

## Avatar 1111

### Chapter 1111: Wind Howl Internal Strife

Just like this, Tang Hao became the first member of Team Wind Howl to get eliminated, but at this moment, Fang Rui didn't have time to pay attention to Tang Hao's expression. After understanding Team Happy's intentions, a feeling of dizziness washed over him, making him almost fail to hold onto his own mouse.

If this were the competitive stage, Wind Howl might be down a member, but they had the overall advantage right now. Happy had sacrificed a lot of health to take down Demon Subduer. Let alone having no healer, even if Happy did have a healer, in a situation where every team member was at low health, it was very possible for the healing speed to not be able to keep up, resulting in the team being killed off one by one.

But the problem was that this wasn't on the competitive stage.

As a result, Happy had previously been fighting in disregard for everything else, but now they were running away as fast as possible.

"Where are you running!" Zhao Yuzhe roared. How could he put up with Happy running away? Elementalists had powerful attacks and strong AoE skills, the bane of Happy, whose members were on the brink of death.

Their captain's sacrifice couldn't be wasted!

Zhao Yuzhe was quite confident. His Elementalist charged forward like a Battle Mage.

"Careful!" Fang Rui immediately warned.

He hadn't seen what exactly Happy had set up, but since their intentions were so obvious, how could Happy not have made any arrangements for their escape? Let Wind Howl chase and kill them? If that was the case, it was no different from seeking their own deaths.

Fang Rui's intention told him that Happy definitely had traps set up during their escape. Rashly chasing after them was dangerous.

But Zhao Yuzhe seemed to not be able to hear him. Even though Fang Rui was his senior in the team and had named a God for a long time, playing dirty was looked down upon by many. Zhao Yuzhe rather liked Tang Hao's vigor with his "the junior succeeds the senior". He didn't admire Fang Rui's dirty playing from the bottom of his heart. Although he didn't dare disrespect his senior most of the time, his hot-bloodedness had consumed him. There were a bunch of nearly dead players in front of him, ripe for him to kill. It wasn't hard to understand why he ignored Fang Rui's warning.

Teleport!

Zhao Yuzhe was afraid of letting go of even a single player from Happy. He directly teleported into the enemy ranks in an attempt to kill all five of them at once. When he teleported, he had already activated Mobile Cast. His magic staff glowed with light, ready to release a spell.

Fang Rui saw Zhao Yuzhe's audaciousness and was stupefied. The opponents were at low health, but they weren't dead. For him to advance prematurely, did he really think these five were frightened dungeon monsters? Or did he think that his bold move would catch Happy off guard...

Okay, Fang Rui admitted. From a reverse psychology standpoint, such a stupid decision was truly surprising. He only hoped that everyone in Happy was too smart and think that it wasn't possible for someone to be so stupid! Maybe because Zhao Yuzhe had done it so quickly, the other side wouldn't be able to react in time?

He looked back. Beautiful Light 1 was already laying on the ground...

Fang Rui felt it was a pity that he couldn't see the expressions on everyone in Happy. Were they surprised? Were they in admiration of Zhao Yuzhe's boundless bravery? They didn't seem to think twice though. After Beautiful Light was smacked to the ground, he was quickly smacked into the air. Then, Lord Grim and Soft Mist both used Falling Flower Palms, sending him back along with an artillery shell from Dancing Rain.

After all, no one in Happy had a lot of health. They didn't dare keep fighting. After sending away Beautiful Light, they borrowed his body as their first form of obstruction and then utilized long-ranged attacks to suppress them further. The team's Knight wanted to rush forward and block the damage, but in the end, he was yelled at by Fang Rui.

"Why aren't you all attacking!!!" Zhao Yuzhe's Beautiful Light climbed up from the ground after being sent back and shouted thunderously. In this instant, his dissatisfaction towards Fang Rui had reached its peak.

"The other side has made preparations beforehand. They're just waiting for us to fall into their trap." Fang Rui said.

"How would you know if you don't try!" Zhao Yuzhe yelled.

"Did you not just try?" Fang Rui asked back.

