

## Wow 911

Chapter 911: The army that led to the loss of the nation

Although the venue had changed, the second match was eerily similar to the first match in terms of flow.

In the Blood Cry Empire's side, apart from a mech pilot operating an all-around Mecha who gave Catherine a slight inconvenience during the team battle, the victory was identical to the one against the Thunder Dragon Empire.

It didn't even reach a point where Bai E had to step in.

Yet such a bizarre victory only amplified the unease lingering in Catherine's heart.

Still nothing...

The Blood Cry Empire's legendary mechanic remained absent.

That individual who had caused her some minor trouble was merely slightly stronger than Victor. Given time, he would likely become a formidable legendary mechanic.

But not now.

Where had their legendary mechanic gone?

Competing in the tournament, isolated from outside intel, she was filled with restless frustration.

If she were outside, amidst such strange developments, she would undoubtedly be able to detect clues.

What... had gone wrong?

Yet, even with this mounting unease, the matches continued.

After facing the Thunder Dragon and Blood Cry Empires, the subsequent rounds of opponents proved even less noteworthy.

The Bauhinia Republic, long oppressed and ridiculed by nations within the Peak Alliance in this Stellar District, miraculously demolished all their opponents and cruised effortlessly into the final match.

Their ultimate adversary, unsurprisingly, was the Thousand Stars Commerce Alliance—the last of the Peak Alliance's three major powers.

"Holy crap! We've made it to the finals!"

"Our mech pilots are insane!"

"Championship! Championship!"

But amid the nation-wide jubilation on Bauhinia's online platforms, a single staggering announcement emerged from the highest echelon of the country—an announcement no one dared to believe:

"Effective immediately, the Bauhinia Republic will formally change its name to the Bauhinia Trade Zone, under the management of the Peak Alliance."

"..."

When the announcement was broadcast nationwide, the entire internet fell into a deathly silence.

After quite a while, someone finally spoke up.

"Haha~ Is this some kind of April Fools' joke?"

"Trying to stir things up, huh?"

"The official media released it... They even uploaded the handover footage. Still stirring things up?"

"Haha! Just an official prank, that's all."

"Quit screwing around! We freaking lost our country! F\*ck!"

After successfully completing the handover ceremony and stepping down, the Peak Alliance's head cheerfully patted the Bauhinia Republic's former leader on the shoulder. "This should've been done earlier. From now on, you'll be our third-in-command at the Summit!"

The former Bauhinia leader's resolute, square-shaped face showed a strained smile, though his gaze repeatedly darted towards the screen hanging in the corner...

On the screen, the preparatory phase for the Stellar District League's final match was being broadcast.

'Catherine...'

The leader inwardly sighed.

His most trusted lieutenant was still out there fighting for national glory, yet behind her, the country... had already ceased to exist.

Bauhinia's freedom was but an illusion; on so many levels, they had been all but ostracized and battered into submission by nearly every nation in the Stellar District.

The domestic stability was already the last line of effort from these leaders.

If... If that shard of divinity had appeared just a little earlier, perhaps they could've turned the tables.

But now, it was too late.

Everything had come too late.

The leader closed his eyes, a tear silently sliding down the corner of his eye...

And it wasn't just him. All who truly realized their nation's demise now looked upon the live-streamed tournament stage with sorrowful expressions.

The warriors fighting for their country were still shedding blood on the battlefield, yet the nation supporting them from behind had already vanished.

Was there anyone left who truly cared about the outcome of this battle?

A victory? A defeat? How much did it even matter to the future now named the Bauhinia Trade Zone?

Bauhinia... has perished.

Utterly unaware of the situation outside, the tournament team was busy preparing for the final match.

"The last match! Everyone, let's go!"

"We'll definitely win!"

The string of victories had given confidence to these previously hesitant team members.

In their minds, the Thousand Stars Commerce Alliance was on par with the Thunder Dragon and Blood Cry Empires. If they could defeat those two, they could surely defeat the Thousand Stars Commerce Alliance as well.

"I'll take the lead in the first round!" Victor's slightly boyish face brimmed with excited anticipation.  
"This time, it's a plain terrain—just charge straight in!"

The closer they came to the final challenge, the heavier Catherine's unease grew. Yet, she still approved Victor's request for battle.

After all, the team lacked other viable options. Entering into the realm of legendary mechanics or near-legendary ones, only Catherine, Bai E, and Victor in the team still had the strength for combat.

The other members had already gained substantial tempering through previous matches. If this final challenge was truly as Catherine feared, then perhaps this round's outcome no longer mattered to them whatsoever.

Under the watchful eyes of countless spectators, whether despairing or simply seeking entertainment, the warrior representing Bauhinia entered the row of towering mechas clad in protective gear.

Round 1: The All-around Singer versus the All-around Tōgen.

The Thousand Stars Commerce Alliance boasted Mechas of dazzling design, with unmatched material investment.

Among mass-production models, their Mechas were especially dominant in performance.

Thus, even if their two legendary mechanics were slightly inferior in skill compared to the Thunder Dragon and Blood Cry Empires' legendary mechanics, the combat abilities displayed were nearly equivalent.

Facing the unknown opponent inside the pristine white Mecha adorned with fiery crimson emblems, Victor charged forward without hesitation.

The towering Mecha swept across grasslands taller than the average person, and in the blink of an eye, the two Mechas closed in on one another.

"Clang, clang, clang, clang, clang!"

The flashing blades intertwined, accompanied by the close-range blasts from the accompanying Mecha-mounted cannons.

Coordinated attacks between short-range and long-range weaponry—a pinnacle of violent modern battlefield aesthetics.

Yet this battle didn't replicate Victor's usual standoffish encounters even when facing superior opponents. Within mere moments of engagement, his Singer Mecha was struck hard in the torso by a slash, followed by a brute-force kick that sent his Mecha crashing backward heavily.

"Rat-tat-tat-tat!"

Heavy artillery pounded Victor's Mecha in the face as the enemy stomped on its chest, mangling its faceplate into scrap metal.

The opponent let out a cold laugh, his voice echoing out from the Mecha's loudspeaker. "Hmph! A defeated nation's warriors..."

Chapter 912: dominates!

This was Victor's most humiliating loss since he started participating in the competition.

He hardly had any chance to fight back. In just one encounter, he was subdued by the opponent.

One must realize that he was already one of the top pilots under the rank of Legendary Mechanic, meticulous in character and undefeatable in normal scenarios. To overwhelm him to such an extent speaks volumes about the opponent's strength.

From the rear drop pods, the members of the Bauhinia Squad watched the scene unfold before their very eyes, their mouths agape in shock.

After some time, someone finally murmured softly, "Legendary... Mechanic."

All the way to the finals, even without any external references, they knew exactly who their final opponent would be—

None other than the last giant among the Peak Alliance's three major powers: the Thousand Stars Commerce Alliance.

Facing the first two giants, they hadn't encountered any Legendary Mechanic.

But no one expected this sort of luck to continue until the end of the tournament.

Furthermore, the Thousand Stars Commerce Alliance was known to have two Legendary Mechanics. Even if one of them were to experience unforeseen circumstances, it was unlikely both would simultaneously encounter issues.

Therefore, the chances of encountering a Legendary Mechanic in the final match were one hundred percent certain.

Everyone was prepared.

But no one anticipated their Legendary Mechanic to appear so quickly on the battlefield.

Legendary Mechanics were not something you'd casually come across; they were strategic trump cards meant to decisively secure victory.

