

Ocean Lord 551

Chapter 551: Millions of Resources, Elysia

A member of the elven team from Arlin's faction returned to Vale to deliver the message.

When Ji Chen and his group rushed back to Vale, thousands of elves were already waiting outside the passage. Seeing Ji Chen returning safely, their faces lit up with excitement.

Marianne, accompanied by a group of elven elders, approached Ji Chen. She looked at Ji Chen, who had undergone significant changes in appearance and temperament, and restrained her emotions as she spoke.

"Lord Ji Chen, did you succeed?"

"Did you really obtain that divine weapon?"

Ji Chen nodded slightly.

"Yes, I have returned to fulfill the promise I made earlier. I will take you away from here and reunite you with your kin."

As soon as he finished speaking, all the elves erupted in cheers, including the elven elders, who couldn't hide their excitement.

After so many years, they could finally leave this desolate frozen wilderness and embrace the spring of the main world freely.

Once the excitement subsided, Marianne spoke loudly.

"Everyone, go and pack your belongings. Remember to bring only the essentials and a month's worth of provisions."

"You have at most half a day, so hurry!"

"Yes!"

The elves scattered to prepare, and as Marianne watched her people's happiness and excitement, she felt deeply satisfied. She then turned to Ji Chen with a grateful expression.

"Thank you for everything you've done for Vale. Without you, we might still be in the dark, without hope of leaving this place."

Ji Chen chuckled. "It was a minor effort."

Marianne shook her head and then, as if remembering something, a request gleamed in her cloudy eyes.

"Lord Ji Chen, before we leave, could you make a slight detour? There's a place where one of our kin is sealed."

Ji Chen furrowed his brows but eventually nodded.

“Lead the way.”

Following the guidance of the elf Arlin, Ji Chen arrived at a resource warehouse carved deep into the mountainside. He received his reward.

“This warehouse stores crystals, that one holds mithril, and the farthest one contains adamantine.

Oh, and there are two thousand units of spirit crystals here. Spirit crystals are incredibly rare, and we’ve only managed to collect this much over the years.”

Arlin pointed to the milky white crystals stored in several large crates. She looked somewhat regretful.

However, Ji Chen was pleasantly surprised. He knew how precious spirit crystals were. Despite his best efforts, he had only managed to gather barely a thousand units from various sources over the past few months. Yet here, there were a total of two thousand units, doubling his stockpile!

Spirit crystals were a strategic resource needed for recruiting higher-tier units, making them an invaluable resource.

Ji Chen didn’t hesitate and directly stashed these spirit crystals into his possession.

Next, he looked at the piles of rare resources stacked in the warehouses. With a wave of his hand, he collected these treasures, more dazzling and captivating than gold coins.

First, he dealt with the crystals. With each wave, large sections of crystals vanished, producing pleasant tinkling sounds as they rolled away, disappearing completely in no time.

Soon, an entire crystal mountain had been collected and vanished without a trace.

Arlin watched this efficient collection process, her mouth hanging open. She vividly remembered the painstaking effort it had taken to transport these crystals here from the outside world over several months, and now, in just over ten seconds, they were gone.

However, she had no objections to this. Ji Chen’s actions for Vale Village were worth far more than the value of these crystals.

“Ding- You have obtained three million units of crystals and three million units of mithril...”

Looking at the system notification, Ji Chen felt a sense of delight.

In just a short ten minutes, he had collected tens of thousands of units of rare resources, totaling a staggering 12 million units. This was the largest windfall he had ever received, equivalent to three times the rare resources he had gained on Starshine Islands.

With such a substantial amount of resources, he wouldn’t have to worry about recruiting units for some time.

“Lord Ji Chen, I have a question to ask you,” Arlin suddenly asked in a low voice.

Ji Chen paused, then smiled and said, “Go ahead.”

His mood was good at the moment, so a small question like this was nothing.

A faint excitement appeared on Arlin's reserved face.

"What is the outside world like? Does it really have four seasons and day and night? Are there many different races besides orcs, humans, and elves?"

Ji Chen smiled as he replied, "Of course, there are. The sun brings the day, and the moon brings the night. At night, the sky darkens, and the moon and stars shine brightly.

Trolls, dwarves, halflings, seafolk, and many other races thrive on the continent and in the oceans. You will see them all when you go out..."

As he described the outside world, Ji Chen saw a glimmer of hope and longing in the eyes of this elf who had always been quiet and reserved. It made him feel a sense of pride and mission.

All these elves were born after the God War, and their first sight was this icy wilderness, devoid of knowledge of the vibrant world beyond. They were like caged birds, confined to this narrow world.

Thinking that he would take these caged elves to a much broader world, Ji Chen felt an inexplicable sense of pride and purpose.

"After you go out, maybe you can look for an elf named Kris. I think you two would get along well...."

Chapter 552 - 552: Millions of Resources, Elysia (2)

Half a day later.

In Vale Village, the elves had already prepared their things for departure. They had harnessed sturdy and majestic long-horned elks to sleds loaded with their belongings. These elks were larger and more impressive than regular steeds.

Elderly and young elves sat on canvas sleds made for passengers, while the young and robust elves carried weapons on either side.

After their preparations were complete, with a signal from Marianne, thousands of elves began to move.

There was more than one exit from this valley, and the elf convoy left through another, wider passage that allowed the long-horned elks and sleds to pass. Then, they sealed it off completely with stones, as a farewell to their past hardships.

Because of the long-horned elks and sleds, their progress was not slow. In just half an hour, they had covered over ten kilometers, and soon they would reach the embarkation point.

But before that, the group made a detour and arrived at a massive ice fissure that stretched for several kilometers and was dozens of meters wide, more than ten kilometers from the valley.

Marianne stood by the edge of the ice fissure, a hint of sadness in her eyes.

"Is this the place you mentioned, where your people are sealed?"

"Yes... it's a seal, but also a confinement," Marianne said in a somber tone.