Zhao Yuzhe was suddenly at a loss for words. He had tried, but he really wanted to say that Happy's way of dealing with him didn't seem to be the result of careful preparation. But why did it turn out the way it did? Because he had been an idiot! In a moment of hot-bloodedness and impulse, he had made a move thinking he was invincible. The other side didn't need any careful set ups to deal with him. The openings that he showed were too big so much so that they instantly swatted him away. However, Zhao Yuzhe was unwilling to admit that he was stupid to Fang Rui. He felt like if he had just been a bit faster, the ones lying on the ground would be Happy.

"Hurry up and chase!" Zhao Yuzhe didn't reply to Fang Rui's retort. He just called over the other two members to give chase.

Without captain Tang Hao, there was a clear disagreement to how Wind Howl should fight. The Knight and Cleric weren't entirely focused on the game. They stole a glance at Fang Rui and Zhao Yuzhe outside of the game. In the end, they didn't move. Zhao Yuzhe's was an important part of Wind Howl's future, but Fang Rui was their team's most experienced senior. In addition to Fang Rui's status as vice-captain, the two didn't move, implying that they recognized Fang Rui's authority.

Zhao Yuzhe's Beautiful Light rushed out, but discovered that the other two didn't go with him. This time, he didn't dare charge into Happy's enemy ranks so simply. In the end, he could only have his Beautiful Light stop. Outside of the game, he glared fiercely at those two players. He didn't dare be too brazen to Fang Rui, but he wasn't scared of those two at all.

The entire practice room was deathly silent. There were only five players that could form a team to this Ghost Lair. The other five team members, who weren't participating, hadn't left. They also wanted to see what this Ghost Lair was all about. Instead, they got an internal conflict between their team's players.

Most of the people there felt very uneasy, but a certain resolute person watched with interest at everything that was happening.

Liu Hao.

He gave up on Thunderclap and transferred to Wind Howl.

It hadn't been long since he had joined the team. He didn't impatiently jump into the team and instead carefully observed this new team. Because this time, he truly wanted to achieve something here unlike with Team Thunderclap. In his eyes, Thunderclap was nothing more than a stepping stone. That type of small team couldn't contain this senior.

Speaking of which, Liu Hao felt like his strength was enough to replace Team Samsara's Jiang Botao. Unfortunately, Samsara was clearly very satisfied with the synergy between Jiang Botao and Zhou Zekai. They had invited Liu Hao's former teammate, Sun Xiang and One Autumn Leaf, but they definitely had no intentions of dropping Jiang Botao. In the end, Liu Hao was brought into Team Wind Howl. This rising team had performed outstandingly last season. Liu Hao was very satisfied and decided that he would do well here.

However, in Team Wind Howl, Tang Hao was their core. Zhao Yuzhe was the Best Rookie. His talent and growth would put him as a star in the future. Fang Rui was an All Star and their team's most experienced member. The team couldn't lack any healers, so of the five positions, only one spot remained.

Was this spot for Liu Hao?

From what he saw, he didn't think that Wind Howl valued him that much. They didn't seem to have determined that Liu Hao was the missing jigsaw piece. They were still searching for the most suitable combination. As for Liu Hao, as someone skilled and someone who free transferred, their thoughts were that they might as well sign him and test him out.

This type of attitude meant that they weren't particularly fervent about signing Liu Hao. In fact, there were many other teams that were sincerely interested in him such as Team Miracle.

This team had took in three Excellent Era players. They had contacted Liu Hao too and gave him sincere promises. Core, team captain. They had prepared a generous offer and clearly laid it out to Liu Hao, but he rejected it without much thought.

Miracle? In Liu Hao's eyes, more like joke\*. They were a team that had just gotten into the Alliance, and they wanted him to play for them? He might as well have just stayed on Thunderclap then! Core? Team captain? You think I care about being the core or team captain of a team like that?

Liu Hao ignored their sincere offer. When Team Wind Howl expressed their interest towards him, he immediately accepted. This type of powerhouse with hopes of winning the championships was where he hoped to be!