Their entry into the tournament had to have layered tactical significance to ensure the final win, as was evident in the Bauhinia team's own approach.

Even Catherine, who had Bai E and herself as two Legendary Mechanics, understood the importance of timing their appearances to align with the competition's rules and accumulate enough points for victory.

But for the Thousand Stars Commerce Alliance to just casually deploy a Legendary Mechanic like this... were they not playing to win?

While everyone was stunned, Victor—though relatively unharmed—had already been brought back by the official rescue team.

These pilots, representing Bauhinia, could be considered the core talents of the Bauhinia Republic in the past. Now that Bauhinia had officially become a part of the Peak Alliance, its talent pool belonged to the alliance as a whole. Suppressing their fighting spirit might be acceptable, but destroying lives was unnecessary.

Upon seeing Victor's return, the entire squad immediately showed concern.

"How are you?"

"Was the opponent a Legendary Mechanic?"

While everyone speculated, only Victor's firsthand experience could confirm their doubts.

After all, they couldn't rule out the possibility that Victor may have simply been careless.

However, in response to his teammates' concerned inquiries, Victor stared blankly, muttering dazedly, "Defeated nation's army... Defeated nation's army..."

He was certain he had not misheard.

Who was the "Defeated nation's army"?

Their team?

They were fighting for their nation—how could they possibly be referred to as the "Defeated nation's army"?

But their opponent was a Legendary Mechanic, and words from such an individual were generally not spoken without meaning.

As a Legendary Mechanic, their credibility held weight in the eyes of ordinary pilots.

Victor's murmurs were difficult to catch, yet his defeated demeanor was glaringly apparent.

This could not help but provoke further guesses.

"Could it really not be a Legendary Mechanic?"

Being defeated by a Legendary Mechanic was normal. But given Victor's current state of disbelief, the opponent might have been someone else entirely.

Confirming the opponent's strength was crucial for adapting their tactics in the upcoming battles.

"No! It was a Legendary Mechanic." Victor's voice now rang with resolute certainty as he raised his head, his dazed expression replaced with a firm conviction.

No matter what had been said earlier, it was irrelevant to him.

Securing victory in the final match for Bauhinia was now the only goal that consumed his mind.

Having figured this out, Victor's eyes burned with intensity as he looked toward Catherine. "Captain, the opponent has already deployed a Legendary Mechanic, and each one is allowed to participate in only two matches. They'll struggle to score points later."

Normally, with two Legendary Mechanics, one would participate in the two-person match and the other in the three-person match, followed by both joining the five-person match. This arrangement maximized scoring potential, allowing a team to defeat its opponent.

But now, with the opponent using up a Legendary Mechanic in the solo match, the subsequent team battles would become significantly easier.

However, Catherine remained noncommittal, simply lifting her delicate chin toward another warrior. "You're up next."

The warrior eagerly bowed in acceptance. "Understood!"

Defeating the three giants of the Peak Alliance to reach the top would surely earn enough prestige in this Stellar District.

Once out of here, who would dare criticize Bauhinia even slightly!?

With such a bright future playing out in his imagination, the warrior strode purposefully forward, selected his preferred Omnipotent Mecha, and entered the battlefield.

As the others watched him walk toward the arena, Catherine remained silent, devoid of excessive joy.

The eerie unease felt during their previous confrontations against the Thunder Dragon Empire and Blood Cry Empire finally gained some clarity as they opposed the Thousand Stars Commerce Alliance now...

Could it be that their team didn't just comprise two Legendary Mechanics?

Across the boundless green plains, blades of grass swaying in waves revealed—through tracking cameras monitoring their nation's competitor—the silhouette of a mecha advancing steadily toward battle.

As she caught sight of that calm and deliberate figure, Catherine narrowed her eyes.

With both mechas edging closer, the view switched to an aerial perspective, offering a simultaneous glimpse of the pair.

There was no room for idle chatter as the two opponents faced each other.

One swift maneuver... the mecha jerked to a halt.

The towering Singer Mecha froze in place while its opponent had already turned back toward their own preparation zone, not sparing even a glance behind.

Moments later, the Singer Mecha split down the center of its body.

Under its smooth, diagonally sliced surface, the upper half slid downward.

Finally, it crashed heavily into the ground!

Instant kill!

This was the inevitable outcome when average pilots faced Legendary Mechanics.

The Bauhinia team members were filled with a mix of shock and joy.

Shock at the opponent deploying two Legendary Mechanics straight away to secure victory in the earlier battles.

Joy at the realization that the opponent's only two Legendary Mechanics were now accounted for, leaving the rest of the tournament entirely in Bauhinia's favor.

With this thought, one of the teammates stood up in excitement.

"I'll take the next match!"

Among the remaining ordinary members, he was the strongest.

Yet the outcome remained unchanged...

The warrior who stepped up was instantaneously defeated once again.

This match's result finally shattered the slim shred of hope remaining within the Bauhinia Battle Team.

All the anomalies from previous rounds converged in their minds, and the truth dawned upon them—

The opponent had more than two Legendary Mechanics!

Chapter 913: fights against two?

This kind of unrestrained move—it's clear the other side's number of legendary mechanics is overwhelming.

The earlier odd occurrences have finally been confirmed at this moment. Catherine's face turned slightly pale, seemingly understanding what had happened.

'All the legendary mechanics have been concentrated in the Thousand Stars Commerce Alliance!'

Nobody knew why such a sudden shift occurred, but the fact was—it happened.

At least four legendary mechanics—given the other side's wanton attitude, it might even be five... six.

"They're planning to directly end us." Catherine's expression darkened as she turned her gaze toward Bai E.

When you possess enough legendary mechanics, your options become exponentially wider.

For example... simply securing five victories in singles matches and one victory in a three-person match would directly eliminate the Bauhinia team.

While the final five-person team match provided the most points, it wouldn't even come into play.

Their strategy was blatantly obvious.

Even knowing Bauhinia's team had two legendary mechanics, the opposing side merely needed to forego the riskier two-person team match and clinch five singles matches along with one three-person victory to secure an unshakable seven points.

The remaining two points in the doubles match combined with four points from the final team match wouldn't matter for the overall outcome.

To break this deadlock, they would need to claim at least one critical point in the singles matches.

But given the current lineup brimming with legendary mechanics, winning just one point would require either Bai E or Catherine to step into the fray.

"We have to act now."

Catherine furrowed her brows tightly.

In the two remaining singles matches, they must secure at least one victory to keep the competition alive.

Realistically speaking, even if they did, their chances in subsequent rounds were slim.

After all, each player could only compete twice.

Even with a singles victory, they would need to secure both the two-point match and the four-point match to win overall.

If Catherine participated in one singles round, it would mean she couldn't compete in the two-point or four-point matches later.

Bai E would then be forced to either face two opponents in the doubles match or five in the team match...

But before anything else, they had to ensure Catherine won her singles match—that was the only way forward.

This was hope...

Of course, the opposing side could deliberately be using such tactics to bait Catherine into using up her appearances prematurely.

But clearly, there was no room for gambling.

Catherine's eyes sharpened as she looked resolutely at Bai E. "The next match, I have to go up."

Bai E understood the gravity of the situation; he simply gave her a warm nod. "Go ahead."

Faced with such dire circumstances, no matter how tough the choices ahead were, they could only try their best.

Catherine entered the battlefield.

As the contestants stepped forward, the audience outside could already see who would represent each side.

The top brass in the Bauhinia Trade Zone, watching the team that once represented the Bauhinia Republic struggle in the arena, couldn't help but avert their gaze in sorrow.

