Ocean Lord 281

Chapter 281 - 281: Elves' Secrets, Arrogance Divides, Sea Heirs Strike

After seeing Thotmudo off, Ji Chen returned to the Lord's Castle and began inspecting the items taken from the gnome chests.

Naturally, anything that could be locked away in a gnome chest was not ordinary.

Weapons and equipment, blueprints, elixirs, luxury goods, military recruitment camp cores, and some unrecognizable items were spread out on the table.

There were a total of seventy-two pieces.

Gnomes were indeed swimming in riches!

Let's not even mention these items for now. Just from one chest specifically used to store gold coins, he not only retrieved all the gold coins that Ernesto had cheated him out of before but also gained an additional 350,000 gold coins.

With this newfound wealth, he now had a total of 1,050,000 gold coins, slightly more than what he obtained from Edward's treasure chest earlier.

Acquiring things for free turned out to be quite a delightful experience.

Especially when it came to robbing gnomes, he had no qualms at all.

Suppressing his inner delight, Ji Chen roughly categorized these items, placing them in different piles based on their types.

After tallying everything up, there were fifteen treasures, nine building blueprints, five skill scrolls, twelve elixirs, eight military recruitment camp cores, twenty-one necklaces, luxury items like gems, as well as a bundle of parchment, and a peculiar metallic creation.

Among these items, he re-evaluated them once more.

Discarding some of the lower-value and lower-tier items, he selected a portion of items that piqued his interest.

After making his selections, Ji Chen picked out two treasures, two building blueprints, five skill scrolls, two elixirs, the bundle of parchment, and the metallic creation.

Just as he was contemplating giving these items a closer look, a guard reported from outside.

"My lord, the elves wish to see you!"

The elves wanted to see him?

The dozen or so elves he had rescued from the gnome merchant ship?

Ji Chen was momentarily stunned. He looked at the pile of items before him, contemplated for a moment, and decided to see what they wanted first.

The saying "love me, love my dog" applied here. After getting to know Elin, an epic-level elf hero, he had become quite friendly towards the elves.

"Bring them to the main hall."

"Yes!"

Setting aside his current tasks, Ji Chen calmly entered the grand hall and took a seat on the lord's throne.

The elves were soon escorted here and lined up in front of him.

Looking at these female elves with skin as fair as snow, angelic faces, and devilish figures, Ji Chen couldn't help but secretly admire how the elves seemed to have it all. They were not only beautiful, but their combat abilities and various skills were also highly advanced. Moreover, their lifespans were ridiculously long. Even an ordinary elf had a lifespan of at least 500 years or more. For those with some level of strength, their lifespans would increase significantly. Elves with a thousand years of life were not uncommon.

Even the likes of Elin, a hag who had lived for thousands of years, could be found among them.

In contrast, humans had much shorter lifespans, typically reaching only a hundred years, and even the most robust among them could expect to live for no more than five hundred years, just barely reaching the average lifespan of other races. How could the pitiful human race even compete?

As for what was seen in Krieg's laboratory, the two or three humans imprisoned there had long lost all signs of life, leaving only lifeless bodies behind.

Unlike their previously cautious demeanor, these elves now appeared somewhat uneasy. Facing Ji Chen, who sat majestically on the throne, they were momentarily at a loss for words.

In the end, it was Ji Chen who took the initiative to inquire.

"I heard from the guards that you have something to discuss with me?"

"Yes, Your Excellency," a relatively mature-looking elf stepped forward. "We didn't intend to disturb you, and we're very grateful. After all, you rescued us from those filthy gnomes, sparing us from certain unimaginable horrors." Unimaginable horrors.

Through information revealed by Ernesto and the gnome guide, it was clear that these elves were originally supposed to be transported to the Western Continent along with the cargo, to be sold to human nobles. Therefore, it was easy to connect the dots regarding these unimaginable horrors.

"1 understand, no need to dwell on it. After all, I have some connection with your elven race."

"I came to see you today for this reason!" Vielya nodded hurriedly and no longer dwelled on the topic. She looked somewhat puzzled as she asked, "Over the past few days, while staying here, I've heard the residents of the Crown of the Ocean mention an elf named Elin. Who is she? Has there ever been an elf living here?"

Ji Chen smiled and didn't hide anything. "Elin did indeed stay in the Crown of the Ocean. We formed a lovely friendship between us. Before she left, she even gave me a few gifts and said she'd come visit when she had the time."

After speaking, he sighed softly.

A lovely friendship – referring to the fact that Ji Chen forced Elin to listen to his scheme before he was willing to rescue her.

Gifts – referring to the products of his scheme.

Coming to visit – meaning that when Ji Chen felt he was about to collapse, she would come to his rescue.

With these embellished words, it made it seem as if Ji Chen and Elin were truly good friends.

Clearly, the elves before him were utterly fooled.

"I see." The elves suddenly realized, and even their gazes towards Ji Chen became more friendly. They believed that a human who could be good friends with an elf shouldn't be a bad person..

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This undoubtedly coincided with what they had seen and heard in the past few days, matching the impressions formed in their minds.

It wasn't until Ji Chen opened his hand, revealing the Void Ring gifted by Elin, that they fully believed in these words.

The ring exuded a strong elven aura, something that only an elf who had worn it for a long time could possess. To be able to give away something Elin had worn for so long meant that this person was undoubtedly important to her.

The prospect of a romance between a female elf and a young male human held the promise of excitement.

The elven race had long ceased to be as reclusive as before, becoming relatively open after establishing the Elven Empire. As a result, many human-authored books found their way into the Elven Empire through various channels.

Those originating from the human world, with titles like "Mature Elf Sister x Innocent Human Youth" or "Ignorant Elf Maiden x Righteous Human Knight", had spread widely among the elven maidens.

In just a few seconds, they had concocted a story in their heads about the handsome human lord in front of them and his experiences with an elf named Elin.

It involved chance encounters, falling in love, but ultimately separating due to societal discrimination.

Even Ji Chen's sigh, to them, was a manifestation of his deep longing for that elven woman.

Naturally, Ji Chen had no idea about the little composition going on in these elven ladies' heads. If he did, he would be left speechless.

A romance between a young human lad and a millennia-old elf lady?

Damn, just thinking about it felt strange...

This should be worth thousands of gold bars by now, don't you think?

"So, where has this elf named Elin gone now?"

"Unfortunately, shortly before 1 rescued you, she had to leave here by boat. I have no idea where she went."

"That's really unfortunate... By the way, Your Excellency, may 1 ask for Miss Elin's full name?"

"Her name? It seems to be... Apocalis?"

"Apocalis!? That's a name from the elven royal family!" The elves suddenly got excited, exclaiming, but then hesitated, "But how could a member of the elven royal family appear in this place? Is she a lost member?"

Watching their reaction, Ji Chen found it a bit strange.

If he recalled correctly, Apocalis should be Elin's family name. However, based on their reaction, she was some elven royal family member?

At this moment, he suddenly woke up.

During his contact with Elin, although they seemed quite close on the surface, he actually knew very little about her.

He only knew that Elin was an epic-tier elven hero, her name, and the reason she was imprisoned.

Apart from that, Ji Chen knew almost nothing about her.