“Lord Ji Chen, the reason we know the location of that divine weapon and the danger it poses is all thanks to one of our kin. She was the first to discover the location of the Fallen Sea.

She was a very brave elf, full of adventurous spirit. Kind-hearted yet resolute, she showed strong learning abilities and combat talent from a young age, along with natural leadership qualities.

So, we did our best to teach and nurture her, hoping she would become a leader among the young elves of Vale Village, and we expected her to lead our people in continuing the God War, though the God War is now in the past.

She did not disappoint us. Her combat skills became increasingly adept with age, and soon she became one of our most powerful elven warriors, even awakening her bloodline to become a heroic unit.”

At this point, pride filled Marianne’s face, as if this were her proudest achievement.

Ji Chen didn’t interrupt but listened quietly.

Marianne’s expression then dimmed, and she continued, “However, when she discovered the Fallen Sea and that divine weapon, something changed within her. She was too exceptional, too burdened by responsibility, to the point where she developed unwarranted pride and arrogance.

She believed she could control the divine weapon and use it to eliminate our enemies. Despite our repeated warnings, one day, she secretly went to the Fallen Sea...”

Ji Chen probably understood the subsequent developments. That trident contained the power of the ocean left behind by the gods. Its power was far beyond what ordinary races could bear, and the pressure it exerted, as if it could crush both body and soul, made it particularly memorable to him.

“...She couldn’t control the divine weapon and nearly got herself destroyed by it. Though she ultimately survived, she had gone insane. Her mind became extremely unstable, and she resorted to extreme behavior, consuming raw flesh and blood, no longer recognizing us, and even becoming aggressive. In the end, we had no choice but to confine her in this sealed ice fissure, attacking and detaining her without harming her, while regularly sending her food.”

At this moment, a glimmer of light suddenly appeared in Margery’s sorrowful eyes.

“Lord Ji Chen, although this request may seem abrupt and excessive, the one who can undo the seal must be the one who has control over that divine weapon. Since you now possess it, perhaps you can save this poor child.”

A long pause followed.

Ji Chen let out a slow sigh and said, “I can’t guarantee that I can save her.”

Margery quickly responded, “Even if there’s only a slight possibility, we would like to try. We won’t hold it against you if it’s not successful. Perhaps this is the fate of this child.”

“What is her name?”

Tears welled up in Marianne's eyes, as if she had recalled something.

With a hoarse and raspy voice, she spoke the name, as if it hadn't been uttered in a long time.

"Elisya, her name is Elisya."

Upon hearing this, Ji Chen didn't say anything more; he simply nodded slightly.

Turning around, he instructed, "Alice, the three of you stay above to guard the elves. Herald, come with me down below."

Among them, only Herald truly had the ability to fly and enter the ice fissure that was over a hundred meters deep. Ji Chen needed Herald to guide him down.

Herald bent down, exposing his wide and robust back. Herald's body was very sturdy, more than capable of carrying Ji Chen.

With a flap of his wings, they descended quickly to the bottom of the ice fissure.

Ji Chen jumped down and looked around. He didn't spot any humanoid creatures in sight. The bottom of the ice fissure was quite narrow, with an average width of only twenty to thirty meters. Most of the bottom and sides were covered by a thick layer of ice, with only a few exposed rocks adding some color to the otherwise icy landscape.

There were remnants of frozen food and the bodies of some deviant ghosts on the ground.

A series of shallow footprints extended deeper into the ice fissure.

Ji Chen, accompanied by Herald, followed the footprints. After passing a corner, they suddenly came upon a cave, where the trail of footprints disappeared at the entrance.

The all-seeing map showed a red dot deep within the cave. That should be the elf named Elisya..

Chapter 553 - 553: Millions of Resources, Elysia (3)

Just as he was thinking of entering the cave, the red dot on the map swiftly moved and arrived at the entrance in just a dozen breaths.

"Herald, deal with Elisya, but don't harm her."

Upon hearing this, the deep-sea Naga hero stood at the entrance like a wall, with his right claw blocking his left chest, just in time to block a slender pale hand that reached out from the dark cave.

The faint rays from above revealed the appearance of the owner of this hand.

Under the tangled and ghostly hair was snow-white skin, and grayish lips with vampire-like fangs protruding.

She appeared thin, with long fingers that had sharp, blade-like nails, and there were faint reddish-brown marks on her skin.

She emitted a low growl like a wild beast from her mouth, and if it weren't for the fact that this ice crevice had only one Elf, Elisya, and that she had a pair of iconic pointed ears on her head, he might have thought this unidentified humanoid creature was some kind of savage.

Elisya, who was easily blocked by Herald's attack, seemed particularly angry. In the face of the former's non-harming approach, she managed to break free and return to the cave, keeping a distance of more than ten meters from Ji Chen and the others, emitting a low growl that was similar to the intimidation of invading enemies.

At this point, Ji Chen took the opportunity to bring up her information panel.

[Elisya (Hero)]

[Race]: Elf

[Tier]: Purple (Rare Tier)

[Potential]: Gold (Epic Tier)

[Level]: 30

[Skills]: N/A

[Possesses the powerful bloodline of an ancient Elf hero but has not yet awakened]

[Oppressed by the formidable power of the divine weapon, leading to a state of madness, hostile towards any living beings, especially those invading her territory]

An Epic-tier potential!?

Ji Chen couldn't help but be surprised.

He didn't expect this Elf, who had fallen into madness due to the divine weapon, to possess such potential. No wonder the Elves, including Marianne, spoke so highly of her. She truly had the potential to become an epic-tier powerhouse if she grew steadily.

Of course, having this potential didn't guarantee reaching that tier; without enough resources and opportunities, it would still be impossible.

Just as he was pondering this, Elisya launched another attack. Her pair of cold, sharp claws moved like swords, swiftly and silently.

If it were ordinary troops, their lives would have been easily harvested by this attack. However, she was facing Herald, who was already at the legendary tier, and he held a clear advantage in both tier and level.