Liu Hao. At the moment, he was just one of Team Wind Howl's choices. Rather than saying that their sincerity moved Liu Hao, it was more like Liu Hao's eagerness moved them to just sign him along in the passing.

The team didn't need to offer any signing bonuses to a free player. The only requirement was to provide a salary. To be champions, no team would find it difficult to try out a player like that. As a result, Team Wind Howl moved quickly and immediately took Liu Hao as soon as the transfer window opened.

Wind Howl hoped that Liu Hao would bring change to the team. However, they didn't have any clear plans at the moment. They were still studying Liu Hao, so Liu Hao could feel that he didn't have a stable position in the team right now. As a result, he was careful. As someone who had once been a part of a powerhouse, he obviously knew how to find opportunities in the team.

And at this moment, a conflict had erupted in Team Wind Howl. Liu Hao observed it with interest.

Fang Rui.

Zhao Yuzhe.

It was a common conflict between a rookie and a senior. The rookie felt like the senior was blocking his path forward. The senior felt like the rookie was a threat to his position... This type of conflict didn't appear only in pro teams. It happened all the time in all levels of society.

Right now, at Wind Howl, the conflict was fully out in the open. However, whether it was Fang Rui or Zhao Yuzhe, they weren't the players with the most authority in the team! The direction that this conflict would move towards would depend on Team Wind Howl's captain and core, Tang Hao.

Yes, Tang Hao. The Tang Hao who had become famous with his "junior succeeds the senior". Liu Hao realized that the resolution to this conflict was very easy to predict.

Chapter 1112: Conflict Between Ideologies

Wind Howl's captain Tang Hao expressed displeasure at the conflict between Fang Rui and Zhao Yuzhe. His eyes stopped at Fang Rui. It was plain as day who he favored.

No one uttered a word. Team Wind Howl seemed to only be just three people.

Zhao Yuzhe continued to glare at Fang Rui with unwillingness. Tang Hao didn't show any resentment towards Zhao Yuzhe, but he wasn't looking at him in a good way either. As for Fang Rui? He was still playing the game.

His Doubtful Demon suddenly rushed out.

What? Is he regretting it now? Zhao Yuzhe, who was also in the game, noticed Doubtful Demon's movements. He could see that he was chasing after Happy.

"Isn't it too late to start chasing?" Zhao Yuzhe was puzzled.

Fang Rui's Doubtful Demon suddenly stopped chasing. He just stood there, looking around for something.

Zhao Yuzhe couldn't bear it anymore. He had his Beautiful Light move over there as well. The other two players followed.

Fang Rui was looking at the passageway that Happy had left through. Zhao Yuzhe had solid fundamentals too. After all, he had accumulated quite a bit of tactical experience throughout his career of two years. When he looked at this passageway, he realized how the entrance could be utilized. At this instant, he noticed: Fang Rui was right.

Happy indeed had made preparations. It would be very easy for Happy to ambush them at this entrance.

"So what?" Zhao Yuzhe refused to admit his mistake, "With their health, so what if they ambush us?"

"In important playoff matches in season two, season four, season five, and season seven, several teams encountered situations like this and lost as a result." Fang Rui said.

"..." Zhao Yuzhe stared blankly. He didn't know about these precedents. For a moment, he couldn't think of which matches Fang Rui was talking about.

"Do you think you're safe because the opponents don't have much health left? Throw away such naive thoughts! Glory isn't as sweet as you think it is." Fang Rui said

"I..." Zhao Yuzhe was at a loss for words. Fang Rui didn't say anything more to him. He glanced at captain Tang Hao, "We'll continue."

"Okay." Tang Hao nodded his head. He had heard the conversation between the two. Right now, it was very clear who had been in the right and who had been in the wrong.

The four players continued onwards. The other players in the team let out a sigh of relief. Only Liu Hao looked pensive.

The others only saw it as different answers for a question. But Liu Hao saw it as a conflict in ideologies between two players.