In retrospect, he had asked Elin about more things, but it seemed that every time she had cleverly dodged his questions with her mischievous demeanor and clever words.

Instead, it was he who had unintentionally revealed some information.

Ji Chen's expression turned somewhat unpleasant. It seemed that this millennia-old trickster had outsmarted him.

So, Elin was from the elven royal family?

Seeing the change in his expression, the elves gently inquired, "Your Excellency, what's wrong?"

"It's nothing, I just remembered something. I'm very interested in what you mentioned earlier about the elven royal family."

Though elves were proud, they weren't foolish and had their worldly desires.

Because of Ji Chen's life-saving grace, his 'good' relationship with an elf whom they suspected was part of the elven royal family, and the hundreds of pages of fantasies they had already written in their hearts, the elves explained without much hesitation.

"The elven royal family, as the name suggests, is the royal lineage of the elves, an even higher status than nobility. They hold a lofty position and serve as leaders of the elven race.

Each member of the royal family carries the blood of ancient elves, which grants them immense power and potential. Every adult member of the royal family possesses absolute strength within the elven race, capable of suppressing entire regions.

However, perhaps due to the influence of the ancient bloodline, the birth rate among the royal family is extremely low, even lower than the average among the elves. This results in a very limited number of royal family members, at least much lower compared to the rest of the elves."

At this point, the elves shook their heads one after another. "We're sorry, but that's all we can say."

Ji Chen waved his hand to indicate it was fine. Although the information was limited, he had gained some useful insights.

Now, it was almost certain that Elin was a member of the elven royal family, and there was a high likelihood that she was among the upper echelons. Of course, this was a no-brainer since she was an epic-tier top-tier hero, which was no small feat even within the powerful elven race.

Thinking about this, he became optimistic.

If Elin was indeed a member of the elven royal family, wouldn't it be easy for her to fulfill the promises she had made earlier?

As the saying goes, when there's a debtor, there's a creditor. Knowing Elin's affiliation, he could potentially go to the Elven Empire to "collect the debt" if she ever tried to evade her promises.

"Your Excellency, if Miss Elin is truly a member of the elven royal family who has been estranged from her homeland, we must report this as soon as possible. After all, every member of the royal family is a precious high-level combat force."

"You don't need to worry too much. I guess she has already reached the Northern Continent and may even be on her way back to the Elven Empire.

As for all of you, 1 don't have any extra ships available right now to send you back, but my fleet will return soon. They will bring a batch of goods that were originally intended for trade with your elves and all of you will travel back together to the Northern Continent."

Ji Chen said this, and they didn't say much more, obediently nodding their heads.

In the presence of this lord, their arrogance and disdain toward other races had disappeared without a trace.

Elves, as a race blessed with good looks, were naturally inclined to appreciate beauty.

When it came to races like gnomes, goblins, and half-orcs, which were considered ugly in appearance, elves had always shown strong aversion. They felt that standing next to them contaminated the air.

Oh yes, it's not pleasant to hear, but they were basically beauty enthusiasts.

Showing arrogance was something selective.

As for Ji Chen, who had good looks, and strength, was gentle and affectionate, had a special relationship with a royal family member, and engaged in trade with the elves, he was like a king among men—a feast for the eyes!

However, Ji Chen noticed that the gazes of these elven ladies were gradually becoming unsettling as if they wanted to 'consume' him.

Wait a minute, aren't elves supposed to be proud and aloof?

Come on, show me your usual indifference!

After instructing the guards to escort them back, Ji Chen let out a sigh of relief and walked to the door to check the sky.

Unbeknownst to him, the sun had already set behind the western mountains.

A faint trace of twilight lingered in the sky.

Another day was about to end...

Just as he was thinking of enjoying dinner first and then examining the gnome's items that he had acquired, the long-silent warning lighthouse suddenly emitted a piercing alarm.

"A large number of unidentified enemies have appeared in the northeast waters of the New Moon Islands!!!"

"We are investigating... The enemy is the Sea Heirs!!"

Ji Chen took a deep breath. The Sea Heirs, an enemy they hadn't seen in a long time, had finally returned...

He had a premonition in his heart. This time might be the most challenging trial in the history of the Crown of the Ocean. A single misstep could lead to the annihilation of his entire army, or even the destruction of his territory.

Approaching the crowd that had become somewhat chaotic, Ji Chen shouted.

"Everyone, enter a state of alert! All residents, head to the Kobold Caves and the Underground Lizardman Kingdom for shelter!"

"All troops of the Crown of the Ocean, prepare for battle!"

"Activate all defense structures, enter pre-launch mode, and await my orders!"

Seeing Ji Chen issue commands and speak with an unprecedented severity, the residents realized that this time was different. Without hesitation, they followed his orders and, under the escort of some of the troops, headed for the Kobold Caves and the Underground Lizardman Kingdom to seek refuge.

There, Ji Chen had already stored a large quantity of food and freshwater in advance, enough to sustain the residents for several months.

The once tranquil and peaceful New Moon Islands had now entered a state of tense preparedness due to the arrival of the Sea Heirs..

Just after leaving the Lord's castle, the elves witnessed a sudden "commotion" in the entire Crown of the Ocean, looking somewhat bewildered.

"Your Excellency, what's happening?"

"Some evil sea creatures are preparing to attack the Crown of the Ocean. It might be dangerous to stay here. You should follow the residents to the caves for safety."

The elves nodded but didn't leave. Instead, they spoke with determination, "Please let us join the battle!"

"You?" Ji Chen frowned, "You are guests; there's no need for guests to fight."

One of the elves stepped forward and explained with a salute, "Your Excellency, you rescued us from the gnomes, and we still don't know how to repay you. So, let us fight alongside you this time.

Though we are young, we've undergone rigorous training within our clan. Just provide us with bows and arrows, and we can contribute to the fight!"

Seeing their determination, Ji Chen couldn't refuse and nodded, saying sternly, "I can allow you to join the battle, but you must obey my orders. Any disobedience will be treated as insubordination!"

"Understood!"

As the elven women reemerged, they were clad in practical leather armor, wielding robust bows, and had two quivers of arrows slung over their shoulders. Additionally, they had a short sword fastened to their waist and a dagger secured to their lower legs.

The once delicate elven women had transformed into resolute elven female warriors.

[Elven Rangers]

[Race]: Elves

[Tier]: Fourth Tier, 3 Stars

[Skills]: Elven Archery (Purple Skill, greatly enhances shooting accuracy, technique, and speed)

Rapid Shot (Purple Skill, allows rapid consecutive shots of three arrows)

Hawkeye (Purple Skill, significantly improves dynamic and static vision)

Elven Swordsmanship (Purple Skill, enhances melee combat ability)

[Unit Traits]: Children of the Jungle (Attributes increase by 75% in jungle battles, with an additional 50% increase in movement speed and agility, and a significant improvement in stealth)

[Elven Rangers are the backbone of the elven race and their combat abilities in the jungle strike fear into their enemies.]

The panel for these Elven Rangers was quite impressive. Being fourth-tier with three stars, their tier was relatively high. When combined with their jungle combat attributes, their overall strength might even surpass that of the Naga Berserkers.

"Your Excellency, the Elven squad reports to you!"