Herald effortlessly blocked the attack with his left claw and, with his right claw, swiftly grabbed Elisya, who was trying to retreat.

Her emaciated body, along with her hands, was completely held in the giant claw, and she couldn't move no matter how much she struggled.

Ji Chen approached, and Elisya began to scream at him again, stretching her neck to bite him, with a beastly gleam in her eyes.

Upon closer examination, her skin was as fair as snow, with a well-defined nose and distinctive facial features.

Ji Chen could deduce that Elisya was probably a breathtakingly beautiful elf when she was still sane. It's just that after descending into madness, she transformed into this eerie and otherworldly appearance, neither human nor ghost-like.

After a brief examination, Ji Chen quickly extended his right hand, covering Elisya's forehead with his palm.

With a thought, the power of the ocean suddenly spread out.

This surge of oceanic power was not meant to harm but to heal..

Chapter 554: Ancient Elf Bloodline, Marianne's Proposal 1

The ocean is not only filled with devastating storms and tsunamis, but also nurtures countless creatures, offering gentle healing.

This gentle power of the ocean slowly entered Elisya's body, flowing through her gradually. However, as she felt this incredibly familiar sensation, an expression of extreme fear appeared on Elisya's face. Even though she had gone insane, deep within her soul, she still vividly remembered the power that had almost destroyed her.

Her frail body struggled frantically, and from her mouth came cries like those of a young animal.

Her remaining consciousness was like a small boat drifting in a raging sea, at any moment, it could be overturned by the waves. It was like a faint candlelight in a fierce storm, as if it could be extinguished in the next moment.

Ji Chen could sense her memories and fears through the power of the ocean.

It was an ordinary day, Elisya led her team on a patrol outside the valley. After it ended, she made an excuse to send her team members back while she embarked on a journey to the Fallen Sea.

As long as she could obtain that divine weapon, she would be able to slay all her enemies and protect her comrades and village.

This kind of determination always lingered in Elisya's mind, but she had underestimated the power of the divine weapon. That power did not acknowledge her and rejected her. Elisya had a chance to leave at the beginning, but she chose to resist, and in the end, her spirit was destroyed by that vast power.

Ji Chen could clearly feel her fear before she lost consciousness, a fear that invaded her body and soul like poison.

Watching Elisya's extremely painful appearance, Ji Chen hesitated for a moment.

Why did it feel like he was reopening old wounds rather than healing them?

Just as he hesitated, a surge of power suddenly erupted from deep within Elisya's bloodline.

Noble, divine, ancient.

That was... the bloodline of the ancient elves!

Under the intense fluctuations of her spirit, her bloodline broke through the threshold of its limits, allowing Elisya's power to undergo a breakthrough. She went from being a purple-rare-tier hero to a red-legacy-tier hero in an instant. Her aura became dozens of times stronger, like a mountain torrent bursting forth.

Even Herald could feel the overwhelming pressure of this ancient elf bloodline, a bloodline even more powerful than the deep sea Nagas.

However, this breakthrough seemed to consume all of Elisya's energy. After a brief climax, she suddenly plummeted into a valley. Her life force rapidly declined.

In just a few breaths, Elisya had fallen into a state of shock. Ji Chen's expression changed, and he quickly took out the bottle of Water of Life from his backpack.

Without much thought, he pinched Elisya's mouth and poured in about three fingers' worth of the potion.

The amber-colored essence of life entered her body and quickly turned into the purest energy, spreading throughout her entire body.

It was like a parched land receiving a torrential rain, or a dried-up river being replenished by a surging current.

Elisya's body, which should have withered away many years ago but had managed to survive due to her bloodline power, now released astonishing vitality as if a dead tree had suddenly come back to life in spring.

The Water of Life not only has the ability to repair physical injuries but also possesses a significant capacity for mental healing. Moreover, Elisya herself is an elf, perfectly attuned to the effects of this Water of Life, resulting in a peak level of effectiveness.

In just a short span of a dozen minutes, her complexion became rosy and soft, her furrowed brows relaxed, her hair became as silky as a Dove chocolate bar, and her breathing grew more stable and powerful.

The scars and frostbite on her body were rapidly repaired and restored. Pieces of dead skin fell away, leaving behind new, tender skin akin to that of a newborn baby.

What the heck!?

Ji Chen stared at the remarkable transformation that had occurred in Elisya in just a few minutes and was so astonished that he could hardly react.

The effect of this Water of Life was unbelievably terrifying. It was indeed a valuable creation from the Life Tree of the elves.

Elin had mentioned that a single drop of diluted Water of Life, equivalent to just one finger, was enough to save an ordinary person on the brink of death. However, Ji Chen had just given Elisya a whole three fingers' worth of undiluted Water of Life. The strength of its effect was beyond doubt.

Looking at the approximately one-fifth of the Water of Life that had been consumed, Ji Chen felt a bit sorry but carefully put it away.

Turning his gaze to the now calm and stable Elisya, he took out a fur coat from his backpack and wrapped her naked body in it.

"Let's go up."

With a flap of his wings, Herald carried Ji Chen and Elisya into the air, returning to the ice crevice.

Seeing their return, Marianne and the other elves immediately approached. They looked at Elisya, who was placed on the ground, with a mix of excitement and disbelief.

The Elisya who had been like a wild person was now wrapped in a thick fur coat, her complexion rosy, breathing peacefully, and her expression serene, like a princess from a kingdom.

Marianne's voice was filled with suppressed excitement, and her words trembled as she asked, "Lord Ji Chen, have you healed Elisya?"

Ji Chen nodded. "Only her body has been repaired. She suffered severe mental trauma from resisting the power and pressure of the divine weapon. So, her mental state may not have fully recovered."

Marianne sighed and shook her head. "That's already more than enough. As long as Elisya doesn't show hostility or attack us, we can live together with her and heal her over time. We can afford to wait.."

