out.

Only Lan Xincheng remained by Zhu Zheng's side.

Perhaps because he didn't want to flee.

But more likely because his fate was irrevocably tied to Zhu Zheng's.

As Zhu Zheng's secretary, surviving his superior's death would still cost him everything in Blizzard City.

When the new commander took power, he'd be punished as a deserter anyway.

Better to gamble everything now than face miserable execution later!

Gao Changkong observed Zhu Zheng, who remained seated and facing him squarely.

"Now, let me send you off, Commander Zhu Zheng!"

Zhu Zheng studied Gao Changkong, his expression stern as he asked solemnly: "May I ask your true reason for betrayal? What grievance could you possibly hold against the Jiangnan Region?"

"Here, you had everything. The admiration of thousands. What could you possibly gain by betraying us?"

The curve of Gao Changkong's lips widened further.

"Hah,ahaha!"

He suddenly burst into laughter.

"Zhu Zheng, even now you don't understand why I want you dead?"

"I see now! Of course! To someone like you, insignificant people like me don't matter at all!"

His laughter continued, his gaze turning icy.

"Let me remind you of one thing."

"After the apocalypse began, my parents died because of the regulations you enacted."

"They were in their sixties! Unable to survive the apocalypse, yet your orders had them forcibly expelled from Blizzard City!"

"From that moment on, I've dreamed of nothing but killing you and every Blizzard City official who helped draft those laws!"

After hearing Gao Changkong's words, Zhu Zheng wearily closed his eyes.

"So that's what this is about."

"But under those circumstances, it was the only possible choice. We couldn't support that many people!"

"Jinling alone had 15 million permanent residents initially! As disasters spread, survivors from surrounding cities flooded toward Blizzard City."

"Everyone wanted to bring their families and friends into this last fortress to survive."

"If we hadn't implemented measures prioritizing those who could contribute most, the end result would have been everyone dying together!"

Zhu Zheng's voice grew firm.

"Your parents were no exception!"

Gao Changkong applauded mockingly at Zhu Zheng's explanation.

"Excellent justification, truly worthy of Commander Zhu Zheng! So righteous and impartial, how admirable!"

"Had you actually practiced what you preached, perhaps I could have understood."

"But you didn't!"

A sneer twisted Gao Changkong's lips.

"Can you honestly claim everyone was judged by the same standards? You're nearly sixty yourself, not even an Evolver. Without your position, you'd be too frail for manual labor."

"Yet your wife and son live comfortably here without contributing."

"And what of Blizzard City's numerous officials? How do they differ from common citizens? What value do they provide to justify their privileged lives?"

Gao Changkong's voice rose sharply.

"Those towering walls separating Blizzard City's S to E Zones are physical manifestations of your class barriers!"

"You never intended fairness from the beginning!"

"In your eyes, we from Zone E were always subhuman!"

"And now, my dear Commander Zhu Zheng, facing death, you sit there preaching 'fairness' to me!"

"Don't you find that utterly ridiculous?"

Gao Changkong looked down contemptuously at Zhu Zheng.

He laughed wildly, mocking Zhu Zheng.

All the words bottled up for half a year came pouring out, releasing accumulated hatred and resentment.

At this moment, his heart felt liberated.

No more need to hide his true self!

Zhu Zheng found himself speechless against Gao Changkong's accusations.

After a long silence, he finally said: "You must understand - absolute fairness is unattainable. Some compromises are necessary."

To maintain support from Blizzard City's factions, he'd had to grant certain privileges.

Gao Changkong took a deep breath, feeling unburdened after voicing his long-suppressed grievances.

"No one is born to rule over others."

"Just as now, when your life rests in my hands!"

Having vented his emotions, it was time for Zhu Zheng to die.

Chapter 767: The Return of the Mourner

Gao Changkong raised his palm, aiming it directly at Zhu Zheng's head.

At this very moment, what he was about to do felt as sacred as slaying a god.

By beheading this false deity, he would reshape this world filled with lies and deception according to his own will!

First kill Zhu Zheng, then eliminate the entire upper echelon of Blizzard City!

These were the very people who had occupied high positions even before the apocalypse.

Only by toppling everything and starting anew could this world's order be properly rebuilt.

This was the true meaning behind the apocalypse's arrival.

But just as Gao Changkong was about to strike, a familiar voice reached his ears.