With the situation urgent, Ji Chen wasted no time and gave his orders, "Your task is to make use of your advantage in jungle warfare and eliminate any Sea Heirs entering the jungle!"

The elves nodded and swiftly disappeared into the jungle.

At this moment, the Sky Guardians were already soaring in the sky, closely monitoring the surrounding seas.

The Warning Lighthouse could detect above the sea surface but couldn't penetrate below to monitor underwater enemies.

No one knew how many Sea Heirs were approaching right now.

A large number of Ocean Guardians, like scattered beans, spread out, forming a web that covered the surrounding seas. This served both for reconnaissance and to slow down the Sea Heirs' advance, allowing the residents of the Crown of the Ocean to complete their evacuation and find refuge.

Ji Chen suddenly felt a tremor in his body, his expression turning serious.

"What's wrong, my lord?" Alice asked in a hushed voice.

"The Ocean Guardians positioned to the northwest, west, and southeast of the New Moon Islands have been destroyed, more than ten of them."

As his words fell, the heroes exchanged uneasy glances.

Before the Sea Heirs' previous attacks had only occurred in the eastern sea, but this time, they simultaneously appeared in multiple directions, suggesting that the Sea Heirs seemed to have a "brain" directing them.

At this moment, in the depths of a secluded trench at the edge of the Stormy Sea, a massive fleshy mass with hundreds of tentacles lay silently on the trench floor, its tentacles trembling slightly with the flow of seawater.

Each tremor conveyed information to a group of Sea Heirs hundreds of miles away, and the enormous fleshy mass served as the perfect receptor, transmitting the information collected by thousands of Sea Heirs.

"Children...attack...exterminate..."

"Human...consume...evolve!"

Inside the Lord's Manor.

Anina's expression was extremely serious.

"This time, there must be a Sea Heir leader commanding them from behind; otherwise, they couldn't have this kind of intelligence to launch attacks from multiple directions!

Sea Heirs without a leader are just a group of brutes who only know how to rampage, but Sea Heirs with a leader are the most cunning hunters, significantly increasing the level of danger!

During my days of solitary sea exploration, I encountered a Sea Heir tribe numbering only a few thousand members, led by a Sea Heir chief. They managed to utterly obliterate a Naga tribe, which boasted a population of over a hundred thousand. The entire Naga tribe fell victim to the Sea Heirs, serving as their sustenance.

So, Your Grace, you must stay vigilant and never underestimate this Sea Heir leader!"

Seeing Anina so serious, Ji Chen also shook his head. "There's no need to worry about this. I've already put all our troops on the highest alert. There are patrols and guards on every inch of land on New Moon Islands.

Even if we can't defeat the Sea Heirs, I've also drawn a 4,000-strong army of Lizardmen warriors, which should hold them off for quite some time.

Moreover, Anina, with me here, you don't need to be so nervous.."

Chapter 284 - 284: Elves Join the Battle, the Smoke of War (2)

Hearing this, the Deep Sea Dragon Whale noticed the Lord's calm demeanor and gradually felt reassured.

"I understand."

After soothing his subordinates' emotions, Ji Chen inquired about the current situation.

"How are the Sea Heirs doing now? Have they reached the vicinity of the New Moon Islands?"

"At the moment, we can already see a large number of Sea Heirs surfacing in the northeast, heading towards the northeastern sub-island," Benbo reported, taking a step forward.

If the Sea Heirs intended to attack the Crown of the Ocean from the northeast, they would first have to conquer the northeastern sub-island and then proceed to land on the beach before attacking the Crown of the Ocean.

However, only a few days ago, the ancient civilization fortress on the northeastern sub-island, which normally took several months to repair, had coincidentally been completely restored.

The fortress covered the entire sub-island, with walls over ten meters high. If there were enough troops stationed there, it would be more than capable of holding a significant number of Sea Heirs at bay.

As for the sea area from the east, clockwise to the south, it was firmly controlled by elemental arrow towers and numerous ordinary arrow towers. There was no need to worry too much. If the Sea Heirs tried to attack from these directions, they would undoubtedly be met with a fierce defense.

The northern side consisted of towering, steep mountains and peaks, which were not a cause for concern.

The real concerns lay in the west and southwest.

To the west of the Crown of the Ocean was a vast jungle. Due to sea rice cultivation, construction, and the density of the jungle, there weren't many defensive structures in that direction.

However, it was precisely because of this jungle that crossing such a vast and dense terrain would not be an easy task for the Sea Heirs.

A well-organized army skilled in jungle warfare could greatly delay or even eliminate any attackers from the West.

On the other hand, the flat sandy beach to the south was a highly suitable direction for an assault.

The distance from the Crown of the Ocean and its core, the Lord's Castle, was only about two to three hundred meters in a straight line.

But Ji Chen had long considered further fortifying the defenses in this direction.

Therefore, he had previously positioned the construction site of the Alchemy Death Cannon just two hundred meters from the beach, on a hill within the forest. Its firing range completely covered the nearby sea.

At first glance, it seemed that the current defense situation was quite good.

With these thoughts in mind, Ji Chen made a decisive gesture and issued his orders.

"Benbo, take the Dragon Blood Murlocs and Elemental Sea Pixies to the fortress on the northeastern sub-island and make sure to block the Sea Heirs in that direction!"

"Daro, take the Half-Orc Warriors and a portion of Lizardmen Warriors to the harbor to assist in the defense. If necessary, have the gnomes manning the Alchemy Cannons on the gnome merchant ships and the cannons on the Triple-Masted Warships return fire!"

"Anina, lead the Naga Berserkers and some Self-Detonating Water Spiders to guard the western jungle and block any Sea Heirs advancing from the west!"

"Finally, Alice and I will lead the remaining troops to guard the southern beach!"

"Understood!"

Under the leadership of their heroes, the various armies rushed towards their respective directions.

A hint of the smoke of war slowly spread across the sky above the New Moon Islands.

Under the scorching sun, the once azure sea was now covered in black and white.

Thousands of Sea Heirs, under the control of their leaders, moved towards their target. Any living being that stood in their way was ruthlessly killed and devoured, their energy fueling the reproduction and evolution of the Sea Heirs.

Finally, after a long journey, they saw the islands. All the Sea Heirs trembled with excitement, waving their tentacles and strange organs.

However, it wasn't the Sea Heirs themselves who were excited but rather their leader.

It knew that on these islands, there was an abundant source of food that could sustain their population.

Moreover, there was a special human there. If they could consume that human, it would undergo an unprecedented evolution, gaining unprecedented power.

At that time, the entire ocean would become the hunting ground of the Sea Heirs!

Wuu wuu wuu—

The horn of war sounded.

On the northeastern sub-island fortress, the first round of water arrows from the Elemental Sea Pixies flew far and exploded among the Sea Heir horde. This signaled the beginning of the life-and-death battle between the Crown of the Ocean and the Sea Heirs.

You might find it hard to imagine what the Sea Heir army's attack looked like.

It was a sight filled with twisted and grotesque bodies and tentacles of various shapes, all crowded together beneath the city walls. Their sticky tentacles reached out like a grotesque greeting.

In addition to the previously seen Deep Sea Impalers and Floating Skyriders, there were several other types of Sea Heirs, but they all had one thing in common—their appearances were extremely disgusting and twisted.