The warriors on the field knew nothing about the downfall of their homeland. They fought only for victory.

Even while suspecting the opposing team likely included four to five legendary mechanics, they never gave up.

Catherine's participation now was to grasp that sole chance at survival.

'It's unwinnable...' The former lead of Bauhinia Republic, now the third-ranking member of the Peak Alliance, lowered his gaze in despair.

In the face of an era's sweeping tide, personal effort is but a flickering flame.

Bauhinia sustained its fight for decades with the combined effort of its people, yet it couldn't withstand the suppression and blockade imposed by the Stellar District.

The Bauhinia team fighting now... would likely meet the same fate.

After joining the Peak Alliance, he finally understood the caliber of this cosmic league—it was the very pinnacle of competition.

For fringe Stellar Districts like theirs, only the first place secured qualification.

Let alone second place having a chance—even with a salvaged stranger of a mech pilot paired with Catherine—their efforts in a universe-level league amounted to so little.

The support for Catherine's team to compete had always been about giving her one last stage to showcase her talents.

She deserved a better future, one not dragged down into the abyss alongside "Bauhinia."

"Clang! Clang! Clang! Clang!"

The sound of mecha clashing blared constantly from the live-stream feed.

Facing an opponent of equal skill, Catherine remained swift and forceful, controlling the tempo entirely.

Yet she also maintained composure, gradually pushing her opponent to the brink.

Everyone understood her dire circumstances—none more than Catherine herself.

Precisely because of this, her approach was steadier than ever.

In great matters, tranquility breeds clarity.

This was the legendary mechanic for whom all of Bauhinia could bask in pride.

"Hiss~"

Confronted by her opponent's final, desperate counterattack, Catherine's gaze remained frosty as she crushed the resistance completely.

"Boom! Boom! Boom! Boom!"

Almost an exact reenactment of Victor's defeat—her Singer Mecha stomped onto her opponent's chest, its gun locked against the mech's faceplate.

Under the fury of relentless fire, the charred mech fell silent.

Catherine turned away, her eyes cold and resolute.

The victory of this first match was merely a seed toward final triumph.

Having secured this win, the outcome of the last singles match barely held any significance for either team.

The fifth singles match—a battle between mechanics below legendary ranks—even with Bauhinia's mechanics giving their all, they failed to score another point.

The winner of the fifth singles match: Thousand Stars Commerce Alliance.

Current score, 4:1!

Confronting the upcoming first team match—a doubles match—Catherine gave Bai E a pleading look. "This one's on you."

Their side was limited to deploying one legendary mechanic, while the opponent faced no such restrictions.

A one-versus-two match was slightly more manageable than a one-versus-three.

Even if the opponent easily guessed Bauhinia's intentions, there wasn't any other choice.

With more legendary mechanics on their team, the opponents could dominate from a tactics standpoint.

Bai E smiled faintly. "No problem."

Glancing over at Victor, he asked, "You still good to fight?"

Victor froze for a moment before nodding sharply. "Of course!"

"Then come with me." Bai E smiled and turned to leave.

Watching the pair's retreating backs, the other team members in the drop pod stared blankly. "Can he... really pull it off?"

Chapter 914: Fire Support

After analyzing the situation, they all understood the critical importance of this doubles match to their team.

If they lost this match, it could essentially mean the end of their journey in the finals.

The unfamiliar man who had been shadowing Catherine all along had never truly taken action before. The few times he did participate, it was during the final five-person team battle, where he merely operated a long-range Sentinel Model Mecha rather passively.

His true abilities remained a mystery to everyone on the team.

Now, though, this doubles match was arguably the most crucial battle for their team, and yet this pivotal moment was entrusted to that stranger...

No matter what others might think, the facts are the facts.

"Captain..." At this critical juncture, a team member couldn't resist asking, "What... level is this pilot, really?"

"What level?" Catherine's gaze showed a hint of uncertainty. "I don't know either..."

Still, as she watched his back, Catherine's heart was filled with unwavering trust.

It was as though, in his presence, no obstacle could truly be considered an obstacle.

For a leader capable of propelling a civilization out of the depths of Barbaric Planet, this level of difficulty likely didn't count for much.

And so, under everyone's watchful gaze, this pilot—alien to the outside world—chose a somewhat controversial mecha type—

The Sentinel Model Mecha.

"He's insane?!"

"Why would he choose a Sentinel Model?"

"This isn't the Forest Sea Terrain!"

Without the natural geographical constraints to leverage, the Sentinel Model Mecha's effectiveness would be severely limited.

Of course, in a team battle, with teammates providing distractions, a Sentinel Model Mecha might have some value.

But that depended on both sides being evenly matched.

The current situation was clear enough: if the opposing team fielded two Legendary Mechanics, how could Victor single-handedly hold them off and create an opening for him?

Choosing a Sentinel Model Mecha in this scenario was almost equivalent to outright forfeiting the match.

It wasn't just his teammates who instantly lost hope; even the crowd outside erupted into boos.

The Thousand Stars Commerce Alliance, powerful and domineering as they were, could freely deploy multiple Legendary Mechanics as they pleased.

Bauhinia didn't have that privilege.

They had to give it their all.

Even spectators with no loyalty to Bauhinia couldn't help but wish for an evenly matched duel—or at least an intense, desperate struggle against all odds.

Anything but a blatant surrender.

"Don't bother watching."

"This is surrender? Typical behavior from a nation of the defeated."

"The kind of people produced by that kind of country... A group without the heart of warriors has no right to stand on such a sacred stage."

At this moment, the wave of public opinion was overwhelming.

Bai E was oblivious to it all. He simply comforted Victor over the team's voice communication: "Play as you like later, I'll have your back."

"Got it, bro!" Victor's face lit up with excitement.

This was the kind of combat style he loved!

"Play as you like"—what amazing words!

Catherine had it right; this guy was the ultimate badass.

As for exactly how he planned to dominate while controlling a Sentinel Model Mecha from behind to secure the final victory—well, that wasn't within Victor's realm of consideration.

He wasn't on their level; what was the point of understanding so much?

All that mattered was to fight with everything he had!

And so, under the scrutiny of all the spectators, this close-combat mech pilot from Bauhinia roared forward in his All-around Model Mecha, initiating a charge head-on.

The sight left everyone watching utterly dumbfounded.

'Is this guy an idiot or what...?'

'See? One clown, one brute. Bauhinia's team really does live up to its reputation.'

The two Legendary Mechanics from Thousand Stars Commerce Alliance exchanged astonished glances as they confronted the reckless charge.

"Are they mad?"

With a Sentinel and All-around Model Mecha combination, they should've leveraged the traps laid by the Sentinel Model Mecha in the battlefield environment and fought strategically. That might've given them a tiny edge.

What was the point of charging in recklessly like this?

The other Legendary Mechanic furrowed his brow, unwilling to waste thought on it. "Doesn't matter. Just take them down."

Although the plan deviated slightly, it didn't change their ultimate goal of completely defeating the opponents before the five-person team battle even began.

If, after deploying so many Legendary Mechanics, they still dragged the fight into the final decisive round, what respect could these Legendary Mechanics possibly retain?

"Alright." His teammate responded without hesitation, likewise uninterested in further speculation.

It wasn't their job to question the stupidity of the enemy.

The two spread out slightly, creating some distance as they encircled the lone All-around Model Mecha charging toward them.

According to intelligence, Catherine's team most likely had another Legendary Mechanic apart from her.