Fang Rui's style of playing dirty didn't synergize well with Tang Hao's and Zhao Yuzhe's style of play. And those two were the pillars of Wind Howl's new generation. After Demon Subduer switched hands from Lin Jingyan to Tang Hao, Fang Rui's playstyle became more and more lost in this type of team. As Tang Hao's playstyle matured and as their other main talent Zhao Yuzhe grew, Fang Rui's playing environment became increasingly difficult. At the same time, his existence itself made Tang Hao and Zhao Yuzhe very uncomfortable.

Wind Howl's style hadn't changed completely enough! With Tang Hao as the core, the set of strategies employed during Lin Jingyan's generation might no longer be suitable.

Wind Howl still had its struggles!

In the game, Happy's five players quickly retreated. After confirming that there were no pursuers, they stopped to rest. They drank potions and ate food to recover their mana and health. After all, this was the game and not the competitive stage.

Though it wasn't the competitive stage, the dangers hadn't passed. When were there ever these sorts of large chaotic fights on the competitive stage?

Happy stopped at a place to recover. It wasn't just a random place. Ye Xiu saw that it was a wide open space, where they couldn't be ambushed. After starting to recover, he requested that no one use food that made a lot of noise so as not to let any sound leak.

The five characters sat together on the ground and recovered silently. The tense environment constructed by Ye Xiu made everyone turn and look at their surroundings from time to time.

Happy's cautiousness wasn't for naught. Amidst the silence, they could hear the sounds of footsteps coming from the passageway.

That wasn't the direction Wind Howl would be coming from. Which team was this?

Tyranny and Happy had run in the opposite directions. It was too early to meet up. Thus, it should be one of the other two guilds. Was it Royal Style or Misty Rain?

"Withdraw for now." Ye Xiu typed in the chat.

The five characters stood up. To hide the sounds of their footsteps, they either crouched or rolled and quickly found a hiding spot. Ye Xiu had found these spots as soon as Happy had gotten here.

The footsteps grew closer and closer. Ye Xiu told the others to retreat back, while his Lord Grim was positioned slightly more forward.

The five characters finally revealed themselves.

It was Team Misty Rain!

Windy Rain, Something to Hide, Dark Forest, None Dare Attack, Lower Your Head.

Misty Rain's character choices were as bold as Happy's. They also didn't bring a healer. What's more, their team had three Sharpshooters. Along with Windy Rain, that made four long-ranged attackers with Dark Forest as a Ninja.

"Get ready to fight." Ye Xiu called out to the other four.

Their positions were hidden. It wasn't possible for Misty Rain to directly see them. What followed depended on what Team Misty Rain did. If they decided to investigate this side, Happy had to attack first to catch them off guard.

However, Misty Rain didn't seem to have any intentions of searching this area. Their team quickly passed by this point and moved ahead.

Happy's five players slowly went out of hiding.

"Follow them." Ye Xiu said, "It'd be best if they clashed with Wind Howl."

Just when Ye Xiu said this, sounds of gunfire could be heard ahead.

"How aggressive! They really are pro teams! They've already encountered each other!" Ye Xiu praised.

Team Wind Howl didn't chase after Happy as soon as possible, but in the end, they still headed in this direction. After all, Happy was moving about in this direction. They hadn't given up and obviously wanted to get all the shards too, but then they encountered Misty Rain.

Wind Howl knew that Happy was ahead, so they had advanced very cautiously. When they heard footsteps, Fang Rui thought that Happy had finished recovering and had come back to kill them. This situation was within his expectations. He quickly set up traps and arranged a formation.

When the first trap was triggered, a battle soon ensued. Fang Rui looked at the enemies and suddenly felt like crying.

If it wasn't Happy, it was okay. But it just had to be Misty Rain. Misty Rain just had to have so many long-ranged characters too, reducing the threat of his traps. Long-ranged attackers didn't need to stick close to them to attack. If they didn't enter the trap zone, how could his traps be of any use?

Today's been such an unlucky day!

Fang Rui was gloomy. Wind Howl had once again been thrown into disarray. This time, under his arrangements, Zhao Yuzhe felt like he could finally breathe.