One type looked like a fish with legs, known as Terrorfish, with a monstrous gaping mouth that could crawl up the city walls at a fast pace using its bony front legs.

Another variation featured twisted tentacles below but sported a ring of slender petals on top, allowing them to emit highly corrosive and long-range acid.

In the even more distant waters, it seemed that there were other new types of Sea Heirs, but at this moment, they had not launched an attack; they stood silently.

In the sky, the Sky Guardian faced its first challenge to its dominance of the skies.

A squadron of over a hundred Floating Skyriders was flapping their wings, flying towards it..

Chapter 285: Elves Join the Battle, the Smoke of War (3)

Compared to the last time they were seen, these Floating Skyriders seem to have become more slender and streamlined in their physique, with improved flight speed and agility.

If the last time they had just emerged from their nests and were just learning to fly, now they have matured to a level where they can start hunting for prey on their own.

However, it's evident that Skyriders of this level are no match for the formidable Sky Guardians.

With just a grab and a peck, several Skyriders are killed, and their broken bodies fall from the sky.

Three Sky Guardians form a team, using their extremely advanced flying techniques to split the enemy apart and then pick them off one by one.

In just a few minutes, this team of Skyriders is completely wiped out, meeting their demise on the spot.

The Sky Guardians only make slight adjustments to their formation and then form up to fly towards other battlefields, providing aerial support for their allies.

Ji Chen also witnesses the scene of Skyriders being effortlessly dispatched, but there is no joy in his heart.

In just a month or two, the Sea Heirs have evolved once again. What's even more terrifying is that they have completely abandoned the principles of biological evolution and only evolved abilities that benefit them.

This makes Ji Chen wonder, if given enough time and biological templates, will they evolve into beings similar to deities?

On the western shore of the main island of the New Moon Islands, thousands of Sea Heirs land from the sea. Seeing that there are no creatures or enemies here, they dive headlong into the jungle without hesitation.

Little do they know that within the depths of the forest, an armed group of elves is secretly observing them.

When they see the distorted bodies of the Sea Heirs, their expressions turn grim.

For the elves, who are known for their pure beauty, the grotesque appearance of the Sea Heirs is nothing short of a shock to their sensibilities.

"My goodness, how can such disgusting creatures exist? I feel like I'm about to vomit my lunch!"

"Is this what Lord Ji Chen referred to as the Sea Heirs? They are even more repulsive than the vilest snail in the jungle..."

Soon, the leading female elven ranger speaks with determination in a low voice.

"They seem to be heading towards the Crown of the Ocean. We must intercept them; otherwise, Lord Ji Chen is likely to be ambushed from both sides!"

"Sisters, our elven race has risen from a jungle filled with peril. We have become strong not because we love peace or nature, but because... we are skilled in combat, which allowed us to carve a path through the treacherous jungle!"

"Today, let these repulsive creatures taste the might of our elves. We must not let Lord Ji Chen underestimate us!"

In an instant, a frigid arrow swiftly flew through the branches and leaves, piercing straight through one of the Deep Sea Impalers. It found its resting place in the tree trunk behind, its tail quivering faintly.

In just two breaths, the other Deep Sea Impalers spewed out thorns towards the spot where the arrow had come from, but the sound of them sinking into the trees indicated that they hadn't hit their target.

Within the forest, the elven team began to discuss quietly once again.

"It seems that those Sea Heirs require a precise hit to be killed, and their reactions are extremely agile. We need to pinpoint their weaknesses, strike and retreat immediately, and look for opportunities to strike again."

The elven rangers took multiple shots, gradually identifying various weaknesses of the Sea Heirs.

A single arrow could take down one Sea Heir, and due to the dense jungle, they couldn't effectively counterattack.

As a result, the progress of the Sea Heirs on the western side slowed significantly.

Meanwhile, the attention of the Sea Heirs' leader seemed to be directed towards another direction....

Chapter 286: Knights, Charge! Hit the East, Strike the West! Turning the Tide of Battle!

After the previous probing, it was evident that this time the Sea Heirs came prepared, with both their average tier and level having increased.

The tiers ranged from Tier 3, 7 stars to Tier 4, 2 stars, and the levels ranged from 15 to 25.

However, it was still unclear whether even more powerful Sea Heirs were hidden, considering that the entire New Moon Islands were now surrounded by a multitude of Sea Heirs, patrolling the seas in every direction.

From this, it appeared that the Sea Heirs' leader had made a determined decision this time – to consume all living beings on this archipelago, sparing no one.

Ji Chen, who had noticed this, couldn't help but smirk.

The idea of the Sea Heirs wanting to kill and devour them was on the table, but what if they could reverse the situation and eliminate the entire Sea Heir tribe instead?

This time, with the Sea Heirs launching such an organized and coordinated attack, it was certain that their nearby commander couldn't be far behind. From a different perspective, this was an excellent opportunity to kill the Sea Heirs' leader and eliminate any future threats.

The roles between prey and predator could change in the blink of an eye.

But that Sea Heirs' leader probably couldn't fathom that in just one or two months, the Crown of the Ocean had grown into what it was now. To what extent had it matured?

Should anyone dare to stir up trouble within the Crown of the Ocean, they will face dire consequences, and there won't be any sweet rewards for them to savor!

As time passed, thanks to the reconnaissance of the Sky Guardians and Ocean Guardians, the Sea Heirs' focus of attack gradually became clear.

As Ji Chen had anticipated, the Sea Heirs attacking from the northeast and the south were the most numerous and fierce. At present, both of these directions had more than five thousand Sea Heirs in attack.

However, it should be noted that this was what they could currently see. As for how many Sea Heirs were still lurking undiscovered in the sea, that remained unknown.

Based on the most recent report, over a thousand Sea Heirs launching an assault from the west had become entangled by Anina and her elven team. Their advance was moving at a snail's pace, and they suffered significant casualties.

In such an unfamiliar dense jungle, even with the Sea Heirs' leader's command, they struggled to make headway, as if they were stuck in a quagmire.

Upon receiving this news, Ji Chen felt somewhat relieved and turned his attention to the situation before him.

In his line of sight, the number of Sea Heirs surfacing on the sea grew steadily. With their primary colors being black and white, they gathered together like dirty spots floating on the surface of the sea.

Suddenly, as if they had received a command, the Sea Heirs that had been waiting for their companions to gather moved in unison, wriggling toward the beach.

A shiver ran through Ji Chen's heart.

The battle here was finally about to begin.

As these monstrous creatures, capable of unsettling one's sanity merely by their appearance, drew nearer to the beach within a four-kilometer range, they found themselves confronted by the Alchemy Death Cannon. This formidable structure, crafted entirely from metal, loomed above the jungle, dwarfing even the tallest trees. Gradually, it elevated a barrel large enough to accommodate a person. After a brief pause, it abruptly spewed forth a fiery blast. In an instant, the cannonball was launched into the distance, hurtling with unstoppable speed and slamming forcefully into the Sea Heirs.

Swoosh-

The heavy shell shattered the petal head of a Sea Heir that had won the jackpot, and then the fuse was triggered, causing the shell to explode.