But if the two of them could swiftly kill one pilot first in their two-on-one ambush, even if the other pilot was also a Legendary Mechanic, it would be difficult for them to stand a chance against these two.

Not to mention, the other was piloting a Sentinel Model Mecha with no close-combat capabilities to defend itself.

As they drew closer to their prey, the two employed their unspoken coordination, their mecha's cannons clearing the way like blades. Victor was instantly overwhelmed, feeling as though attacks rained down from every direction.

He couldn't help but feel alarmed.

Although he had faced a Legendary Mechanic during his very first match, the skirmish had happened so fast he hadn't even had time to react.

Now, with a prepared mindset, he realized that Legendary Mechanics were far stronger than he had originally imagined.

Their attacks flowed like liquid mercury, leaving no room for evasion.

Although his mecha's shield could block the hits, the recoil and stiffness from absorbing kinetic energy would surely trap him in a difficult position unable to dodge the subsequent chain of attacks.

It was easy to imagine the two Legendary Mechanics swiftly eliminating him and heading straight for Bai next.

Earlier, he had thought he might be able to spar a little with the Legendary Mechanics under Bai's cover. Now, he realized just how weak he was on the battlefield of such elite pilots.

Anything beneath a legend truly was like an ant in this realm.

Yet, even so, Victor relied on his combat instincts to resist as best as he could, waiting for the inevitable conclusion to unfold.

But then...

A breath... two breaths...

The imagined torrent of consecutive strikes did not come. Instead, the initial barrage seemed to thin out and grow sporadic.

Victor shifted some of his focus from dodging the blows to glance at the two enemies—and discovered that one of the Legendary Mechanics, piloting a shadowy purple mecha, was retreating awkwardly under a blazing trajectory of firepower.

"Whoosh!"

"Whoosh!"

A series of imposing projectiles continuously fired from behind Victor, forcing the two once-overbearing Legendary Mechanics into a sudden defensive scramble!

Chapter 915: Dance of the Twin Guns

"This rate of fire... doesn't seem right, does it?"

Soon, someone noticed something was amiss.

Especially the team members of Bauhinia.

Being intimately familiar with their mecha's performance, they knew best about the direct performance of the weapons equipped on this kind of mecha. The rate of fire being shown by the opponent exceeded the normal level by nearly double.

Using one's Spiritual Energy to enhance the mecha's performance, this is a realm that only a Legendary Mechanic can enter.

So this mysterious stranger on their team, is actually a bona fide Legendary Mechanic?

At this thought, every team member's eyes lit up.

No one expected that there was such a powerful trump card hidden in their own team all along.

In fact, the impact on Catherine was even greater.

She had always thought that Bai E was a mech pilot more skilled in close combat.

The close-range destructive power he displayed when they broke through the Psychic Energy Canopy together was clearly not something an ordinary mech pilot could accomplish.

But now, with the facts in front of her, she realized she might have been wrong...

Bai, in manipulating long-range model mechas, has even greater mastery.

Not many Legendary Mechanics excel in long-range mechas, as it is more challenging to become legendary with them.

I've really found a treasure!

However, dealing with two Legendary Mechanics isn't that easy.

Being suppressed at the moment is just the appearance, adopting a conservative strategy when unsure of the opponent's strength is a normal response.

Once the other side learns their real level, even if it risks a certain price, they would force a breakthrough.

Having Victor alone as the front row was somewhat weak.

Thinking this, the situation on the field indeed changed.

"Legendary!"

"And long-range type."

"Directly break through, don't get tangled with him."

The two Legendary Mechanics communicated briefly.

The tactical choice changed instantly.

Originally, to avoid risk, they were willing to give up the attack just to dodge.

But now, they're more inclined to walk on the edge of the knife.

Moving through the paths of projectiles, they launched a fiercer siege on Victor, who was being surrounded.

When the two Legendary Mechanics no longer counted the cost, Victor was immediately in danger.

Once those long-range projectile paths ceased to be his amulet, the gap in strength was immediately revealed.

"Bang!"

"Bang!"

After each of the two mechas piloted by the Legendary Mechanics took a shot, the mecha Victor piloted knelt brokenly in place, motionless.

Without taking the time to completely destroy it, the two Legendary Mechanics immediately switched targets, making irregular evasive maneuvers while quickly flying towards the target that was still in a sniping posture.

"Finished!"

"Didn't expect they had this hidden hand in Bauhinia, but our skills are still superior."

"What of a Legendary Mechanic? Faced by an all-around and a vanguard up close, what can a sentinel do?"

Not only the audience outside the field, but even the Bauhinia team members behind Bai E, and the two Legendary Mechanics facing Bai E directly, all thought so.

In their conception to date, at the same level, let alone one vs two, even in a one-on-one, a Sentinel Model Mecha could only gain an advantage over a Vanguard or All-around Model Mecha if obstacles were present.

Moreover, at this moment it's one versus two, how could this unknown Legendary Mechanic possibly resist?

However, just as the two Legendary Mechanics were about to close in, the Sentinel Model Mecha, previously in a sniping position, suddenly put away its sniper rifle and rose up.

This action immediately elicited a cold laugh from the two, "Want to run now? Too late!"

The distance between the three had reached a dangerously close range.

During the breakthrough process, the two couldn't avoid taking another one or two shots, but with deliberate extreme dodging, the damage didn't affect the mechas' mobility.

By the time they closed in, it belonged to their close-combat mechas' realm!

Just with the Singer Mecha's straight-line acceleration and change of direction capability, how could it compete with their type of specialized close-combat mechas?

Can't escape!

Without the threat of the gun barrel, their speed immediately increased.

The Singer trapped by the two seemed like a lamb to the slaughter, fragile.

Yet just a few steps after turning on the engines to flee, the mecha suddenly turned around, raising twin pistols to face the two pursuing Legendary Mechanics.

"Boom boom boom boom!"

The projectile paths flew.

Before everyone's eyes, this Sentinel Model Mecha, which everyone saw as trapped, unfolded a deadly dance of gunfire named slaughter.

Gun Fighting Skill!

The long unused ability was once again showcased on the mecha's stage.

The Singer, which wasn't exactly nimble, appeared ghostly at this moment, weaving through the two pursuing close-combat mechas, firing each deadly bullet that pierced gold and stone from its twin pistols.

"Clang clang clang clang!"

The two Legendary Mechanics as opponents were certainly not without skill, but all resistance seemed like the futile struggle of clowns being toyed with.

With the final dual shots up-close, the interior of the mechas piloted by the two Legendary Mechanics rang with a short, shrill alarm almost simultaneously.

The mechas, damaged and severely deformed all over.

If they hadn't forcibly maintained them with their Legendary Mechanics' Spiritual Energy, the mechas under their control would've earlier reached a state of total collapse.

"Bang!"

"Bang!"

Amid the rising black smoke, the twisted cockpit doors were violently kicked open from inside. The two Legendary Mechanics, unwilling to accept this outcome, climbed out, chasing after the tall mecha's retreating silhouette with reluctance, "What on earth is your background?!"

Using a Sentinel Model Mecha to defeat a Vanguard Model and an All-around Model, both piloted by Legendary Mechanics, in such close combat—this kind of strength was beyond anything they'd ever seen.

The intelligence did suggest that there might be a Legendary Mechanic in their Bauhinia team who had broken the Psychic Energy Canopy with Catherine, but with such skill... is this really something that 'Legendary Mechanic' can describe?

Bai E didn't look back or respond.

He wasn't ready to reveal too much information about himself to these cosmic forces just yet.