"Gao Changkong, you've miscalculated!"

From the shadows of the command center, a dazzling white light flashed, blinding everyone present.

A radiant white glow formed into a slowly opening gate, from which emerged a tall, handsome man with silver hair, clad in silver combat gear.

Deng Shentong, who should have died in Jiangning City, miraculously appeared between Zhu Zheng and Gao Changkong.

Not just him—behind him emerged over a dozen powerful empowered individuals in silver armor, lining up at his back.

Among them was Bai Chunyu, deputy captain of the Celestial Squad.

The other empowered individuals had their faces obscured by special armor, but the formidable aura radiating from them made it clear their strength was no less than that of the investigation team members!

Gao Changkong narrowed his eyes at Deng Shentong's sudden appearance.

"Deng Shentong, long time no see! So you're still alive!"

Lan Xincheng was astonished by Deng Shentong's appearance.

But noticing Zhu Zheng's calm expression, he realized the commander must have known about this all along.

He quietly sighed in relief, feeling considerably more at ease.

"So Commander Zhu had preparations in place all along! It seems even I was kept in the dark about this entire affair."

Little did Lan Xincheng know this was all part of Zhu Zheng and Deng Yuanbo's scheme.

After the second failed siege operation, they had confirmed the presence of Moon of Corrosion spies within Blizzard City.

Unless this issue was resolved, they would face not only external pressures but also potential internal chaos.

Thus, the two had conspired to devise a plan.

Today's apparent vulnerability of Blizzard City had been deliberately orchestrated by Zhu Zheng—

all to lure the rebels out into the open!

Zhu Zheng sat calmly in his chair, gazing at Gao Changkong with mild regret.

"What a pity that it had to be you who betrayed us."

Cultivating a squad captain-level empowered individual was extremely difficult.

This depended largely on innate talent—even with ample resources, finding suitable candidates was nearly impossible.

Regardless of this battle's outcome, Gao Changkong's betrayal represented a tremendous loss for Blizzard City.

"Things have come to this—no need for further words," Gao Changkong said indifferently.

Deng Shentong stared at Gao Changkong before him. "I've long wanted to face you in battle. Last time, you used the Moon of Corrosion to ambush me. You never imagined I'd return from the dead, did you?"

"This time, it's my turn to kill you!"

Gao Changkong laughed.

He countered, "Deng Shentong, do you remember what my ability is?"

Deng Shentong narrowed his eyes, smiling. "[Death Is Reincarnation]—but that's false!"

"You never truthfully reported your ability to the organization. You concealed your true power."

"All that nonsense about rebirth after death is completely fabricated!"

"No one can so easily manipulate the cycle of life and death. Not you, not even higher-level Epsilons can achieve this!"

"Because what's being altered isn't just one's personal timeline, but the entire universe's spacetime! That belongs to the domain of gods, not humans."

"Thus you deceived everyone. I don't believe you could return after I killed you."

"I've studied you, including all your mission records. I believe I've discovered your true ability!"

Deng Shentong's smile bloomed like radiant flowers.

"Actually, your ability should be [Deduction], shouldn't it?"

"You can use all known information to deduce future events. This resembles reincarnation but isn't actual experience."

"And the deduced results inevitably deviate from reality, never perfectly matching."

Deng Shentong's smile deepened.

He adjusted his white gloves, their backs adorned with ornate golden emblems, exuding elegance and luxury.

"But tell me—did you deduce my return from death today?"

Gao Changkong sighed softly.

"To think you've seen through my ability. You're right—I truly cannot reverse life and death."

"But," his smile turned profound as he gazed at Deng Shentong, "I can still witness the cycle. And at its end, I saw your existence."

Slowly opening his eyes, pure killing intent surfaced.

"Today, death marks your face!"

Deng Shentong smiled faintly, drawing an adamantine combat knife from his waist.

"Want to kill me? Do you really think you can? Among the six investigation squads, you're the only non-combat specialist."

"You don't actually believe you can defeat me, do you?"

Gao Changkong of the Reincarnation Squad—his true ability was [Cycle Deduction].

He could deduce all possible futures based on all known intelligence.

The prerequisite: it must center around a specific individual.

Today, his deduction subject was Zhu Zheng, because Zhu Zheng was his target.

But the sudden reappearance of the resurrected Deng Shentong fell outside his deduction parameters.