Chapter 555: Ancient Elf Bloodline, Marianne's Proposal (2)

Elves had long lifespans, and the elves in the main world were very powerful. Maybe there was something that could heal mental injuries. Ji Chen believed that when Marianne and the others arrived in the Elven Empire, those elven nobles wouldn't hesitate to invest in this elf with an ancient bloodline.

As Elisya lay on the ground, her eyelids suddenly twitched, drawing everyone's attention to her. Eventually, Elisya slowly opened her eyes, sat up on the ground, and gazed around in confusion.

Marianne held her breath, seeing that Elisya showed no signs of hostility. A joyful expression appeared on her face, and she softly called Elisya's name while reaching out to touch her.

However, when Elisya saw Marianne approaching, she reacted as if she had spotted a ferocious beast. Panic filled her eyes, and she instinctively crawled away, taking refuge behind Ji Chen.

Clutching Ji Chen's robe tightly, she peeked out from behind his shoulder, looking pitiful.

Ji Chen:?

All the elves:?

Marianne's face stiffened, and she managed to force a smile. "Elisya, don't you recognize me? I'm your grandmother, Marianne."

However, Elisya appeared entirely unfamiliar with Marianne. She hid most of her face behind Ji Chen and clutched his robe even more tightly, as though she feared he might leave.

Marianne then called over some elves who Elisya used to be familiar with, but every one of them was rejected by her. The confusion and unfamiliar emotions in her eyes seemed genuine.

There was no doubt about it; Elisya's mind... hadn't fully recovered. While she no longer posed a threat, it appeared that she had amnesia and didn't trust her own kin.

What should they do?

Marianne looked at Elisya, who was still hiding behind Ji Chen, and said in a pleading tone, “Lord Ji Chen, it seems that Elisya trusts you a lot. Could you help me persuade her?”

Ji Chen lowered his head, looking at Elisya, who was crouching behind him like a child and scratched his head. He tentatively reached out to pat her head.

To the astonishment of the many elves present, Elisya didn’t avoid it; in fact, she moved closer and nuzzled Ji Chen’s large hand, looking quite content.

It seemed that she had a high level of trust in this human.

This left the other elves with mixed feelings.

Ji Chen spoke softly, “Elisya, do you still recognize Elder Marianne and these kin of ours?”

Elisya glanced at them and shook her head, speaking for the first time, “Elisya? Who is that? I don’t know her.”

Well, she didn’t even remember her own name, let alone these elves.

Ji Chen tried asking a few more questions, but all the answers were negative. She seemed to have forgotten not only her own name but also everything about herself, including why she was beneath the ice rift and the events leading up to it.

The current Elisya seemed like a newborn baby, completely unaware of everything around her.

However, surprisingly, she had a deep trust and closeness towards Ji Chen.

Ji Chen ran his hand through Elisya’s hair with one hand while stroking his chin in thought with the other.

A sudden thought crossed his mind.

Could it be that when he infused the power of the ocean into Elisya’s mind during the healing process, it had some sort of lasting impact, making her naturally trust him?

He sighed; he couldn’t fully understand the reason behind it, but what was evident was that Elisya now trusted and bonded with no one but him. She couldn’t even bring herself to stay with Marianne and the others.

After careful consideration, Ji Chen decided to share his speculation with Marianne.

The elder of Vale shook her head.

“This is something none of us could have foreseen, and it’s not your fault. We are already grateful that Elisya has recovered to this extent.”

Marianne’s expression at this moment was incredibly complex. She had anticipated that Elisya’s mental state might not fully recover, but she hadn’t expected her to forget everything, nor did she expect her to distance herself from them.

If they couldn’t make contact with her, they wouldn’t be able to take her along.

She had already made up her mind.

“Lord Ji Chen, I have a proposal.”

“Elder Marianne, please go on.”

“Since Elisya is unwilling to make contact and follow us, why not let her stay with you?”

Ji Chen’s eyes displayed a hint of surprise as he asked, “You don’t want to take her with you?”

Marianne’s face carried a trace of bitterness. “Even if we wanted to, it’s impossible given Elisya’s current condition.”

Watching Elisya, who was staring wide-eyed and happily playing with Ji Chen’s hand, Marianne seemed to have reached a conclusion.

She continued, “Back then, I constantly reminded her and had high expectations of her, putting pressure on her with my words and actions, which might have led her to take risks and go off alone to obtain the divine weapon. I bear an inescapable responsibility for what happened to her.

Now that I see this child recovering from that state of madness, with a smile on her face once again, I am already content. I cannot ask for more.

Therefore, I hope that you can take her with you. Perhaps, in the future, she might remember us and recall everything that happened before.”

Marianne lowered herself slightly, bowing respectfully to Ji Chen.

Furthermore, the other elven elders and the elves also followed suit, their expressions solemn.

Elisya, whether she was their companion, their junior, or someone they grew up with, had once shone brightly on the frozen wasteland.

So, seeing her fall into a state of madness had been a source of great sorrow and regret for them.

Therefore, if following Ji Chen could help Elisya recover and lead a happier life, they were willing to do so.

After a long pause, Ji Chen’s expression became very serious as he nodded solemnly towards them.

“I will accept your request.”

“Ding’ Elven Hero: Elisya (Red Legacy Tier) has joined your ranks.”

Marianne’s expression softened, returning to her kind and gentle demeanor. “Then let’s continue our journey.”

After a brief pause, the group resumed their journey towards the boarding location.

What was different from before was that Ji Chen now had an elven girl with him, following him closely like a child, never leaving his side.

Ji Chen couldn’t help but feel a bit amazed by the turn of events. He had set out to rescue an elf on the way and ended up adding her to his team.

It happened so suddenly, catching him somewhat off guard.

Furthermore, she was a Red Legacy Tier hero, with the potential even to become an Epic-level hero.

Elisya's potential was undeniable, but Ji Chen had no intention of forcing her to become a warrior or anything else. Whether she wanted to pursue ancient battles or take a different path, it was entirely up to her.