Besides, he wasn't entirely sure of his own strength now either.

Since losing the panel, he hadn't been able to gauge his power.

He just felt he could do some things, so he tried them.

Looking at it now, there doesn't seem to be much wrong with his intuition.

And it seems... he can do even more?

Chapter 916: Mountain Foothills

The two legendary pilots in the doubles match were taken down by an unknown individual, an unexpected turn of events that no one had foreseen.

Especially since this former pilot of the Bauhinia Republic used a Sentinel Model mecha, which was supposed to be at a disadvantage, to deliver a stunning performance in front of everyone, piquing all spectators' curiosity even more.

"Who is he?"

"When did the Bauhinia Republic produce such a character?"

Even those in the high echelons of the New Bauhinia Trade Zone, watched the live stream with perplexed expressions as the mecha slowly walked back to the starting point.

"When did our country produce such talent?"

Someone even looked towards the former top leader, "Chief, do you have anything you're hiding from us?"

The Chief was also surprised, thinking to himself, 'I have no idea either...'

If there truly was a pilot with such capabilities, he would have already been wielding him as a strategic weapon to secure more advantages for the nation.

A pilot capable of defeating two legendary pilots in a head-on battle would be a national treasure anywhere!

If there were indeed such a capable pilot, perhaps he wouldn't have compromised so quickly with the Peak Alliance.

But now...

"I remember Catherine mentioning that for this competition, she's bringing a candidate with enough weight. Could it be... is it him?"

"I thought she meant Victor..."

"Why didn't she mention that it's such a top-tier expert?"

With such a level of expert assisting, Bauhinia might actually dare to dream of the first place in that competition.

And if there's an opportunity to bypass the Peak Alliance and reach the cosmic level, Bauhinia might have a new turning point.

Looking at the mech on the screen, many people's hearts welled up with a tinge of regret.

'If only...'

"There are no 'ifs'!" someone confidently asserted, "Even taking on two is so hard, how will they face the finals?"

Although Catherine lends a hand, the finals will be against five legendary pilots.

Even if Catherine manages to hold one off, the mysterious pilot will still face four legendary pilots of the same level.

Taking on two is already something, but can he really take on four?

If it weren't for the clear intelligence that all three major powerhouses' legendary pilots were gathered together by the Peak Alliance this time, and additionally inviting the space-roaming Pirate King, they wouldn't have dared to hope at all.

Not just them, but the Peak Alliance held the same view.

"Don't panic, there's no way we can lose in the finals."

"Exactly, five against two — I can't imagine how we'd lose."

"But come to think of it, is this the pilot who went with Catherine to break our Psychic Energy Canopy at the time? His strength is indeed extraordinary. If he could just work for us in the future..."

After all, the Bauhinia is gone.

This miraculous pilot might end up joining the Peak Alliance alongside Catherine and her nation.

At that time, everyone could fight in the Cosmic League together, adding another powerful hand to their team.

"Now...I actually hope they're a bit stronger than expected."

"Indeed! Indeed! Hahaha!"

In the three-person match, Bauhinia is no longer in the competition.

With only three ordinary pilots, even if they try their best, Bauhinia's pilots are still slightly weaker.

In a match that originally piqued no one's interest, yet now everyone eagerly anticipated, the five-person team event finally began.

Before heading into battle, Catherine made her final arrangements.

"I will take one out as quickly as possible; you three do your best to hold one off, as for the rest... you'll just have to hold on for a bit. Can you do it?"

Catherine looked at Bai E, her eyes full of hope.

This was the only possibility for them to win the final battle.

No matter how difficult it was, they had to give it a go.

Bai E caught the admiring glances from the three ordinary pilots beside him and chuckled lightly, "We can give it a try."

But counting on these three ordinary pilots would not work.

It would be hard for them to hold off one legendary pilot, just as it was hard to hold off Catherine or himself.

Bai E realized that a legendary pilot was a clear line of demarcation.

The effect was somewhat akin to the "Mechanical Rhythm" ability he previously mastered.

However, Mechanical Rhythm had its limits; once one became thoroughly acquainted with a mecha's mechanical properties, everyone was back on the same starting line.

Beyond that, it depends on how much the pilot's own strength can enhance the mecha.

The opponent's five legendary pilots were the so-called planetary-level powerhouses, while those who hadn't reached planetary level were basically just cannon fodder with no delay meaning.

Ultimately, he had to prepare for a one-against-four battle.

Bai E gazed out the window of the drop pod, his eyes falling on the heaviest black mecha.

Noticing the direction of Bai E's gaze, Catherine proactively asked, "Will you still be using the Sentinel Model this time?"

Knowing Bai E's choice of mecha, others could arrange accordingly to best support his choice.

Overall, they had only one goal: to help Bai E achieve victory.

"No need for that." Bai E shook his head.

The Sentinel Model was fine for taking on two, but when facing many, it was still too fragile.

To fend off and counterattack against four, there was only... the Mountain Foothills-type mecha.

"The Mountain Foothills?" Catherine's pupils narrowed.

She finally realized something she hadn't noticed before —

The strength of this Bai pilot might even surpass the limits of her understanding.

The Mountain Foothills-type and Sentinel Model are totally different kinds of mecha.

Even if Bai E claimed to use the Vanguard or All-around Model, it wouldn't have surprised her as much.

But the Mountain Foothills...

No legendary pilot had ever gained fame driving a Mountain Foothills-type mecha.

Aside from its powerful defense, its clumsy mobility was its biggest flaw.

It was the choice for the vanguard to absorb firepower, generally destined to be cannon fodder.

But now...

This unknown leader from a Stellar District might just redefine the Mountain Foothills-type mecha's meaning for everyone.

"Alright!"

Catherine's eyes flashed as she glanced at her three team members.

Bai E's choice gave her a plan.

"In this battle, you three all use Sentinel Model mechas!"

Her plan was clear: she would use the All-around Model openly to grab one opponent.

The adversary naturally wouldn't pay heed to her three ordinary members but instead focus on teaming up to take Bai E down first.

Having just seen Bai E drive the Sentinel Model mecha to defeat two might lead the opponents, and herself, to mistakenly think Bai E excelled in using the Sentinel Model mecha. Aligning her team of three with this model, she aimed to mislead and confuse them, thus buying more time for herself and Bai E.

Chapter 917: Tactics

Just as Catherine had predicted, the moment the three Sentinel Model Mechas from the Bauhinia side appeared, the faces of the five Legendary Mechanics on the opposing team turned ashen.

"Cunning Bauhinia people!"

"They're trying to disperse our forces to buy time for that guy!"

Chasing one after another, that's undoubtedly just handing them an advantage.

If they can't win two-on-one, who has the confidence to beat that mysterious pilot one-on-one?

Or even just delay him?

Looking at the scattered positions of the three Sentinel Model Mechas on the other side, before any teammates can arrive, the one trying to hold them off alone will likely be cut down by the mysterious pilot.

If they all group together to pursue, there's no doubt the target being chased will turn and flee.

If they choose the wrong target and, after a certain distance, try to get closer to that mysterious pilot, it will likely come at a significant cost.

No one expected that even in the final match of five versus two, they would find themselves in such a predicament right from the start.

All this is simply because the mysterious pilot they're up against is skilled in the "Sentinel Model," a type of mecha that's extremely difficult to master.

As they watched the two white and black mechas standing guard amid the three scattered Sentinel Model Mechas, one of the crimson mechas took a bold step forward.

"I'll go find Catherine; as for the rest, I don't care."