Boom-

A massive thirty-meter-tall water column erupted from the midst of the Sea Heir assembly, encircled by surging waves. Inside the water column, countless shattered limbs and green liquid were intermingled, propelling countless of Sea Heirs into the sky.

Following this, a circle of terrifying shockwaves swept out in all directions at an inescapable speed.

The Sea Heirs who had survived the previous explosion were hit by a deadly blow once again. Their bodies burst into clouds of blood mist, their vitality rapidly withering, struggling, and dying on the surface of the sea.

The Sea Heir group, which had been packed full just moments ago, suddenly shrank by a significant amount – the dead Sea Heirs floated on the surface, drifting with the waves.

Regardless of their tier or level, whether low or high, all of them met their demise under the terrifying might of the shell.

This single shell had at least killed hundreds of Sea Heirs!

Even the Sea Heir leader who had been observing from behind couldn't help but pause mentally, and then it began to urge the other Sea Heirs to spread out and attack.

If there were another ten or so shells, they wouldn't stand a chance.

Although the alchemy death cannon's power was astonishing, its loading speed was quite slow. In the gap between loading shells, the Sea Heirs rapidly advanced toward the coast.

It was impossible to rely solely on the cannons to stop them. Therefore, Ji Chen waved his hand, commanding the Ocean Guardians to take the field.

Underwater, a large group of ready Ocean Guardians suddenly sprang into action, swarming like fish in a coordinated attack.

The Sea Heir excelled at paralyzing their enemies with toxins. When their poison stingers pierced ordinary flesh and blood creatures, their combat capabilities were greatly diminished, leaving them vulnerable to the Sea Heir's dominance.

However, toxins had no effect on alchemical creations like the Ocean Guardians, as long as their energy cores remained intact. They could endure being pierced like hedgehogs without any concern.

Hundreds of Ocean Guardians fearlessly launched their attacks, obstructing the Sea Heir's rapid advance and keeping it engaged on the surface of the sea.

While five thousand Sea Heirs seemed like a formidable force, losing their advantage in swift mobility turned them into easy targets for the cannons.

As a five-star structure, the Alchemy Death Cannon possessed incredibly potent firepower. Shot after shot, it wreaked havoc among the Sea Heirs, causing them to fall in large numbers.

At this moment, the Sea Heirs couldn't help but curse under their breath. After roaming the oceans for so many years, it was the first time they had encountered firepower of such devastating strength..

Chapter 287 - 287: Knights, Charge! Hit the East, Strike the

West! Turning the Tide of Battle! (2)

They hadn't even landed yet, and so many comrades had already been killed and injured.

But this was exactly what Ji Chen wanted, to keep the Sea Heirs at bay beyond the land, denying them any chance to harm the Crown of the Ocean.

Out of the initial five thousand Sea Heirs approaching from this direction, only slightly over a thousand were left after just slightly more than ten minutes had passed. They were now scattered thinly across the surface of the sea. At this pace, it wouldn't be long before they were completely neutralized.

Seeing this scene, Ji Chen didn't display any joy.

He knew that if the Sea Heirs' leaders dared to attack, they must have more than just this number of troops.

Sure enough, when the number of Sea Heirs was reduced to just over a thousand.

At a distance of less than two kilometers from the beach, a sudden emergence occurred. Four or five thousand Sea Heirs rose from the sea, their chaotic formation giving no hint of any familial bond as they charged forward.

Coincidentally, this moment aligned with a brief pause in the Alchemy Death Cannon's firing, and the Ocean Guardians remained engaged with other Sea Heirs, unable to arrive in time.

Given their forward speed, they could easily land successfully under the bombardment of the cannon.

At this moment, as if they had seen Ji Chen directing on the beach, these newly appeared Sea Heirs abandoned the shorter landing route without hesitation and charged straight towards Ji Chen.

They looked as if they wanted to swallow him whole.

This made Ji Chen momentarily stunned.

Goodness, do they take me as Tang Seng (TN: The character monk in the journey to the West)?

They're so excited to see me.

He pursed his lips and waved his hand.

An army that had been hidden earlier suddenly surfaced and stood in front of the Sea Heirs.

These were the Lobster Riders.

Since the recruitment of the Lobster Riders, they hadn't been utilized much. After all, only the Sea Heirs would be daring enough to challenge the Crown of the Ocean.

Therefore, the Lobster Riders, as a marine unit, found themselves without a purpose and appeared inconspicuous within the territory, contributing very little.

However, at this moment, they were all extremely excited.

They bore fearless expressions, and their eyes gleamed with heroic determination.

"All knights! Serve the Lord! Charge!!"

Under the lead of a heroic blue Lobster Rider, the army of Lobster Riders charged directly into the Sea Heirs, who outnumbered them several times.

Forming a cone-shaped formation, they rushed into the midst of the Sea Heirs like a sharp blade.

Boom!

The massive lobsters beneath them resembled high-speed war machines, quickly launching numerous Sea Heirs into the air. Their horned heads effortlessly pierced through the bodies of many Sea Heirs in an instant.

The barbs at their joints acted like blades, cutting off countless tentacles.

With a single thrust and pull of the spear in the knights' hands, blood gushed out, staining their armor.

With fewer than a thousand Lobster Riders, they managed to break through the Sea Heir group, killing over a thousand Sea Heirs while losing fewer than thirty of their own.

After piercing through the enemy formation, the Lobster Riders slowed down and turned around, then raised their bone spears, launching another charge.

Charge, break, divide, consume, and kill.

The art of slaughter in the knights' charge was vividly displayed on the Lobster Riders.

In this repeating cycle, after only a few charges, the supporting Sea Heir army was almost wiped out, leaving just a handful of survivors and far from maintaining any organized formation.

Remains and broken limbs of Sea Heirs floated all over the sea, and the ink-green blood seemed to replace the color of the seawater.

On the beach, Ji Chen, who was watching this scene, nodded in satisfaction.

Indeed, it was the type of troops he favored. The combat power of these less than a thousand Lobster Riders was equivalent to that of Tier 5 units.

On the south beach, the Sea Heirs engaged in two battles, and most of them have been slain. There are only a few hundred of them left, and they no longer pose a significant threat here.

Ji Chen sneered and made a provocative gesture toward the remaining Sea Heirs.

He knew that the Sea Heir leader must be watching him.

Use all tactics you have; otherwise, you might not get another chance.

As if this provocation had angered the Sea Heir leader, thousands more Sea Heirs emerged from the sea.

Ji Chen's expression hardened, and he fearlessly sent the already bloodthirsty Lobster Riders into action.

For the Knights, one charge is enough to crush them; if not once, then twice, three times, until they are crushed!

Although he didn't know the exact number of Sea Heirs this time, a rough estimate indicated that the Sea Heirs now numbered over forty thousand.

Such a large Sea Heir army would be enough to overrun most players' territories, but in front of the Crown of the Ocean, they could only be stopped.

This was the Crown of the Ocean after several months of rapid development.

After yet another wave of Sea Heirs, numbering in the thousands, were crushed like cannon fodder, Ji Chen couldn't help but feel puzzled.

Could it be that the Sea Heir leader only knows this one tactic?

Doesn't that seem quite devoid of strategy?