Unlike Ji Chen, whose mind was filled with various thoughts, Elisya was ecstatic. She bounced and skipped along, following behind him like an inquisitive child, eagerly surveying her surroundings. When she saw the Kraken, she didn't show any fear; instead, her eyes widened with curiosity.

The reactions of the other elves were quite dramatic.

They only heard that Ji Chen had defeated a powerful sea beast, but they hadn't heard that the sea beast would be so massive, floating on the water's surface like an intimidating iceberg.

"Chirp!! (Master, you're back!? I've been impatiently waiting!)"

"Have you kept an eye on those warships?"

"Chirp- (Of course, with me, Kraken, around, they are all behaving obediently.)"

Indeed, the two fleets of the Bass Kingdom were behaving obediently. No matter what they did, they couldn't escape from under the watchful eye of such a colossal sea monster. It was better to stay put and might even safely make it back home.

Even though the elves traveled over a hundred kilometers and were already quite exhausted, they couldn't contain their excitement when they saw these warships. Without hesitation, they began boarding.

Amidst the enthusiastic looks of the elves, and with dozens of warships transporting thousands of them, Kraken, following Ji Chen's lead, gradually created a rift in space wide enough for the warships to traverse..

Chapter 556: The Battle of Eiben Fortress

At this moment, the fleet soldiers who remained in control of the warships came into play. Under Ji Chen's coercion and threat, they obediently began to manipulate the warships.

One by one, warships carrying elves gradually sailed into the rift.

A burst of white light flashed, and suddenly, a warm sea breeze blew in front of them. Unlike the ice-blue sea of the frozen wilderness, what appeared before the elves was a deep blue ocean. Clouds lazily floated in the sky, creating a peaceful scene.

Fish leaped out of the sea and then splashed back in, whales spouted water columns, and rainbows appeared in their wake.

Marianne looked at this scene with excitement, her eyes filled with tears.

After so many years, they finally arrived at the main world they had longed for day and night!

Ji Chen stood on the bow of the ship, and as soon as he left the frozen wilderness and arrived in this vast ocean, he could feel a powerful force rapidly gathering.

The ocean was responding to his return, and the gentle sea breeze seemed to carry a sense of joy.

His spiritual tentacles extended far and wide, sensing the undulating waves of the sea, the ripples caused by the movement of marine life as if everything were under his control.

A joyful expression appeared on Ji Chen's face, and he couldn't help but shout loudly.

As if in response to him, the sea suddenly raised waves tens of meters high, and numerous water columns shot into the sky. Even the unintelligent marine creatures all came towards this direction, floating on the surface of the water as if in submission.

Was this the power of the ocean?

At this moment, his power was not just the strength within his body; he also had the assistance of the ocean. Even in battle, the ocean would help him.

As long as he was in the ocean, his strength and injuries would recover rapidly, and the power of his spells would also be enhanced. Compared to before, his strength had increased several times over.

The elves looked at Ji Chen, who seemed to have triggered a response from the ocean, and a look of astonishment appeared in their eyes.

Marianne couldn't help but show a gratified expression. With Ji Chen so powerful, Elisya would probably be safer with him, and maybe he could even tap into her full potential.

Looking back, this journey had been quite fruitful.

Not only had his main profession been promoted to the epic tier, but he also absorbed the power of the ocean. This kind of growth had brought his personal strength to a whole new peak.

Furthermore, he obtained a bottle of extremely precious Water of Life. This rare liquid from the outside world possessed incredibly potent effects and could be considered priceless.

Then there was the taming of the North Sea giant, Kraken. With the addition of this epic-tier oceanic monster, the Ocean Crown's dominance in the sea was further solidified. Ji Chen couldn't imagine any enemy that could kill this hundred-meter-high, extraordinarily robust, and highly regenerative sea monster when coordinated with the various units of the Ocean Crown.

Lastly, there was the unexpected delight of Elisya. Her potential was beyond question, and if she were willing to fight, she would also become a pillar of the Ocean Crown. Her epic-tier potential was proof enough of her capabilities.

After months of hard work, Ji Chen's current strength had reached a level where he unknowingly gained the capital to climb to the pinnacle of this world.

Since his profession had already reached the epic tier, his next major goal was to raise his level to its peak. Only then would he truly possess the ability to change the course of events and protect his territory.

Ji Chen snapped out of his myriad thoughts.

Seeing that all the warships and Kraken had emerged from the spatial rift, he didn't waste any more time.

With a sweeping gesture, he exclaimed loudly, "Forward to our destination, Kaiserven City in the Kingdom of Bass!"

With this command, the fleet began to accelerate towards their destination.

Before delivering the elves of Vale to the Maple Principality, Ji Chen needed to thoroughly resolve the conflict between the Kingdom of Bass and the Lienhardt Grand Duchy.

When Ji Chen entered the frozen wilderness, the Lienhardt army had already successfully collaborated with and received assistance from the Wasteland Guild and the Jungle Guild. They launched an attack, broke through the city gates, and successfully captured the city of Ilkand.

This second-largest city of the Kingdom of Bass and the massive supply center had now fallen into Lienhardt's hands. This indicated that the Kingdom of Bass had completely lost its chance for a counterattack. The Lienhardt army, with abundant supplies, was in high spirits and had extremely high morale.

According to the latest reports, the Kingdom of Bass was now under siege by the three nations and had lost control of more than half of its territory. Only the capital city, Kaiserven City, and its surrounding areas were still putting up resistance, with over four hundred thousand soldiers stationed there.

These three hundred thousand soldiers of the Kingdom of Bass were equipped with the most advanced weapons provided by the Deceiver, and their combat strength was formidable and astonishing. Together with the armies supported by the Deceiver, they stopped the advances of the three nations several times.

Kaiserven City stood on the river delta where the Kingdom of Bass' mother river, the Kaiserven River, and the largest river, the Eiben River, converged. The Eiben River allowed them to sail upstream and reach the outskirts of Kaiserven City.