The white all-around model mecha is undoubtedly piloted by Catherine, whereas the black Mountain Foothills-type Mecha... it's probably a cannon fodder teammate trying to provide a bit of protection for Catherine and can be ignored.

If I hold Catherine one-on-one, then the remaining four of them versus one, whether they win or lose, has nothing to do with me.

Even if they lose in the end, they have no reason to dock my commission.

After this match, I have to return to being the Carefree Pirate King.

"..."

Watching the easiest job being snatched, the remaining four fell silent.

Staring at the three identical Sentinel Model Mechas standing apart, one of them gritted his teeth and made a decision, "The four of us will form two teams and each pursue one. Whether or not we catch the real one, we won't waste too much time, and two people together won't be easily picked off quickly."

It's not surprising they're so cautious; the strength their opponents displayed in the previous duo match was truly daunting.

...

Seeing the situation indeed developing as she initially expected, a slight sense of joy appeared on Catherine's face.

When choosing between fully splitting up or grouping together, they chose the most moderate approach—

pairing up and then pursuing.

"In a moment, the two of us will join forces and first take out the mecha charging at us!"

In an outnumbered fight, it's crucial to reduce their numbers as soon as possible.

"Mm." Bai E responded, but gazing at the scattered mechas, he couldn't help but feel something was odd.

The opposing side might be chasing the three Sentinel Model Mechas, but their routes... don't seem direct.

Something seems off.

Catherine remained tense, merely edging closer to one side with Bai E.

"Let's wait for them to move further away before we take action."

She didn't expect such a simple strategy to delay them for long.

As soon as Bai E acts, they'll realize they were duped.

Before that, attack the one advancing towards them two-on-one, and at the same time, approach the direction of one of the pairs to catch them off guard.

During this brief window of time, maximizing gains is the general idea behind her plan.

However, as the pilot charging at them reached a slightly ambiguous danger zone, he suddenly halted.

Simultaneously, the four mechas also stopped their pursuit of the Sentinel Model Mechas.

Initially scattered, they ultimately formed a tightening pocket towards Catherine and Bai E.

An eerie voice smugly echoed over the Thousand Stars Commerce Alliance's channel, "Why should we chase him?"

Instead of seeking out the hidden mysterious pilot, they'd rather use the strength of all five to eliminate Catherine first.

Never mind if it seems timid, five-on-one is undoubtedly easier than five-on-two.

If the other intervenes, he'll naturally be exposed.

If not, after they take out Catherine, they can slowly target him.

Time is on their side; it's their opponents who should be anxious.

As the pocket tightened, Catherine immediately understood their plan.

Plans had changed, but it didn't stop her from reacting promptly.

"They probably haven't discovered you, they just want to take me out first. I'll draw them away, you see if you can take one down."

Their encirclement still had a distance, with Catherine escaping first, the opponent might conveniently take out the "Mountain Foothills" piloted by Bai E.

And that, is the opportunity.

As soon as she finished speaking, Catherine fiercely charged in a direction.

With the encirclement tightening, if she doesn't break out now, there won't be another chance!

And, indeed, Catherine's suspicion was right.

Once she moved, the opponent's encirclement immediately adjusted.

Like a bag inflated by the wind, warping into an irregular shape.

Moreover, two mechas approached Bai E from behind, with a cruel smile on their lips as they looked at the lone mecha in the middle of the field.

"Die!"

The two mechas casually raised their weapons, launching a lethal blow at the massive, heavy black mecha.

"Clang!"

The deafening sound echoed in everyone's ears, and the two confident mechas intending to strike and then withdraw were startled to feel an immense force feedback from the mecha's transmission system.

Even a lion uses its full strength to fight a rabbit.

Even against slightly lesser pilots, these two Legendary Mechanics didn't hold back at all.

Their attacks were launched in two extremely tricky angles, and with their silent understanding, even a Legendary Mechanic at the same level would find it hard to handle.

And now... their coordinated attack was actually blocked simultaneously by a single spear from the opponent?

The sudden scene caught everyone's attention, even the three mechas chasing Catherine all turned back to see what had just happened.

They saw the Vanguard Shield Mecha, which should have been finished in one blow, using a spear to parry the attacks from the two allies at the same time.

Then with a sudden push, the terrifying power forcefully drove the two cooperating mechas back.

Everyone jolted with a shiver.

A certain speculation raced through the minds of these Thousand Stars Commerce Alliance Legendary Mechanics—

The one piloting this Mountain Foothills-type Mecha, is the mysterious pilot?

But how is this possible!

Sentinel Model and Mountain Foothills-type Mechas, these are two completely different realms!

Could this mysterious pilot truly be omnipotent?!

Chapter 918: Overlord Descends

However, no matter what, they were their enemies!

"Pirate, you go entangle Catherine, don't let her come to aid. The four of us! Let's take him down first!"

The mysterious pilot they were looking for was unexpectedly right in front of them.

If they really pursued those three Sentinel Model Mechas, they would fall into the opponent's trap instead.

"Don't get bogged down in a fight, wait for us to arrive!"

There was still some distance left, so the teammates of the two Mechas closest to Bai E kept communicating in the voice channel.

The scene of both companions being completely outperformed in a duo match was still fresh in their memory; they didn't dare let such a scene repeat twice in the final.

"Got it!" The two pilots who had a brief encounter with Bai E also responded cautiously.

From just a random skirmish, they noticed how troublesome the opponent was.

After being knocked back by that Mountain Foothills-type Mecha, they even stepped back several steps, watching the opponent's movements with wary eyes to prevent a sudden ambush.

Even though the Mountain Foothills-type Mecha was generally viewed as a type with not much agility, in the hands of this mysterious pilot, it might just work wonders—as in the duo match, the opponent had already shown everyone exactly how a Sentinel Model Mecha should be played.

Yet facing such an obvious encirclement, the seemingly encircled black Mountain Foothills-type Mecha remained motionless as if it had shut down.

Holding a long black spear in hand, it just quietly awaited the encirclement of the four enemy mechas.

Instead, the three Sentinel Model Mechas used for disguise couldn't help but make the first move.

The pre-match orders they received were to avoid revealing their strength, hoping to deceive the Thousand Stars Commerce Alliance's enemy.

Now, with a change in plan and the main player exposed, they no longer needed to hide.

"Whoosh~ Whoosh~ Whoosh~"

Projectiles shot swiftly, but they were not significantly lethal to the Legendary Mechanics.

There was even a mech pilot, driving an All-around Model Mecha, who drew out their weapon with a backhand.

"Can't handle this mysterious guy, but can't handle you all?" In the cockpit, the mech pilot smirked, aiming deadly lines of fire at the three Bauhinia Republic members piloting the Sentinel Model Mechas.

The whole venue was racing against time, yet only the massive black Mecha at the center stood motionless.

Whether it was the original citizens of the Bauhinia Republic or the supporters of the Peak Alliance, none could understand.

"What is he doing?"

"The enemies have already surrounded him, isn't he courting death by not breaking through?"

"Does he really think he can take on four by himself?"

"Break through? How? With the mobility of a Mountain Foothills-type Mecha, what can it do to outrun three All-arounds and a Vanguard?"

"Isn't waiting there even more courting death? At least seizing the timing to first eliminate the two nearest would be something."

"Do you really think Legendary Mechanics are like cabbages on the roadside to be taken down just like that? In the duo match, those two master mechanics were just momentarily confused by the small tactics of the Sentinel Model Mecha. If they were vigilant, do you think he could still pull a fast one?"