At this moment, Alice, who had been by his side without taking action, suddenly exclaimed, "My lord, look, there's a signal fire rising in the northeastern sub-island!"

Ji Chen turned to look, and a thick black smoke rose into the sky, reaching the heavens.

The northeastern sub-island was guarded by Benbo.

He had given instructions to the heroes that they could light signal fires in their stationed areas in case of emergencies, seeking reinforcements.

Could it be that there's a problem at Benbo's location?

Or even... a danger of being breached?

The fortress on the northeastern sub-island played a crucial role in this battle against the Sea Heirs, and its significance was nearly on par with the defenses on the southern beach.

If the fortress were breached, the Sea Heirs would have a place to land in large numbers. Tens of thousands of Sea Heirs would pour into the Water Fort and the Harbor, damaging these two crucial facilities.

Not only that, but the stone road previously used for ease of movement and transportation will become the Sea Heirs' quick route to invade the core area of the Crown of the Ocean!

At that time, they would be caught in a severe disadvantage, trapped from both sides.

If that were the case, Ji Chen would have to start thinking about escaping.

Without hesitation, he gave the order.

"Alice, you take command of the troops here. Make sure to hold this beach! But if you can't guard it, take the remaining forces back to the stone square and you can even fall back to the Lord's Castle. Try your best to hold them back as much as possible until I return!"

Alice clearly understood the urgency of the situation and nodded. "My lord, please go ahead. Even if it costs my life, 1 will defend this place until you return!"

Ji Chen didn't say anything more. He patted her head and he ran towards the northeastern subisland without further delay.

Emerging from the dense forest and arriving at the harbor, he could finally see the situation on the northeastern sub-island.

Countless Sea Heirs were relentlessly attacking the fortress, surrounding it inside and out. It felt like a city besieged by zombies.

And Daro, the Half-Orc hero guarding the harbor, had long gone to support the Half-Orc and some Lizardmen warriors.

However, the Sea Heirs had already occupied the tidal flats that connected the main island to the fortress, blocking their way.

Benbo, along with the Dragon Blood Murlocs and Elemental Sea Pixies, both Tier 4 units, possessed formidable combat power. However, the Sea Heirs besieging them were not inferior in Tier; there were easily two or three thousand Tier 4 Sea Heirs, and the Tier 3 cannon fodder numbered in the thousands.

One side was trapped within the city, unable to receive reinforcements, with casualties mounting.

On the other side, the Sea Heirs had abundant troops, and for every one that died, another filled the gap. Additionally, an unknown number of Sea Heirs lurked beneath the sea.

In this give and take, looking at the current situation, it wouldn't be long before the fortress fell.

Well, well!

Ji Chen did not expect the Sea Heirs to use such a cunning strategy, pretending to commit a large portion of their forces to the fierce attack on the southern beach, which was closer to the core of the Crown of the Ocean. While, in reality, they were going all-out in their assault on the northeastern sub-island.

If not for the signal fire transmitting the message, they might have succeeded.

Seeing the situation becoming increasingly dire, he didn't waste any more time and made a quick decision.

In the calm bay, a massive wave suddenly rose.

Boom!

The wave swept away a large number of Sea Heirs who were surrounding the city walls, instantly creating a significant gap.

Benbo, who had been fighting desperately on the wall, couldn't help but feel overjoyed and raised his trident high.

"The lord himself has come to support us! Charge!!!"

The arrival of the lord was undoubtedly an exhilarating boost, and their morale soared as they intended to fend off every Sea Heir trying to scale the walls.

The tide of battle had turned!

Chapter 288 - 288: The Temptation of Evolution, Battle, Straight to the Point

Following Ji Chen, there were three colossal beasts reminiscent of ancient times.

The Tyrant Azure Dragon suddenly burst from the water, spewing an extreme chill that froze a large portion of the Sea Heirs. Then, with a powerful swing of its tail, akin to a heavy hammer, it ruthlessly shattered the frozen Sea Heirs, scattering ice and broken flesh into the air.

Consecutive icy breath attacks froze hundreds of Sea Heirs each time, resembling a one-sided slaughter. The Sea Heirs had no chance or strength to fight back.

The gap in power between Tier Five units and Tier Three or Four Sea Heirs was insurmountable.

The Sea Heirs attempting to breach the city and inflict massive casualties dwindled, reducing the pressure on Benbo and his troops.

At this moment, the reinforcements led by Daro finally broke through the blockade and reached the fortress. With the protection of the defending forces, they entered the city gates to assist in its defense.

Ji Chen only glanced casually before entrusting this battlefield to them.

As long as the fortress held, the eastern side of the Crown of the Ocean would remain safe.

What concerned him most now was the situation on the western defense line under Anina's command.

On the way to that location, he took a moment to check the current state of the territory's morale.

Events like war, attacks, natural disasters, and famine could all have an impact on the people's morale.

The panel displayed that the current morale was at 80, slightly lower than the 84-85 points before the war. However, this decrease wasn't significant, indicating that the residents of the Crown of the Ocean had a great deal of trust in their Lord. They believed he could lead the territory safely through this crisis, which brought Ji Chen a sense of gratification. His kindness toward them had not been in vain.

In the western jungle.

Anina vigorously shook her greatsword, removing the filth that had clung to it from the countless Sea Heir corpses on the ground. Stepping over the bodies of the Sea Heirs, she approached a particularly unusual one, her expression solemn.

At this moment, a rustling sound came from the forest behind her, causing her to tense up and turn to look. However, her expression quickly relaxed, and a hint of joy appeared on her face. "Lord!"

The newcomer was none other than Ji Chen. After leaving the eastern battlefield, he rushed to the western front, taking some time to locate his own troops.

"How's the situation here?"

"At present, most of the Sea Heirs that entered the jungle have been eliminated. Naga Berserkers and the elven squad are currently dealing with the remaining stragglers."

Ji Chen nodded, indicating that the situation was relatively good. He then asked, "What were you looking at just now? You seemed quite serious."

"Lord, this Sea Heir."

Anina said as she stepped aside, revealing the unique Sea Heir. The Sea Heir in front of them was extraordinarily unusual.

It had evolved to the point where it had deviated from its original form, developing some humanlike physical characteristics.

Although somewhat abstract, the lower part of its body had clearly evolved into a pair of legs composed of intertwined tentacles. At the ends of these tentacles, there were formations resembling toes.

Although the upper part still had disgusting tentacles and a petal-like head, it was not difficult to see that the sea heir was evolving towards the direction of humans, with a structure more suitable for walking on land.

Ji Chen's greatest concern had become a reality: sea heirs were now beginning to evolve following the human template, and the pace was remarkably swift. In a mere one or two months, they had developed features akin to legs. Considering this rate of progress, wouldn't it be a matter of just a few years before they fully resembled humans?

Appearing just like humans but actually being sea heirs, they could effortlessly blend into human society, going unnoticed by anyone.

Thinking about this, Ji Chen couldn't help but shudder. This unreasonable evolution ability was like a cheat!

If it wasn't stopped, who knows what bizarre form the sea heirs would take on in a few decades.

Suddenly, he felt a strong urge to completely resolve the sea heir issue.

After pondering for a moment, Ji Chen spoke with great seriousness.