Chu Yunxiu and her Windy Rain!

Zhao Yuzhe really wanted to fight her. He hoped that he could crush her to prove that he was the number one Elementalist. Even though it was just the game right now, these thoughts were deeply rooted in him. As soon as he saw Windy Rain, his emotions became fervent. He started to think about how he should contend with Windy Rain.

"Retreat!"

But then his spirits were once again dampened. Again by Fang Rui.

As soon as the situation looked slightly unfavorable, they would immediately retreat. If the enemy advances, we retreat. If the enemy retreats, we harass. These were the guidelines on how to play dirty. Fang Rui was commanding the team, so he naturally made decisions depending on his own habits.

But this made Fang Rui very very unhappy. Extremely unhappy.

"Retreat again? When are we going to fight? Didn't we already set up traps?" Zhao Yuzhe shouted. Even though he could see that these traps would mostly fail because Misty Rain consisted of mostly long-ranged attackers, he had to say it to slap Fang Rui's face.

"The traps are no good. Retreat for now." Fang Rui's style of playing dirty didn't have the same sort of pride as Zhao Yuzhe's playstyle. He simply admitted that his traps were ineffective.

F\*ck, communicating with this type of person is impossible!

Zhao Yuzhe felt very bitter. The ideologies that the two sides had for Glory were completely different. But seeing how the other two team members had followed Fang Rui's orders and started retreating, Zhao Yuzhe didn't dare challenge Misty Rain alone. He could only retreat as well.

But Misty Rain refused to let them go. The three Sharpshooters shot at them as they chased closely behind.

The sounds of gunfire provided a good cover for Happy. They didn't need to hide their footsteps to avoid the notice of the others, making their tailing very easy.

Soon, Wind Howl retreated back to where Happy had found the shard after killing the female ghost. When they saw the walls collapsed over there, they wanted to cry.

Another team was coming in this direction, Royal Style!

The poor Wind Howl was suddenly surrounded like a dumpling. No matter how crafty Fang Rui was, it would be very difficult for the entire team to escape. Both escape routes were sealed!

Their only choice was to fight!

"You don't fight when we should fight and fight when we shouldn't fight!" Zhao Yuzhe shouted in discontent.

Indeed, compared to the previous five players from Misty Rain or the nearly dead Happy, their situation was even more disastrous right now.

However, fighting in an tricky situation was one of the strengths of someone who played dirty.

Team Royal Style was led by Tian Sen's Exorcist, Peaceful Hermit. Starting last season, he had spent much effort in the game in an attempt to help Royal Style grow. Unfortunately, the effects weren't good. Royal Style once again failed to enter the playoffs. As for he and his Peaceful Hermit, his ranking in All Stars dropped again to 21st place. If he dropped another three places, he wouldn't make it into All Stars.

To get chosen into All Stars was an honor for many players and characters. However, Peaceful Hermit was a God-level character that had been equally as famous as One Autumn Leaf and Desert Dust back in the early days! And now, Peaceful Hermit was actually struggling to make it into All Stars? Tian Sen felt that they were incapable of making it into playoffs.

There has to be change!

Tian Sen muttered to himself again and again. This summer, this break, he threw himself into the game even more fervently.

Chapter 1113: Sending a Shard

Royal Style on the left. Misty Rain on the right. Wind Howl in the middle.

In this situation, no communication was necessary. Royal Style and Misty Rain were already thinking the same thing: eliminate Wind Howl first.



Tian Sen's Peaceful Hermit grabbed with his left hand and pulled out a talisman, crackling with lightning, from the void. He swung his right hand and a scythe flew out along with that lightning talisman towards Wind Howl.

"Lightning Talisman! Dodge!"

Fang Rui shouted. Wind Howl's four players quickly dispersed. The scythe landed at the center of their original location. The Lightning Talisman exploded and lightning spread from where the scythe had pierced into the ground.