Therefore, regarding this important river, the Kingdom of Bass wisely chose to consolidate its defenses. They called back the remaining five fleets and mobilized two hundred thousand troops. They relied on a large number of coastal defense cannons to block the river's entrance, preventing the Lienhardt fleet from sailing up the Eiben River directly to the city.

In the vicinity of the mouth of the Eiben River, both sides were engaged in extremely intense and brutal battles.

On a high ground more than ten kilometers away from the river mouth, Wang Shanyue watched the distant battlefield where the thunderous sounds and billowing smoke filled the air. His expression was extremely solemn..

Chapter 557: The Battle of Eiben Fortress (2)

In the past two days, the Shanyue guild deployed over a million troops, in coordination with more than ten thousand Lienhardt troops, to attack the Eiben Fortress located at the mouth of the Eiben River.

However, this fortress was heavily fortified, equipped with numerous large-caliber cannons, and relied on an extremely robust defense system to firmly withstand their assault.

Like a meat grinder, of the initial million troops deployed, now there were less than four hundred thousand remaining. If we added the troops from other guilds, it was likely that the losses in front of the fortress had already exceeded a million player troops.

Even Lienhardt himself had lost around thirty to forty thousand soldiers there.

The determination of the Kingdom of Bass to defend the Eiben Fortress far surpassed everyone's expectations.

"Did your King Kong Island Guild make any progress?"

Wang Shanyue shook his head with a headache, looking at I_Love_Black_Socks beside him.

The King Kong Island Guild was based on overseas islands, so it naturally nurtured many maritime units as part of its forces. Various types of maritime and amphibious units made up four-fifths of the guild's unit count, and they excelled in battles on both the sea and rivers.

I_Love_Black_Socks shook her head. "The Kingdom of Bass has filled the sea with mines and alchemical bombs at the mouth of the river. The connecting water gates are very sturdy, and there's also a contingent of high-level aquatic units numbering around five thousand guarding the area. Coupled with coastal artillery suppression, it's difficult for us to launch an underwater assault.

All, if only Big Boss Islander were here; he could definitely wipe out those soldiers."

Wang Shanyue stayed quiet. They began their expedition from Feiguang City together, but once Ji Chen delved deep into the ocean to find the two missing fleets, he never came back.

However, he didn't think that Ji Chen's presence would make a qualitative difference in the current situation.

The scale of this war had already reached the level of several million. Tens of thousands of troops might have perished in just half an hour. In such a massive war of head-on confrontation, thousands of troops thrown into the fray would barely make a ripple.

That's also why, as time passed, solo players were gradually decreasing, and player organizations like guilds and alliances were on the rise.

Even if solo players were well-developed, they would have at most ten thousand troops, while player organizations could easily muster tens of thousands, hundreds of thousands, or even millions of troops. Individual strength was simply too weak in comparison.

Unless that individual's power had reached a level where they could contend with thousands of troops.

Watching I_Love_Black_Socks' fangirl expression, Wang Shanyue felt that he shouldn't say much more on this topic to avoid any tension.

He sighed and said, "Regardless of whether Ji Chen comes or not, we must break through the Eiben Fortress. Otherwise, we won't obtain any loot or Lienhardt's reward, and the losses we've suffered with the troops will be irreparable."

Even though he held the prestigious position of a guild leader, he had a duty to his guild members. If they invested so much but didn't see adequate returns, it would not only dampen morale but also harm his reputation.

His expression turned resolute.

“I will deploy another five hundred thousand troops to assist in drawing their fire. Once you, the King Kong Island, launch another attack, make sure to break through the Eiben Fortress’s water gate.

Internal defenses are often easier to breach than external ones. Once you breach it, I will immediately send in the remaining troops to help you finish the job!”

I_Love_Black_Sockings nodded and instructed the Kobold strategist beside him.

“After noon, deploy a hundred thousand aquatic forces to launch an assault on the fortress’ water gate defenses.”

“Yes!”

Just after noon, a new round of attacks began.

The Shanyue Guild dispatched five hundred thousand troops, collaborating with Lienhardt’s fifty thousand troops to launch another assault. On the other side, the King Kong Island Guild also sent a hundred thousand aquatic troops, quietly arriving at the estuary via the water route and heading towards the fortress’s canal gate.

The cannons roared, arrows flew like locusts, and death spread and flourished freely on this land, where life became the cheapest commodity. Soldiers fell every moment and every second.

However, what disappointed them was that the Eiben Fortress stood as solid as a mountain in front of them. No matter how many troops they poured in, it remained unyielding. The King Kong Island Guild’s attack was also blocked. The defenders of the Eiben Fortress seemed determined to hold on, directly sealing off the water gate, completely collapsing the passage for entry. The King Kong Island Guild’s aquatic troops could only watch as the passage crumbled before their eyes, feeling helpless.

In desperation, Lienhardt’s army chose to sound the retreat, temporarily stopping their advance.

The soldiers retreated like a tide, leaving behind a sea of corpses.

Wang Shanyue and I_Love_Black_Sockings felt immensely disappointed seeing this scene, but they could only order their troops to retreat along with them.

Witnessing their successful repulsion of the enemy’s attack once again, the morale of the Eiben Fortress defenders soared, their spirits high. They even let out coarse taunts, filling Lienhardt’s soldiers with a sense of anger.

Wang Shanyue didn’t have much of a reaction; he just sighed and said, “It looks like we won’t be launching another attack today. Let’s withdraw our troops for now.”

Wang Shanyue was about to leave when he noticed I_Love_Black_Sockings standing still, her face filled with surprise.

“Big Boss Ji Chen is here; he wants us to coordinate with him for an attack on the Eiben Fortress!”

Wang Shanyue was puzzled and asked, “How many troops did Brother Ji Chen bring with him?”

“Um... it seems like he's the only one.”

Wang Shanyue couldn't help but smile bitterly and said, “Without Lienhardt's artillery cover, even if we want to get close, we'll have to endure significant casualties, not to mention other factors. And if the reinforcements really consist of only Brother Ji Chen, it's impossible to break through the Eiben Fortress.”