Thus, Gao Changkong's ability became useless.

Without this advantage, his combat prowess might only reach deputy captain level.

Deng Shentong wore a smile, his expression somewhat arrogant yet his gaze intensely focused.

"In at most thirty minutes, Tu Yunlie and Zhang Yi will return."

"Best case—I eliminate you rebels within that time. Even if I can't, I'll stall until their arrival."

"Regardless of outcome, your defeat is inevitable!"

Gao Changkong sighed softly.

"Didn't you understand my meaning?"

"Your appearance was also within my predictions!"

These words sent a tremor through Deng Shentong's heart.

"You... what do you mean by that?"

Gao Changkong explained, "I never believed someone like you could be killed by trash like those ronin!"

He spread his hands.

"Today's events, including your appearance, were all within my expectations."

Deng Shentong exclaimed in surprise, "Knowing I was alive, you still dared to—"

"Because I don't care!"

Gao Changkong cut him off abruptly.

Suddenly smiling, he asked, "Deng Shentong, let me ask you something."

"If I'd been planning revenge against Blizzard City's entire leadership from the beginning—"

"Guess what? Would I have revealed my true strength?"

"Oh, and a friendly reminder—my ability isn't limited to once per day either!"

Chapter 768: New Ability Awakening

Deng Shentong was startled in his heart.

What did Gao Changkong mean by this?

Did he know that he was still alive?

In other words, the fact that he showed up today with a brand-new Celestial Squad was also within his expectations?

And the hidden strength he mentioned was referring to...

Gao Changkong did not give Deng Shentong any time to think.

In an instant, a deep and familiar voice sounded beside his ear.

"Martial Arena, activate!"

The surrounding space rapidly stretched, and the only person Deng Shentong could see was Gao Changkong.

They were no longer in the command center but had appeared in a pitch-black space.

"This is... the Martial Arena?"

Deng Shentong's face was full of astonishment. Then he realized that the ability user of the Martial Arena had also joined the Reincarnation Squad's rebellion!

Before he could finish thinking, Deng Shentong's body acted ahead of his mind.

The Great Sumeru Illusion had already been activated, and he manipulated the light to create illusions that could affect the five senses!

But Gao Changkong said calmly, "I have fought you many times within the cycle of reincarnation. I have long since analyzed your abilities thoroughly."

He tapped his temple, and a pitch-black futuristic eye mask appeared on his head.

"As long as the light is blocked, your abilities won't affect me."

"This is easy to achieve, isn't it?"

"Actually, no matter how strong an extraordinary person's abilities are, as long as there is enough intelligence and sufficient time to prepare, they are still easy to break."

Deng Shentong waved his left arm, and the silver cloak behind him moved as if there were a breeze.

"So what? My abilities are not limited to just this one!"

Silver holy light enveloped his entire body.

The Sacred Form Enhancement ability made him a top-tier close combat expert.

And swordsmanship—he was equally proficient!

Gao Changkong raised the corner of his mouth.

"But I also said, at the end of the reincarnation cycle, I have already seen your death!"

"In fact, hiding your true strength in front of countless eyes in Blizzard City is not an easy thing."

"Speaking of which, I even somewhat admire that extraordinary person from the Outer City."

Gao Changkong's gaze turned cold.

"Today, I will let you see my true strength clearly!"

He stood in the dark space, unable to see anything with his eyes, but his other five senses had been deeply enhanced.

All of this was prepared for Deng Shentong.

Within the cycle of reincarnation, he didn't know how many times he had tried or how many times he had failed.

But now, his other senses could perfectly replace his eyes.

As Gao Changkong's voice fell, strange talismans emerged from the void behind him.

They were blue talismans, appearing like patterns in the void, intertwining and condensing, finally forming huge rune characters.

The runes were imprinted in the void, appearing as stone blocks.

These stone fragments slowly and rhythmically combined to form a massive rotating wheel behind him!

The six large characters formed by the runes were the Buddhist Seal Mantras in Sanskrit!

"Heavenly Dance Treasure Wheel!"

Gao Changkong formed hand seals corresponding to the six Buddhist Seal Mantras of the Heavenly Dance Treasure Wheel behind him.

"Immovable Wisdom King Seal!"

The Wisdom King seal appeared, and a thick, ancient armor quickly formed on his body.

Gao Changkong changed his hand seals again.