Throwing the weapon was an Exorcist skill called "Spirit Guidance". Many Exorcist skills could be utilized along with "Spirit Guidance". A weapon thrown with "Spirit Guidance" wouldn't be considered as dropping it. Others wouldn't be able to pick it up. On the other hand, the Exorcist could grab the weapon back from afar. It could be considered as one way for an Exorcist to show off how cool he was.

But for experts, looking cool was secondary. These types of class-specific skills were skills that best displayed a class's ability. All of these skills needed to be mastered.

As the number one Exorcist in Glory, Tian Sen's mastery over this skill was needless to say. "Spirit Guidance" brought a Lightning Talisman with it, splitting up Wind Howl's team.

Misty Rain coordinated very well with them. Chu Yunxiu complemented with a Heavenly Lightning Earthen Fire, a Flame Storm, and a Thunder Apocalypse. Three AoE spells completely split apart Wind Howl's four players.

Behind Winy Rain, Team Misty Rain's three Sharpshooters focused Wind Howl's Cleric. Bullets rained down wildly onto Wind Howl's Cleric.

Tian Sen saw Misty Rain's actions and directed his team to coordinate with them. Team Royal Style's players belonged to the strength category. Xu Huiliu was a Striker player. His fame might not be comparable to Han Wenqing's, but he definitely belonged to the upper ranks among Strikers. Shen Wanhe was a Spitfire. After Zhang Jiale retired, he was even a candidate for Dazzling Hundred Blossom's successor. His skill wasn't as high as a God's though, and in the end, Team Hundred Blossoms chose their own team's Zou Yuan. Then, there was He Weitang. He even had a slight connection with Zhao Yuzhe. The two had joined the pro scene the same year and were both contenders for Best Rookie that year. Even though Zhao Yuzhe was chosen to be Best Rookie, the lead had been very slight. He Weitang lost, but he was definitely a talented rookie worthy of being nurtured. He Weitang was a Summoner, which was a class that had always been missing among the All Stars cast. The last player was their Paladin, Ren Junchi. He wasn't particularly outstanding among healers, but for him to be a starter on a pro team, he couldn't be bad.

The current Team Royal Style was their starting five players. Tian Sen's Peaceful Hermit initiated with a Lightning Talisman and then directed his team to coordinate with Team Misty Rain to target Wind Howl's Cleric.

Wind Howl was still within Fang Rui's trap zone. However, Royal Style had He Weitang, who quickly had his summons lead the way. Shen Wanhe's Spitfire was also a long-ranged attacker and he quickly formed a crossfire with Misty Rain's three Sharpshooters.

How could a Cleric defend against so many attacks? His allies had been separated from him by AoE attacks. When Xu Huiliu's Striker reached him, Wind Howl's Cleric could no longer persevere and was the first to fall.

Misty Rain only attacked from afar. They coordinated closely with Wind Howl, making sure to avoid any accidental injuries. But the instant Wind Howl's Cleric fell, Misty Rain's Liu Hua's Ninja, Dark Forest, very precisely teleported to the fallen Cleric with a Shadow Clone Technique.

Royal Style was startled, but quickly realized Misty Rain's intentions. Xu Huiliu's Striker was just about to punch, when everyone saw that the Cleric hadn't dropped anything when he died.

Xu Huiliu forcefully canceled his skill. The two sides typed haha and tacitly understood to focus on the next target.

Wind Howl's Knight became the the next target of the two teams. But this time, Royal Style was prepared. He Weitang's summons swarmed the Knight. If Li Hua's Dark Forest tried to use Shadow Clone Technique again, he wouldn't be able to squeeze in.

Misty Rain saw this and figured that all of their efforts would have been for nothing, so they immediately switched fire to Zhao Yuzhe's Beautiful Light. They planned on testing their luck with Royal Style to see which player from Wind Howl would have the shard.

Zhao Yuzhe was in a dire situation, but his fighting spirit didn't dampen. Even though he felt like there was no possibility of him escaping, he still wanted to attack Windy Rain to prove his skill.

When the enemies stopped attacking him, Zhao Yuzhe was able to find an opportunity. He was just about to send a fierce wave of attacks at Windy Rain, when Team Misty Rain suddenly switched targets. Bang bang bang! The three Sharpshooters had shot three Thunder Snipes, striking the frail Elementalist and shattering not just his heart but his body into pieces.