Warfare was not a matter of personal will, nor could it be influenced by one person alone. This was the lesson Wang Shanyue learned over the past few months.

I_Love_Black_Sockings also realized this, but there was only a moment of hesitation before her eyes became determined.

She gritted her teeth and said, “I believe in Big Boss Ji Chen. He won't do something without confidence.

All King Kong Island troops, prepare for an attack at any moment!”

Wang Shanyue found himself at a loss for words. As he gazed at I_Love_Black_Sockings' resolute determination, memories of rumors surfaced. These rumors had been shared by a noble from the Lienhardt Grand Duchy, suggesting that Ji Chen had once bravely fended off an army of a hundred thousand from the Bass Kingdom when war broke out.

He always thought the rumor was partly true at best. If Ji Chen had played some role in helping Feiguang City repel a hundred thousand troops, that claim might have some validity.

But to single-handedly repel them? That seemed a bit far-fetched. A hundred thousand troops were not a hundred thousand pigs. How could one person possibly repel them?

Was this some kind of joke from another world!?

At this moment, seeing I_Love_Black_Sockings unconditionally trust Ji Chen, Wang Shanyue couldn't help but ask in confusion, “Why do you trust Brother Ji Chen?”

I_Love_Black_Sockings looked distant, as if recalling some profound memory, and slowly said, “I once witnessed Big Boss Ji Chen in action. He merely waved his hand lightly, summoning a huge wave that surged over like a tidal wave, instantly engulfing the enemy and saving me.

I can say that without Big Boss Ji Chen's help and continued support, I would never have reached the position I am in today. He has done me a great favor, and I cannot ignore it.

But there's one thing you must believe: some people are naturally suited to this world, able to reach heights that others cannot in a short period of time, leaving everyone else far behind. Big Boss Ji Chen is one of those people.”

Wang Shanyue felt a bit resentful. He had built the Shanyue Guild with his own hands in just a few months, developing it into such a large guild with hundreds of thousands of troops. Naturally, he had some pride in his heart.

However, he didn't show any of it on his face and had no intention of sending more troops to their deaths.

At this moment, a member of the Shanyue Guild hurriedly ran over and said urgently, "Guild Leader, there's a message from Lienhardt's army. They want us to prepare our troops and wait for their attack."

Wang Shanyue furrowed his brow and said, "Didn't we just withdraw our troops? Why are they suddenly launching another attack?"

"I'm not entirely sure," replied the messenger. "I heard it's an order from Monica and the commander of Lienhardt's army. It seems to be in coordination with someone named Ji Chen. Wait a minute, that name sounds somewhat familiar..."

"Ji Chen?"

Wang Shanyue was left in a state of bewilderment, unable to comprehend how this individual had gained such trust, even from the Lienhardt Grand Duchy.

Could it be that Monica, the daughter of the Grand Duke, was really romantically involved with him?!

Chapter 559: Catastrophic Waves, the Power of the Kraken (2)

Translator: Dragon Boat Translation Editor: Dragon Boat Translation

In their eyes, excitement gleamed, and they shouted loudly, "Lienhardt will win!"

The sky was filled with rolling dark clouds, and lightning serpents crackled, creating a stifling atmosphere that hung over the land. The air felt suffocating.

Finally, rain began to pour from the sky in torrents. The raindrops were as big as beans, seemingly intent on crushing anyone beneath them without mercy. Powerful sea winds howled in from the depths of the ocean, chilling them to the bone.

Monica watched this scene, her expression devoid of joy or sorrow, and she timed her command precisely.

"Attack!"

The drummers swung their arms in unison, and the war drums resounded.

This sound seemed to ignite the flames in the hearts of countless soldiers, driving away the cold brought by the rain and wind.

The long, melodious horn signal served as the cue for the assault. Over ten thousand troops began to march, brandishing their weapons high as they advanced towards the towering fortress.

The defenders on the walls of the Eiben Fortress saw the densely packed army approaching under the pouring rain, their weapons and armor glinting ominously. The heavy footsteps sounded as if they were echoing in their hearts, stirring a hint of fear.

"Do not be afraid! Eiben Fortress is unbreakable. As long as you swing your weapons, you can slay the enemy beneath the walls!

For those who hesitate or retreat, there will be no mercy!"

The officers of the Bass Kingdom raised their weapons high and shouted, boosting the morale of the soldiers.

However, at this moment, they suddenly heard a strange sound, one that the mighty rain couldn't mask.

Some soldiers cried out in fear.

“Look over there, a tsunami!!!”

A tsunami?

The officers of the Bass Kingdom turned their gaze towards the sea, and their pupils shrank to their limits.

At the distant horizon of the ocean, beneath the gloomy sky, a terrifying wave, almost seven to eight meters high and several kilometers wide, resembling a natural disaster, surged towards the Eiben Fortress.

The thunderous sound of the rolling waves grew even louder, completely drowning out the rain and the orderly footsteps of the enemy, becoming the only sound in this world.

Both Lienhardt's side and the defenders of Eiben Fortress were left stunned.

Soon, the former reacted with fear and began to flee.

However, this immense wave was unstoppable, and there was no way to evade it.

Boom!

The gigantic wave rushed forward, crashing heavily into the fortress.

The section of the wall closest to the sea was instantly demolished by this terrifying force, taking the soldiers on it along. Then, due to a brief obstruction, the surging seawater poured into most of the fortress from above like water from the sky.

The alchemical cannons, defensive machinery, soldiers, flags, and watchtowers placed on top were all swallowed by the waves.

Before the soldiers from Lienhardt's side could regain their composure, two more enormous waves attacked the Eiben Fortress successively, one after the other.

When the calm finally returned, this fortress that stood on the eastern bank of the Eiben River, with its tall and sturdy walls and numerous defensive structures, had been submerged in a sea of water and lay in ruins.

The guild leaders of Zunong, Wang Shanyue, and others stared in disbelief as if they had witnessed something unbelievable.