"Solar Wheel Seal!"

The Heavenly Dance Treasure Wheel seal lit up, and a gigantic treasure sword radiating holy light condensed in his palm.

The sacred weapon, Solar Wheel Sword.

His last seal was with his hands crossed.

"Meditation Seal!"

In an instant, his gaze changed, calm and deep like an ancient well. He looked toward Deng Shentong, but it seemed as if he was looking through him into the infinite river of time and space.

After a moment, the stars in his eyes faded.

"Deng Shentong, I have already predicted your future!"

Deng Shentong was shocked by the scene before him.

The Heavenly Dance Treasure Wheel—this ability had never been recorded in Blizzard City, meaning that during his missions in Blizzard City, he had concealed this ability very well.

However, this did not make Deng Shentong feel fear.

On the contrary, a smile appeared on his lips, and the excitement inside him grew stronger.

"Then let's fight!"

His body shone brilliantly with the power of Hymn of Light, making him look like a deity descending to the mortal world.

He transformed into a beam of light and charged at Gao Changkong with his sword.

...

Tianhai City.

Zhang Yi finally finished absorbing the powers of Kanute and Takeuchi Mayumi.

Kanute, as a deputy squad leader, his essence provided a moderate boost to Zhang Yi but was not extremely effective.

What Zhang Yi didn't expect was that Takeuchi Mayumi's power brought him miraculous results!

Her ability was extremely rare—a time-based power that few among millions possessed.

After absorbing her essence, a hidden power inside Zhang Yi's body slowly began to awaken.

He felt his body filled with an inexplicable strength.

When he opened his eyes again to look at the world, everything became bizarre and surreal.

From that day on, what his eyes saw would never be the same as before.

Everyone else looked at Zhang Yi with anticipation and awe.

At this moment, no one did not sincerely admire the captain of the Celestial Hound Squad.

Zhang Yi took a deep breath and said to Yang Xinxin, Liang Yue, and the others, "You all rest here. Let Zhou Ke'er help treat your injuries. I'll be back soon!"

Wu Di said, "Then I'll have the VTOL aircraft sent over immediately to take you back."

Zhang Yi shook his head.

"The VTOL aircraft is too slow. By the time I get back, the feast might have already started."

Everyone was a bit helpless.

Gao Changkong's goal was to draw them away, and there was no better solution.

"Captain, what do you plan to do? We don't have any transportation faster than the VTOL aircraft."

Wu Di said helplessly.

Zhang Yi said calmly, "I have a better way!"

As soon as he finished speaking, he stepped forward.

The next moment, he appeared a kilometer away.

His figure flickered like a shadow through the void and vanished in an instant before everyone's eyes.

This scene stunned everyone.

Zhang Yi's so-called better method was to travel manually.

But for Zhang Yi, who possessed spatial traversal ability, this was indeed faster.

"The captain's strength has become even greater!"

Baili Changqing exclaimed.

"I remember before, his spatial traversal couldn't cover such a long distance," Wu Di nodded. "That's why he's the captain!"

Although everyone was worried about the situation in Blizzard City, they were severely injured and unable to help.

Fortunately, the local forces of Tianhai City had all arrived and brought them to Zhang Yi's shelter.

With Zhou Ke'er there, as long as they could arrive alive, even if missing limbs, there was still hope for treatment.

Chapter 769: Repairing the Pot

Blizzard City.

The Operations Command Center was enveloped by a massive black barrier. Outside, tens of thousands of troops gathered, with gunfire roaring, yet no one could breach inside.

Because Zhu Zheng was inside, they dared not act recklessly, nor could they use excessively powerful explosives to attack.

Outside the command room, the Reincarnation Squad and the New Celestial Squad were engaged in a brutally fierce battle.

All captain-level figures from the Ximing team chose to fight on other battlefields; this was actually to protect their members.

Otherwise, in such a confined space, if they truly fought, everyone would be killed by the aftermath of the battle.

But everyone clearly knew that the decisive factor in victory or defeat still depended on the captain-level figures from Ximing.

Inside the SOLO domain, the battle between Ji Yushen and Sun Luxuan was extremely bloody.

Sun Luxuan's cultivated skills were all lethal techniques, without any flashy moves. Moreover, he was eager to leave this domain quickly to protect Zhu Zheng, so every strike was deadly!

However, all his moves were already familiar territory for Ji Yushen.