But regardless of audience speculation, the four Mechas of the Peak Alliance finally completed their encirclement.

The two Legendary Mechanics who had previously faced off against an opponent who left them in disgrace couldn't wait to vent their anger, "This time, you won't be so lucky!"

"The last time I asked you a question, you still haven't answered me!"

Facing the taunt of these two pilots, the black Mecha just silently raised the long, black spear in its hand, as silent as its color.

As for the standard Tower Shield that most Mountain Foothills-type Mechas would hold, it was simply carried on its back with no intention of being used.

"Enough talk! Move!" In the voice channel, came the somewhat resentful voice of the pilot who went alone to entangle Catherine.

Catherine's strength was top-tier even among Legendary Mechanics, and he found it somewhat challenging to face her alone.

Seeing this situation, the four pilots instantly stopped wasting words.

"Move!"

"After beating him, it won't be too late to ask again!"

Four mechas of varying colors charged simultaneously; for the Thousand Stars Commerce Alliance, even similar All-around Model Mechas came in many different models.

For those highly skilled pilots, there was even a complete product line produced exclusively for models specially adapted to one person.

The difference between All-around or Vanguard didn't matter here.

But almost identically, they all possessed comprehensive abilities and sufficiently agile mobility.

At this moment, the four charged together; relying on an innate tacit understanding to coordinate, the changes in evasion and blocking seemed all within their calculation.

No matter how the besieged one tried to block, they were nearly always subjected to a coordinated attack from at least two or three of them.

Yet a black spear shadow leisurely and effortlessly blocked all nearby attacks from its central position.

In response, as if in a stroll in the park, even the footsteps didn't shift a bit.

Instead, the seemingly casual counterattacks caused the attacked ones to stagger back almost uncontrollably, as if struck by a tremendous force.

As for the so-called coordinated attacks, they ceased to be mentioned.

Immovable as a mountain!

The Overlord reborn!

"What am I seeing!"

"Are they putting on a circus show?"

To the outside audience, it appeared as though the four Legendary Mechanics from the Thousand Stars Commerce Alliance were moths constantly darting into a flame, trying in vain to shake the indomitable light and fire at the center with their frail bodies.

"This is the first time I've seen such a scene..."

"That Mountain Foothills-type is called 'Overlord,' right? Damn, it really does seem like the Overlord reborn!"

"I've understood! I've understood! So this is how the Mountain Foothills-type Mecha is played! Why chase? Why rush? Just stand there, and you're an indomitable Star to the enemy!"

"Wake up! Wake up! You think everyone can play like that? Those are four Legendary Mechanics, you'd be done in one second going up there."

"Such an incredible pilot, why have we never heard of him before?"

This question echoed in everyone's mind again.

"Star..."

Someone softly uttered this word in the team communication.

This immediately resonated with the others, "Indeed, a Star!"

Legendary Mechanics represent a unified realm, and similarly, upon entering this realm, their capabilities in controlling Mechas do not differ much.

Further improvement relies on the individual's inherent strength as an enhancement to the Mecha.

And they were all Planetary Level experts; even though each had their own strengths and weaknesses against different opponents, presently they were fighting in unison!

Any personal weaknesses should have been compensated for by others.

Who else but a Stellar Level expert could achieve such a feat?

Chapter 919: Imagery Reproduction

"Whether it's the star or not, this is the battle we must win!" The mech pilot from the Thousand Stars Commerce Alliance fixed his gaze vertically.

This battle is crucial for the important plans to enter the cosmic league. If they can't bring home the victory fruits for the Thousand Stars Commerce Alliance, who've invested nearly everything, they won't have much to say even if they are legendary mechanics and planetary-level powerhouses.

"Don't hold back! Even if the victory is ugly, it's still a win!"

"No need for you to say that!"

Realizing the opponent might not be a powerhouse of the same level, several legendary mechanics thoroughly eradicated any lingering feelings of contempt they might have had.

Cooperating cautiously.

Completely adopting a cautious attitude suited for facing a higher-level opponent, even at the risk of embarrassment.

However, the black mech stationed at the center kept wielding its long spear with an appearance of slow but actual urgency. It seemed to be passively defending, yet vaguely felt like the one orchestrating the entire situation.

"Are you alright?" Catherine's voice came through the audio with a bit of urgency.

Those embroiled in the action are unclear.

Engaged in a confrontation with another same-level legendary mechanic, her view of the battlefield isn't as comprehensive as those watching from outside.

In her eyes, she could only see four distinctively colored mech suits from the Thousand Stars Commerce Alliance surrounding Bai E's "Overlord" as it flew about.

Instinctively substituting herself into the scenario, she felt if it were her, she certainly couldn't hold out for long.

"I'm fine." Bai E's calm voice responded.

"That's good." Catherine let out a slight sigh of relief, "Hang in there a bit longer, I'll defeat my opponent and go help you as soon as possible!"

"No rush." Bai E swung his spear down to knock away two approaching mecha.

Although he wasn't sure what level his current powers sat at, the pressure from his opponents was similar to the "Dominant" he faced in the past, perhaps even slightly inferior.

For him now, a single Dominant or four Dominants... shouldn't make much difference.

Thus, the situation presented a bizarre standoff.

On the battleground of the final match, where two battle zones occupied either side engaged in combat.

On one side, the one-on-one battle saw Catherine from the Bauhinia move evidently with advantage, but the more she rushed to win, the harder it was to secure a quick victory.

This was different from the solo matches; as long as the opponent didn't have the intent to win, it was difficult for her to quickly reach an outcome with them.

Conversely, if she ignored her opponent to provide aid, she would instead fall into a passive situation.

Regarding the other side, the four-against-one... disregarding the discrepancy in numbers, this battle seemed even smoother compared to the one-on-one.

The two parties appeared to be fighting fiercely, the five mecha dodged and maneuvered dizzily.

But the one under siege hadn't moved his steps much, nor exhibited any sign of distress facing the attack.

The ones actively attacking exerted their tricks yet that's all there was.

It seemed lively, but in fact, they hadn't even touched a hair on the opponent.

It's just that the opponent never attempted any counter-attack, allowing them to attack at will without risking pressure.

"He can't hold on for much longer!"

The Thousand Stars Commerce Alliance spectators sought to cheer on their team.

"Oh? How do you figure?"

"Look, he's been unable to counterattack all this time, clearly walking a tightrope. Keep fighting, a flaw will certainly appear."

"...You said something similar ten minutes ago."

"It's probably not that he can't react, he simply doesn't want to. They're deliberately holding back, just playing with them."

This perspective was indeed what most spectators at the scene thought.

Watching the ongoing broadcast, the former leaders of Bauhinia who were convinced their decision was correct couldn't help but feel a surge of regret again.

"Looks like... they might win?"

"When did Catherine meet such a great person?"

"But if they win... what's the point?"

The Bauhinia Republic is already gone!

So these people looked defeated again.

Before this sentiment could spread, sudden changes appeared on the broadcast screen.

"Look quickly!"

...

Bai E once again swung his spear to clear away a field of opponents, then suddenly froze.

Some sort of obscure and greasy image flashed through his mind once more, like a long-lost memory resurfacing quickly.

His eyes narrowed, and instead of returning his spear for defense after knocking back the opponents, he suddenly stepped forward, pursuing the direction of the opponent's retreat.

Spearlike a dragon, striking powerfully.

"Bang!"

Facing Bai E's sudden pursuit, the opponent accustomed to the previous assault rhythm was clearly taken aback.

The defenses in hand were also noticeably sluggish.