"Anina, I'm entrusting you with an extremely important task..."

On the south beach, Alice commanded the lobster knights to once again repel a wave of sea heirs. Thousands of sea heir corpses floated near the coast, their viscous blood clinging to the sea's surface like oil, blocking out the sunlight.

The foul smell and toxins emitted caused fish to die in large numbers, and even birds stayed far away from the area.

Even in death, sea heirs continued to release their residual heat.

Faced with the toxic blood, the lobster knights dared not approach too closely. They could only kill the sea heirs at the periphery, but with each kill, the area covered by the floating blood expanded.

Gradually, this layer of blood occupied a large area near the shore.

However, in such an environment, the surviving sea heirs remained lively. They relied on the layer of blood on the sea's surface to inch closer to the beach.

Boom!

The Alchemy Death Cannon once again spewed flames, evaporating a large number of sea heirs. But more sea heirs had already entered the shallow water, less than fifty meters from the beach. Due to their size, the lobster knights could no longer charge forward.

A melee battle was about to erupt.

Sensing this, Alice promptly ordered the lobster knights to temporarily retreat and wait for the right moment. Then, she had all the Ruins Guardians take their place on the beach, forming a defense line that stretched over a hundred meters wide, with three rows arranged from front to back..

Chapter 289: The Temptation of Evolution, Battle,

Straight to the Point (2)

Further back, there were approximately five hundred Murloc Rangers standing in formation.

These troops constituted the last line of defense between the southern battlefield, the beach, and the core area of the Ocean Crown.

Once breached, they would have no choice but to fall back to the Lord's Castle. At that point, the buildings outside the Lord's Castle would be mercilessly ravaged by the sea heirs. Recovering from such a situation would not be an easy task.

However, Alice vowed not to let such a scenario unfold.

Soon enough, the sea heirs landed and lunged forward with their claws bared.

At the command, the Murloc Rangers, with third-tier 5-star rankings, shot out the spikes from their backs.

Swoosh!

Thousands of spikes soared high into the air and rained down like pear blossoms, piercing through the foremost wave of sea heirs.

Although these Murloc Rangers were only third-tier 5-star units, their dense volleys and high firing rate caused considerable casualties.

Additionally, their role was akin to ancient archers, not only inflicting long-range damage but also disrupting enemy formations.

After several waves of spikes were launched, at least several hundred sea heirs had been struck fatally, and over a thousand were left maimed with severed limbs. The once ferocious momentum of the sea heirs was momentarily halted, relieving some pressure.

The Ruins Guardians' eyes gleamed, and they swung their fist-sized fists with all their might.

Boom!

Countless sea heirs were directly crushed by these punches, their tentacles and flesh scattering all over the ground.

Despite being third-tier 8-star units, they resisted numerous attacks such as poison stings and corrosive acids, thanks to their durable alchemical bodies and the additional armored plates. They managed to achieve a combat damage ratio of one to dozens.

At this point, the beach resembled the Normandy landings, with the sea heirs, as the attackers, relentlessly pushing forward with a near-suicidal determination.

On the other hand, the Ocean Crown side never ceased the bombardment of the Alchemy Death Cannon. Each shot cleared a swath of space, leaving behind massive craters on the beach.

However, the sea heirs ultimately gained the upper hand. Realizing they couldn't break through the center, they quickly opened up new battlefronts on both sides. In desperation, Alice had to send the Ruins Guardians to support the flanks, further weakening the defense line.

Finally, after enduring heavy attacks and bearing numerous wounds, several Ruins Guardians collapsed, riddled with punctures and acid-corroded craters. Seizing this opportunity, a large number of sea heirs poured in through the breaches.

Under the command of the sea heir leader, they charged toward Alice from behind as if driven to madness.

For the sake of devouring and evolving.

This was an uncontrollable desire.

Fueled by an intense and overwhelming craving, it paid no attention to the Murloc Rangers but instead directed the sea heirs to attack Alice directly.

"Children... Devour... the colossal evolution-"

Receiving the urgent command from their "Mother", the sea heirs became even more frenzied, surging through the breaches in a mad frenzy.

They had long known that there was a Siren on this island still in its growing stage.

The Sirens were formidable adversaries of the sea heirs in the ocean due to their ability to manipulate minds. They could not only control numerous enslaved souls but also exert their psychic powers to influence the sea heirs' command over them.

They were indeed a race that stole their livelihood.

Therefore, whenever sea heirs encountered a Siren, they would spare no effort to kill it, no matter the cost.

The most vulnerable time for Sirens was during their infancy and growth stages. At this stage, their power was only a fraction of what it would be in their fully mature state.

Hence, this was the best time to kill them!

Furthermore, the sea heir leader could sense that if they could devour this Siren, they could obtain an evolution that wouldn't pale in comparison to what they had gained from consuming a human.

However, it had not anticipated that this so-called still-growing Siren had advanced once again not long ago, entering the mature stage.

Alice watched the sea heirs charging towards her with an icy demeanor.

She recalled a long time ago when the Lord had asked her if she could influence sea heirs with her singing, and her answer had been no.

Back then, she was still a Siren at the Purple Rare Tier.

But now, she had advanced to the Red Legacy Tier, reaching the pinnacle of what a Siren could achieve.

What used to be impossible was now easily achievable.

If the Lord were to ask her the same question now, her answer would undoubtedly be yes.

So, let her prove it through her actions.

As the melody of her song began to play, in that instant, all the sea heirs seemed frozen in place, even those whose bodies had been shattered by the Ruins Guardians' fists, showed no resistance whatsoever.

The previously tumultuous battlefield had now fallen into an eerie silence, with only the relentless hammering of the Ruins Guardians' blows echoing through the air.

In that dark trench beneath the sea, the fleshly body of the sea heir leader suddenly trembled violently, its tentacles twitching as if shocked.

"...Impossible... Siren... mature..."

"Natural enemy... kill... destroy..."

At this moment, all around the New Moon Islands, whether they were still on the road through the jungle, besieging the fortress, or hiding beneath the sea, every sea heir turned in unison towards Alice.

In the hearts of each sea heir, there was only one thought—kill that Siren!

Seeing this eerie scene, the heroes and armies of the Crown of the Ocean were left stunned. Though they didn't know what had happened, after a moment of bewilderment, they resumed their attacks.

They wouldn't miss this opportunity!

Ji Chen, who was rushing back to the southern beach, also witnessed this spectacle.

His first thought was, has something happened to Alice?

He quickened his pace and raced to the scene.

Upon his return to the southern beach, he saw thousands of sea heirs surging from the direction of the sea.

At a glance, there were at least tens of thousands, and their numbers were rapidly increasing.

My goodness, what on earth had stimulated the sea heir leader to the point that it disregarded casualties and sent the sea heirs rushing in this direction?

Could it be madness?

Indeed, the sea heir leader had gone "mad". In the unseen spiritual realm, it was locked in a mental struggle with the Siren, fighting for control over the sea heirs.

In its perception, Alice's spiritual power was continuously surging, attempting to expel its influence from the sea heirs and take control.

This action infuriated the sea heir leader to an extreme degree.

These sea heirs had all evolved and were nurtured by it. Now, the Siren wanted to control them, essentially trying to take them away?