For today's operation, Gao Changkong had considered all possibilities.

Countless simulations had been run, with every detail clearly accounted for.

This battle between Ji Yushen and Sun Luxuan had also been rehearsed countless times.

Gao Changkong repeatedly guided him, even breaking down every move of Sun Luxuan into pieces and feeding them to Ji Yushen.

After the eighty-second simulation, the result was a stalemate.

So today, Ji Yushen's goal was very simple.

He never expected to kill Sun Luxuan; from the start, his approach was mainly defensive.

But on another battlefield, the confrontation between Deng Shentong and Gao Changkong was far more terrifying.

No longer hiding his true strength, Gao Changkong displayed his overwhelming killing power.

The Heavenly Dance Treasure Wheel artifact granted him immense combat capability, with the Immovable Vajra Armor for defense and the Solar Wheel Sword for offense.

Tall and imposing, he fought like a Buddhist protector king, clashing fiercely with Deng Shentong at a certain point.

As a rich heir, Deng Shentong had practiced swordsmanship since childhood.

But his style was Western foil fencing.

The slender, elongated blade with a sharp tip never left Gao Changkong's body centerline.

The clash between the foil and the Solar Wheel Sword repeatedly sparked dazzling flashes in this void space.

Deng Shentong grew more alarmed; the moment he launched an attack, Gao Changkong seemed to have already anticipated it and easily blocked it.

“I told you, I’ve already seen your death at the end of reincarnation.”

“You have no chance of winning against me, Deng Shentong!”

A faint smile curved Gao Changkong’s lips — a smile full of confidence.

“Fearless Lion Seal!”

He formed a hand seal with one hand once again.

The seal on the corner of the Heavenly Dance Treasure Wheel behind him lit up.

From the giant treasure wheel emerged the phantom of a three-headed lion, roaring at Deng Shentong!

The space trembled, and that roar made Deng Shentong feel his internal organs quiver violently.

“Pft!”

Unable to hold back, a trickle of blood spurted from the corner of his mouth.

At this moment, Deng Shentong found it hard to believe he was being overwhelmed by Gao Changkong within the battle domain!

His proud close combat skills and his supposedly clever feigned death were clearly seen through by Gao Changkong.

“Y-Your simulation ability... how many times can you use it?”

Deng Shentong lowered his voice to ask.

Gao Changkong laughed, “Anyway, it’s more than once! Want to find out?”

He pointed his left index finger at Deng Shentong: “Use your life to test it and you’ll know!”

The Meditation Seal activated once more.

Future trajectories constantly shifted, with Gao Changkong like a tailor, sewing and patching them repeatedly.

But as long as he could gather enough intelligence for simulations, he would always be the victor.

First kill Deng Shentong, then kill Zhu Zheng, and they could easily escape from Blizzard City.

Zhang Yi and Tu Yunlie were absent, and other captains were also away; no one in Blizzard City could stop them.

Just then, Zhang Yi arrived.

He saw the huge barrier like a crystal coffin.

But he did not rush to act.

He was still communicating with Zhu Zheng through his communicator.

“Commander Zhu, how’s the battle situation on site? I’m doing my best to rush back. Don’t worry, I will do everything I can to get you all out!”

Zhang Yi’s tone was full of urgency, yet his eyes calmly fixed on the headquarters building.

Adding beauty to the brocade is not as good as lending a helping hand in snow.

If he was to intervene, it had to be at the most critical moment.

If he was to offer favors, he had to offer a big one to maximize his own benefit.

Hearing Zhang Yi's words, Zhu Zheng felt somewhat moved.

"Will you make it back?"

"Although I'm injured now, for Commander Zhu and the future of the Jiangnan Region, I'll risk my life to stop Gao Changkong!"

Zhang Yi spoke resolutely.

Zhu Zheng was touched.

Zhang Yi had fought so fiercely in Tianhai City and still remembered to come back to save him.

It seemed he had been too biased against Zhang Yi before.

"Gao Changkong is fighting Deng Shentong. My guards are held off by Ji Yushen."

"The situation is chaotic now. The Reincarnation Squad wants to kill me, and the Deng Family is protecting me."

“Zhang Yi, you have to hurry back! We need strong reinforcements!”

Zhu Zheng also knew that only the arrival of captain-level combat power could change the current dire situation.