Only I_Love_Black_Socks displayed a heavy look of surprise on his face.

“This is Big Boss Ji Chen's signature skill. He showcased it on King Kong Island before, although it wasn't this terrifying...”

“This is Ji Chen's doing!?”

The group of people exchanged shocked and unbelieving glances.

It couldn't be, it was absolutely impossible!

Such a natural disaster tsunami, only gods could do it, right!?

How could a player possibly possess such terrifying power?

Monica stood on high ground, her expression also filled with shock. This was her first time witnessing Ji Chen personally take action, far exceeding her imagination.

In her heart, she felt extremely fortunate.

She felt lucky to have formed a strong friendship and connection with Ji Chen before he became one of the most powerful figures in the world. The effort she put into building that relationship was now paying off immensely.

After witnessing this scene, she had no doubt that Ji Chen could grow into the world's top powerhouse, reigning over a vast land.

And their Lienhardt Grand Duchy would receive his friendly treatment and even his protection.

This was their greatest gain!

After a brief moment of shock, Monica's face lit up with joy, and she shouted loudly, "Attack! Seize the opportunity to take down Eiben Fortress!"

In reality, the three waves had completely shattered Eiben Fortress's defenses, even the city gates were torn apart by the violent onslaught of the waves. More than half of the fortress was submerged in water.

Perhaps it was a coincidence, but after the waves passed, the rain and wind gradually subsided.

They effortlessly entered the fortress, and upon seeing the dire situation inside Eiben Fortress, they couldn't help but frown and shake their heads.

Within this vast fortress, there were still some surviving defenders. However, without exception, their faces were pale, and they lacked any will to resist, to the point where they even showed joyful expressions when they saw Lienhardt's soldiers and willingly surrendered.

Perhaps sensing that something unusual had occurred here, a fleet from the Bass Kingdom sailed upstream on the Eiben River, attempting to use artillery fire to drive away Lienhardt's invading soldiers from the fortress.

But before they could approach, a massive serrated tentacle emerged from the river and slammed heavily onto one of the warships, instantly causing an explosion.

Swoosh

A gigantic octopus, seemingly only existing in legends, revealed its enormous body from the river, with water flowing down from its head, forming cascades like waterfalls..

Chapter 560: Catastrophic Waves, the Power of the Kraken (3)

A figure seemed to stand atop his head.

As soon as it appeared on the surface, the giant octopus immediately waved its tentacles, wrapping around the nearest escort ship and pulling it into the river, as if trying to sink it.

Seeing this, other warships opened fire, causing bursts of blood mist on the giant octopus.

Squawk—

The Kraken looked at these ants daring to attack it and roared angrily. It activated its bloodline power, and its wounds quickly healed. Its thick tentacles, like tree trunks, lifted and smashed down one after another, breaking the masts of the ships, bending and snapping the cannons, and sending the soldiers on board tumbling into the water like dumplings.

With such close proximity, this fleet had no resistance at all. Each ship was either submerged into the river by the tentacles or capsized on the water's surface.

In just over ten minutes, the entire fleet was sunk by the Kraken, and the river was littered with steel wreckage and struggling soldiers from the Kingdom of Bass.

Seeing this scene, the Kraken proudly cried out, finally venting the pent-up frustration it had accumulated from the previous beating and forced servitude contract.

Its tentacles struck the water surface, creating splashes dozens of meters high and pulling many escaping Bass soldiers into the water.

“Take me ashore.”

The human on top of its head spoke softly, and the Kraken immediately stopped, obediently coming to the shore and lowering its head.

Ji Chen jumped down from above, looking at I_Love_Black_Socks and the others, who were running towards them.

I_Love_Black_Socks appeared very excited and thrilled, “Big Boss Ji Chen, you’re amazing!!!

That trio of giant waves just wiped out this crappy fortress. I was almost moved to tears...”

Listening to I_Love_Black_Socks’ exaggerated words, Ji Chen’s expression became somewhat subtle. “Did this fortress hold you back for a long time?”

“Yeah, it’s been several days. If it weren’t for you, we wouldn’t know how much longer it would have taken.”

Zunong also said excitedly, “Brother Shanyue suffered a big loss in front of this fortress, and many troops died. It was really tragic.”

Wang Shanyue’s face darkened instantly. You little brat, why mention my loss in front of everyone?

He coughed lightly.

“Brother Ji Chen, what have you been up to these past few days? Why do you seem to have changed so much?”

Only now did everyone focus their attention and realize that Ji Chen seemed much more handsome. His hair appeared to have a strand of blue, and his overall demeanor had undergone a significant change, as deep and vast as the ocean, arousing a sense of awe.

Ji Chen smiled faintly. This was probably the side effect of absorbing the Crown of the Ocean. He could feel that after absorption, his body had undergone a tremendous change. His physical abilities greatly improved, and he felt extremely relaxed. It was as if he had boundless energy and strength within him, somewhat resembling the concept of “breaking marrow and washing the muscles” in martial arts novels.

The exquisite aspects of this experience were not something to be shared with outsiders.

“Let’s not dwell on this for now. Eiben Fortress has been captured, and the Kingdom of Bass has lost yet another fleet to the Kraken. The power of Kaiserven City has weakened significantly. The immediate task is to besiege Kaiserven City and launch the final assault as soon as possible.”

“The Kingdom of Bass has only five fleets left? Big Boss, are you saying...”

Ji Chen said matter-of-factly, “The two Bass Kingdom fleets that ventured far into the open sea have been captured by me and are currently anchored in the outer sea.”

Everyone was speechless.

But that was quite normal. They looked at the giant octopus on the river, which was as massive as a mountain.

With such a creature around, those warships were essentially just toys.

However, they were also eager for action. This long-lasting war was about to enter its final act.

They were actively participating in this war, and as long as they took down this last city, it would be time to reap the rewards.

Thinking about the immense benefits they could gain after capturing an entire kingdom, I_Love_Black_Socks and the others were filled with excitement..