This blatant challenge ignited a furious rage within the sea heir leader. It unleashed its psychic might with relentless determination, refusing to yield to the Siren's intrusion.

Alice's spiritual power converged into successive spiritual tsunamis, relentlessly assaulting.

Meanwhile, the sea heir leader's psychic power formed a mountainous dam, resisting the onslaught.

Two formidable beings of great power were locked in this mental battle. The ordinary sea heirs caught in between found it unbearable. Whether it was the tsunami or the dam, both existed within their minds!

Under the repeated onslaught, many sea heirs couldn't withstand the excessive mental pressure and burst apart.

Seeing Alice with her eyes closed, sweating profusely, and witnessing the sea heirs all standing still in a daze, Ji Chen couldn't help but feel concerned.

But there was nothing he could do. He could only stand by and watch.

About ten minutes later, Alice abruptly opened her eyes and urgently said to him, "Lord, 1 have detected the sea heir leader's location! The location is in a trench, about five leagues north of the Stormy Sea area!"

Upon hearing this, Ji Chen's expression brightened.

The precise location of the sea heir leader!?

This was truly fantastic news. He had been pondering how to find the sea heir leader in the vast and deep ocean, which was like searching for a needle in a haystack.

Now that Alice had pinpointed its approximate location through her psychic abilities, it was a golden opportunity—an opportunity to strike directly and decisively, a once-in-a-lifetime chance!

Ji Chen acted swiftly, summoning a Sky Guardian and employing a pigeon-like messaging method to send instructions to Anina without any delay.

The Sky Guardian shot up into the sky and, within a matter of seconds, landed on the deck of a gnomish merchant ship waiting at the port.

Anina, who had been waiting there, joyfully shouted when she read the message on the parchment, "Gnomish merchant ship, set sail!"

The gnomes, who had been held hostage by the military, reluctantly began operating the ship.

Smoke billowed from the chimneys, and the few remaining propellers began to rapidly rotate as the ship headed towards the northern sea..

Chapter 290: Pursuit! Killing the Sea Heir Leader, the Black Orb

In the spiritual realm, the Sea Heir leader, who was currently engaged in a mental battle with Alice, was driving all of its psychic power to resist the overwhelming onslaught, shouting wildly in its mind.

How could this Siren mature so quickly?

At this moment, he pondered the idea of withdrawing.

Before it started attacking this human territory, it was quite confident.

After two months of targeted evolution and breeding, the Sea Heirs had made a qualitative leap in their strength, with tens of thousands of third and even fourth-tier Sea Heirs more than enough to break through a territory with only a few hundred third-tier units.

Plus, with itself personally overseeing and commanding from nearby, it didn't see any reason to lose.

However, the current strength of this territory surprised it.

Not only did it command thousands of fourth-tier troops, but its defensive capabilities were also remarkable, and it boasted dozens of heroes. The Sirens it had encountered earlier had reached maturity and could rival its strength.

Damn it!

How could this territory's development be faster than their Sea Heirs' development and evolution?

Especially among those sea tribe units, it detected a subtle essence that resembled their own.

But how could these sea tribes be related to their Sea Heirs?

Could this be a joke from the "Master"?

Aren't they supposed to be the "Master's" only favorites?

It thought bitterly.

It looked at the waves of mental attacks coming from the Sirens and gradually sensed that something was amiss.

Despite the seemingly powerful and surging impact, the actual intensity was not exaggerated. Both sides maintained a controlled balance, and it appeared as though the Siren was attempting to seize control, but in truth, it was more like she was stalling for time.

Delaying time?

Suddenly, within the ocean trench, the Sea Heir leader experienced a sudden tremor, pushing out the remainder of its psychic power and extending it to the vicinity.

To its horror, it sensed hundreds of fourth-tier Naga, led by a powerful hero, slowly approaching the trench it was in.

Damn it! How did that human know its location?

After only a moment of hesitation, the tendrils of the Sea Heir leader's body began to sway, urging thousands of elite fourth-tier Sea Heirs guarding it to go forward and confront the enemy. It itself slowly moved its massive body.

In proportion to its powerful mental control abilities was its extremely weak physique. Its safety was entirely entrusted to other Sea Heirs.

In the sea, Anina was intensely searching for the trench where the Sea Heir leader was hiding, looking at the complex terrain of the deep sea floor. Her eyes were almost hurting.

According to the information received, the approximate location of the Sea Heir leader was nearby, but there were dozens of trenches in the vicinity, making it an exceptionally challenging task to locate it.

Suddenly, at this moment, she saw a large group of Sea Heirs rushing out from a seemingly inconspicuous trench, which immediately caught her attention.

In the middle of the ocean, Anina had shed the human armor she used on land, leaving only a lightweight, finely-scaled armor. Her strong yet slender legs effortlessly propelled her forward with a single kick, sending her body flying.

As the Sea Heirs drew closer, she held her Dragon Slayer Great Sword high in her right hand.

Swish!

She passed by one of the Sea Heirs without any hesitation, continuing forward. The Sea Heir behind her abruptly stopped, and a line quietly appeared on its body. Then, its body split from top to bottom, spewing green blood.

A level-thirty-something purple-rare-tier hero, a formidable Dragon Whale from the Dragonblood clan, had more than enough power to crush these Sea Heirs.

Behind her, hundreds of Naga Berserkers followed her like soldiers following a general, bravely charging into the enemy ranks, zealously killing enemies to gain merits.

Their momentum was unstoppable.

However, in the face of such a fierce onslaught, these Sea Heirs displayed remarkable resilience, fighting to the death and holding them back outside the trench.

Seeing this scene, Anina became even more certain that the Sea Heir leader was inside this trench. She no longer held back and went all out.

The icy seawater enveloped her body, but it couldn't cool her increasingly fiery heart. Every vein in her body was coursing with scorching blood, from top to bottom, from inside to outside, permeating her entire being.

Drawing the sword, she swiftly wielded it.

Several Sea Heirs had their bodies severed and fell into the deep sea.

The Dragon Slayer Great Sword, now fully repaired, displayed astonishing power. Not a single Sea Heir could withstand its edge. With a light sweep, they were decapitated.

The saying "taking down a whole nest" rang true as, under Anina's extraordinary leadership, the Naga Berserkers unleashed 120% of their combat strength, and with every swing of their blades, they slew countless enemies.

Gradually, the Sea Heirs were struggling to hold their ground, and their defense line began to crack.

When Anina tore apart a Sea Heir with a sideways swing and saw that there were no other Sea Heirs blocking her path, she decisively issued a command.

"You all keep these Sea Heirs occupied, I'll take care of their leader!"

Hearing this, the Naga Berserkers went even more berserk, willing to hold the Sea Heirs back no matter the cost.

Taking advantage of this opportunity, Anina's figure suddenly moved and quickly plunged into the trench.

Soon, after searching the trench for a while, she found a slow-moving mass of flesh on a gentle slope a few kilometers from the trench's end.

It was the Sea Heir leader!!!

Seeing that familiar form, memories deep within her heart were stirred.

She would never forget.

On a day more than a decade ago, her mother had screamed in agony amidst the siege of countless Sea Heirs, while she could only watch as her mother's voice grew weaker and weaker until she managed to escape..