Zhang Yi nodded firmly: “Don’t worry, I’m already moving at full speed!”

“Don’t hang up. I need to keep track of the situation on site. Please remember this!”

Zhu Zheng didn’t understand what Zhang Yi meant, but now he needed him, so he agreed.

Zhang Yi sat not far from the command center building, munching on ability-boosting food, while listening to the sounds of battle through his earpiece.

He recalled a pot-repairing method mentioned during his school days.

When the master’s pot bottom leaked, the repairman came to fix it. The repairman scraped off the soot from the bottom, then secretly knocked the pot a couple of times when the master wasn’t looking, making the crack bigger.

Then he pointed at the crack and told the master, “Your pot’s crack is very big. Luckily, I found it, or it would break later.”

The master was very happy and thought the repairman had helped a lot, so he paid extra silver.

In the end, both the master and the repairman were happy.

At this moment, Zhang Yi was like that repairman.

He waited for the crack at the bottom of the pot to grow bigger.

Ji Yushen was holding off Sun Luxuan; their battle couldn't be decided in the short term.

But the situation between Deng Shentong and Gao Changkong was increasingly unfavorable to Deng Shentong.

Gao Changkong was even stronger than he had imagined!

The power of the Heavenly Dance Treasure Wheel alone, using just the western-style seals, made Deng Shentong unable to cope.

Gao Changkong coldly pointed the Solar Wheel Sword at him.

“The only reason you became investigation captain, the only reason you’re adored by everyone, is simply because you’re the young master of the Deng Family!”

Chapter 770: Savior

Deng Shentong’s pride was mercilessly trampled underfoot.

He spat blood from his mouth, his head struck by Gao Changkong and was sent flying out of the Martial Arena, heavily crashing down right in front of Zhu Zheng.

Members from both investigation teams simultaneously stopped their actions.

The members of the Reincarnation Squad wore smiles, seemingly not the least bit surprised by the outcome before them.

But on Zhu Zheng’s side, everyone was deeply gripped by fear.

Previously, they had been reckless because they knew Deng Shentong was backing them up.

Yet unexpectedly, Deng Shentong had been defeated by Gao Changkong!

If he had lost to Phoenixin Ren before, they could still cover it up by blaming betrayal from a traitor.

But to lose to Gao Changkong was a clear and undeniable sign of being outmatched in combat strength!  
Zhu Zheng's voice trembled uncontrollably.

Even as a battle-hardened soldier, at his age, he could no longer ignore the threat of death.

"Since you have such strength, why didn't you let us know earlier? If that were the case, I would have trained you properly. You might even have become the next commander!"

Zhu Zheng tried to soothe Gao Changkong in this way.

Gao Changkong sneered coldly, "Oh, would you?"

"I'm not saying I never gave you a chance. Actually, this entire siege against Moon of Corrosion was orchestrated by me."

"As long as you gave me the chance to be the protagonist of this event, I could have waited longer."

He sighed, shaking his head with a hint of regret.

“But in your eyes, power is above all else. You would rather let an outsider from the Outer City, who doesn’t understand the true strength, take the lead than give me the opportunity.”

“I have already given up all illusions about you.”

Gao Changkong gripped the Solar Wheel Sword and stepped forward towards Zhu Zheng.

Deng Shentong struggled to stand, and none of the New Celestial Squad members behind him flinched.

“Looks like this time, I really have to fight for my life!”

Gao Changkong mocked, “Planning to use drugs? But you should know your potential has already been pushed to the limit by Deng Technology’s advancements and brutal methods. Even with drugs, your strength won’t improve much; it will only speed up your death!”

Deng Shentong laughed, blood filling his mouth.

“That still needs to be tried before knowing!”

He calmly took Compound-5 for himself.

Moments later, a more powerful force erupted from within him.

Deng Shentong raised the rapier in his hand, aiming it at Gao Changkong before him.

An unparalleled terrifying power burst forth from the sword tip, instantly reaching Gao Changkong's front!

Gao Changkong's left hand had already formed a seal.

The fifth seal of the Heavenly Dance Treasure Wheel lit up, and a gigantic treasure bottle materialized in front of him.

The mouth of the bottle aimed at Deng Shentong, absorbing all the horrifying power.

Deng Shentong clenched his teeth and roared, continuing to release energy.

A crack appeared on the treasure bottle's body with a "crack" sound.