Attempting to parry with twin blades faced the forceful Overlord Spear with no resistance.

The terrifying brute force immediately shattered the twin blades, the black spear dragon-like pierced through the gaps in the opponent's mecha armor.

"Zing zing zing!"

The friction sound between metal and metal was particularly piercing.

The sparks crackled as they followed the spear's path.

A stab, a lift.

The entire mech was picked up by the spear tip.

Then with a mighty swing, another mech too slow to dodge was smashed down.

When the constantly defending "Overlord" no longer held back, the defeat of the four opponents was almost instantaneous.

Slaughter!

A one-sided slaughter!

The Overlord descended!

Scattering a thousand troops!

The sudden shift in the battle viciously stimulated all viewers in the live broadcast room, sending the bullet screen flying.

"Crafty Bauhinia people!"

"No wonder they've been defending all along, they were saving this move!"

"A sudden counterattack, caught our pilots off guard, enabling a successful ambush."

"Don't be ridiculous! They were willing to play a bit earlier, now they stopped playing, and it's the victim's fault for complaining about an ambush?"

"Exactly! As if the opponents could truly defend if they went all out from the start."

Even though the situation looked clear-cut to most astute observers outside, the actual outcome still left many stunned.

Even the members of the compCommittee hosting the whole match found it hard to believe the result unfolding before them.

"Did they... really win?"

The highest official from the Star Alliance watched the scene with a slightly open mouth, feeling incredulous.

She had heard about matters happening within this Stellar District.

Backing this team named "Bauhinia" to participate, the supporting country vanished into history as the match played out.

This match team unknowingly became the last citizens of the Bauhinia Republic in the world.

No matter where they head post-match, this match was their final endeavor as citizens of the Bauhinia Republic.

No one thought... they could actually win.

Chapter 920: Prepare to Evacuate

However, not everyone involved in the competition was watching the live broadcast.

The maintenance crew on the spaceship had just finished their routine checks on the equipment and turned to sit by the dim cabin window, intending to admire the cosmic scenery outside, when they suddenly froze.

The spaceship had been stationed outside this Barbaric Planet for the competition for several months, and the technician had practically etched the view of the cosmos into his mind.

But somehow, in the direction he was looking now, there was a mysterious shadow.

"Did I remember wrong?" The technician began to doubt his previous memories, subconsciously rubbed his eyes, and looked again.

Upon doing so, he found that the shadow remained.

No! It felt... as if it had grown a bit larger.

No! It's not just a feeling!

It's definitely larger!

And it's becoming clearer...

The technician stood frozen, as if paralyzed by a chilling sensation that gripped his soul, unable to move even a bit.

He wanted to shout but couldn't make a sound.

He wanted to move but couldn't budge.

He just stood there dumbfounded, watching the shadow grow larger and larger until the starlight illuminated its surface.

The surface of the shadow was jagged, and under the starlight, it seemed to shimmer with an oily gloss.

'What is that?'

The technician felt his mind go blank, at a loss.

'Cosmic Monster?'

"Yes! Cosmic Monster!"

An entity as large as a planet... a Cosmic Monster!

In this deep space, there are indeed some strange life forms that can grow to a size daunting to humankind.

They might not form swarms and often it's rare to find more than one in the cosmos.

But every such monster delivers a devastating blow to the human civilizations it encounters, some even feast on planets.

Realizing the nature of the creature he faced, the technician finally seemed to regain some mobility in his stiff limbs.

He turned and ran, shouting into the emergency voice channel, "Under attack! Under attack! There's a monster! There's a monster!"

Only after shouting did the technician realize that the blaring alarms in the cabin had long started.

Scarlet lights flashed relentlessly inside the spaceship, chaotic footsteps echoed from further away.

"Recall all participants, prepare for evacuation!"

Members of the Competition Committee urgently mobilized.

Members from the Thousand Stars Commerce Alliance, or rather the Peak Alliance, were particularly proactive, "In light of special circumstances, the competition is temporarily suspended!"

On the surface, they had already lost the upper hand. Now faced with an unforeseeable catastrophe, they were quick to declare it void.

The leaders from the Star Alliance were noncommittal for a moment, merely ordering the spaceship to mount an initial defense.

"Notify all ships present to concentrate fire for one round!"

Not only were teams from the two competing nations still on the planet, but also many staff members associated with the Competition Committee were still present.

Regardless of the immediate termination, these people's evacuation would require time.

Even if the Cosmic Monster came to devour the planet, they must ensure enough time for the people's retreat.

"Yes!"

"Sir! If we don't retreat now, it'll be too late!" A seemingly urgent member of the Competition Committee advised, "Against the Cosmic Monster, every second counts."

Such monsters generally require a nation's large fleet to eliminate, relying on the present ships not equipped with heavy firepower almost can't defeat any planetary-level Cosmic Monster.

"Yes, sir! There's no human life on this planet, evacuate all participants promptly and continue the competition at another location!"

As long as the competition result isn't finalized, there are plenty of tricks to play in the future.

Leaving aside other factors, Bauhinia had already been destroyed, making it impossible for their opponent to return to the competition.

Though such a victory is not very honorable, where is pride in the cosmos?

As for the monster...

Cosmic Monsters are not something that must necessarily be exterminated.

As long as it's not confirmed to target a human-inhabited planet, they are let to roam in deep space without anyone deliberately troubling them.

Engaging them has no benefits and comes with significant losses instead.

It's sheer bad luck for any that visit a place, forcing powerful national fleets to act only when their sovereignty is threatened.

At this moment, even the Peak Alliance should be grateful for the appearance of the Cosmic Monster.

Yet, the President of the Competition Committee flashed a glance, suddenly smiled, "The outcome is decided..."

Almost as if aware of the events transpiring in outer space, the Bauhinia's mysterious Mech Pilot, who was previously on the defensive against four enemies, rallied an explosive counterattack and decisively bested every opponent before him.

...

When Catherine defeated her opponent and arrived, she only saw four battered Mechas silently standing in the field, still emitting black smoke.

Internally astonished, Catherine thought, 'Faster than me...'

She had gone one-on-one, while Bai E had fought one against four, and still managed to defeat his opponents first.

But strangely, why was he staring off into that direction in the sky?

What... was there?

Just then, Catherine suddenly heard a serious voice coming from the Mecha communication,

"Unexpected situation, all Mech Pilots, please return to the Drop Pod promptly, personnel will guide you back to the spaceship."

The message repeated three times, clearly not only meant for Catherine.

As the message went silent, Catherine hesitated, subconsciously asked in the voice channel, "What's happened?"

She didn't expect much of a reply.

It just seemed abnormal, so she instinctively sought reassurance from someone stronger.

"..." Bai E was silent.

But internally certain—

The Bugs have arrived!

They had been pursuing the mark on him for a long time, until now, finally tracking it here.

Yet he was unsure of how the humans of the universe would face these Bugs.

From what he observed earlier, the humans of the universe seemed to have no knowledge of these bizarre and powerful creatures.

Had they never encountered such odd and strong beings before?

Or... to them, were these Bugs completely insignificant?

Bai E didn't know, but now... maybe there was finally a chance to find out.

No matter how the humans of the universe planned to deal with the Bugs, Bai E, aware of their danger, was prepared for the worst.

"You return first, I'll escort them to their Drop Pods."

Bai E referred to the Thousand Stars Commerce Alliance Mech Pilots who couldn't move quickly with their damaged Mechas.

Against the Bugs, all humans, regardless of their positions, would stand as allies on the same front.