Gao Changkong's expression involuntarily changed.

Although he could predict all of Deng Shentong's attack methods and routes, when a captain-level opponent was fighting for his life, he couldn't respond calmly.

"Immovable Wisdom King!"

Gao Changkong shouted loudly, and a huge illusory figure of the Immovable Wisdom King appeared behind him, arms spread wide, firmly protecting him in its embrace.

The treasure bottle could not withstand Deng Shentong's power and exploded loudly, releasing terrifying energy.

The building's floors were shaken by the energy; the bulletproof glass covering the floors outside shattered and was blasted outward by the shockwave.

Even the interior structures were heavily damaged.

As a result, the view became transparent, and everything was caught within Zhang Yi's distant sight.

He saw Gao Changkong retreating more than ten steps, blood spilling from his mouth.

Deng Shentong's eyes were wide open in fury, bloodshot, and he coughed up a mouthful of blood. His condition was far from good.

The two captains fought a battle where both sides suffered serious injuries.

Only then did Zhang Yi slowly stand up.

“It’s time for me to make my appearance!”

“The hero in the story always appears at the most critical moment, turning the tide of disaster, and saving the collapsing tower.”

Holding the Holy Judgment sword in his right hand, he took a step forward and instantly appeared outside the Command Center building.

There, he silently hovered in midair.

A mass of black dark matter shrouded his Holy Judgment sword, like a burning dark flame.

Zhang Yi’s sudden appearance on the battlefield caught everyone’s attention.

Some recognized the captain’s mark exclusive to the Celestial Hound Squad on him.

“It’s the captain of the Celestial Hound Squad, Chaos!”

“He’s arrived! Thank goodness, the commander is saved!”

The soldiers below showed excited expressions, feeling greatly relieved.

Almost everyone looked up at Zhang Yi as if gazing upon a star of hope.

But there were also some with low gazes and gloomy expressions.

Ignoring the shouts below, Zhang Yi swung the Holy Judgment sword, slashing at the black barrier in front of him!

The invincible barrier shattered like glass with a thunderous crash!

The Command Center brightened again.

At the same time, the dark matter surged into the building like a tidal fire, fiercely burning!

The structure shattered, and the entire floor was engulfed in dark matter.

This dark matter surged toward the position of the Reincarnation Squad members.

Everyone was shocked, especially Gao Changkong, whose eyes showed astonishment for the first time.

Because no matter what, he never expected that after such a brutal battle, Zhang Yi was not only alive but could arrive on the battlefield so quickly!

“Treasure Bottle Seal!”

Gao Changkong immediately formed a seal and summoned the treasure bottle to block the power of this move.

Zhang Yi quietly hovered outside the building, looking down at everyone inside.

At this moment, he looked like a deity.

After devouring the essences of several captains and vice-captain level opponents, his strength had greatly increased.

Now his spatial power was enough to support him breaking free from gravity.

“Gao Changkong, I’ve come to seek revenge!”

The Holy Judgment in Zhang Yi’s hand radiated with black void power, pointing directly at Gao Changkong.

With Zhang Yi’s appearance, the battlefield situation instantly reversed.

Zhu Zheng’s heart, which had been hanging in his throat, settled considerably.

He thought silently: Fortunately, Zhang Yi arrived in time. If he had come any later, we all might have died here!

Deng Shentong coughed blood, forced to accept the fact that he was no match for Gao Changkong.

But Zhang Yi’s arrival brought him some consolation.

At least his failure would not lead to Zhu Zheng’s death.

Everyone looked at Zhang Yi with awe, gratitude, and a variety of emotions.

But one thing was certain: Zhang Yi's prestige among Blizzard City's high-ranking officials and ordinary soldiers had reached its highest level ever!

Savior!

This word appeared in everyone's mind.

So they say, it's better to arrive early than to arrive perfectly timed!

On the Reincarnation Squad side, the situation grew somewhat unfavorable.

Gao Changkong had suffered a serious injury from Deng Shentong's desperate strike.

If he faced both Zhang Yi and Deng Shentong working together, his chances of victory might not be so high.

However, Gao Changkong had his own method.

“Meditation Seal, Prediction!”

He once again used the Reincarnation Prediction ability, attempting to foresee the future of this battle targeting Zhang Yi!

Moments later, a smile curled on his lips.

Because in the future he saw, he was still the final winner!