Zhao Yuzhe, who had been planning on launching a fierce assault, didn't even have a way out anymore. He could only brace himself for the attacks and continue charging ahead as if he were a Battle Mage.

But midway through, Li Hua's Dark Forest intercepted him. Along with support fire from the rear, Beautiful Light wasn't even able to touch Windy Rain's clothing.

"Fuck!" Zhao Yuzhe cursed fiercely. The instant he fell, he saw that their team's Knight couldn't hang on any longer either. But what about Fang Rui?

Zhao Yuzhe immediately checked and was dumbstruck. Their teammate Fang Rui found an opportunity when the other three players died to run away.

"You!" Zhao Yuzhe fumed. Sound could no longer be transmitted in the game. He could only turn his head and shout at Fang Rui outside the game. But Fang Rui was completely focused. His hands were dancing across the keyboard and mouse. He didn't notice Zhao Yuzhe's existence at all.

You think you can escape from this kind of encirclement?

Zhao Yuzhe was solely preoccupied with Fang Rui's dirtiness, but ignored the outcome that resulted from it. Windy Rain and Royal Style, ten pro players, discovered that none of those three in Wind Howl

had dropped the shard. At the same time, they also realized with a start: Fang Rui's Doubtful Demon had disappeared!

The Thief's Stealth allowed the character to move while invisible. But even so, with the two pro teams attacking from two sides, slipping away without them noticing showed Fang Rui's skill with it.

"Find him!!!" The two teams ordered.

The Stealth effect would be removed at the slightest touch and under Stealth, the character would move at 60% speed. Even if the skill was maxed, the movement speed could only reach at 85%. Any attack or any movement that used stamina would automatically cancel Stealth. The only exception was if the Thief had Trap Proficiency and placed down traps under Stealth.

Pro players obviously understood how the skill worked. They naturally knew how to get a Thief out of stealth, but despite their best efforts, they were unable to dig out Fang Rui's Doubtful Demon.

The two teams continued to do their best, but at the same time, they had gradually started to shift their intentions. Next up was time for the two teams to fight. The teams already understood how this dungeon worked. They knew that they needed to fight for these shards. Fang Rui's Doubtful Demon was gone, so now it was time for them to fight.

Spirit Guidance! Ice Talisman!

Tian Sen's Peaceful Hermit moved first. He tossed his scythe, which landed on the ground along with an Ice Talisman. A ring of ice was just about to spread out, when a pillar of fire shot up from the same spot! Raging Flames! Team Misty Rain had been prepared. Chu Yunxiu's Windy Rain had practically casted the spell at the same time.

Ice and fire crossed. The two elements restrained each other, neither attack greater than the other. Raging Flame's fire pillar didn't last for even a second before it disappeared. The Ice Talisman's ice ring failed to spread outwards and disappeared along with the fire pillar.

Following afterwards, the two sides attacked each other fiercely. Team Misty Rain had no healer, so they couldn't fight head to head with Royal Style. Their long-ranged attackers coordinated with one another, while Liu Hua's Ninja weaved around. This type of playstyle was Team Misty Rain's distinguishing style. Only this time, they had no healer and instead had a long-ranged attacker. Their offensive was more powerful, but they needed to be more careful in protecting themselves.

"So they've finally started fighting. Time to run!"

Fang Rui's Doubtful Demon started moving. This was the brilliant spot he had chosen. He knew that the two pro teams would quickly realize that he had disappeared with Stealth. If he went to look for any hiding places, he would definitely be forced out by the enemies, so he simply stood there in place and gambled on it.

Fang Rui's gamble paid off. The two teams were searching around the exit and failed to find him. The two then started attacking each other. Fang Rui was carefully weaving past the fires of the battle. Even though Wind Howl only had one person remaining, Fang Rui felt like they hadn't lost yet because the remaining teams would have to fight each other. After the teams killed one another, perhaps there might be an opportunity for him to finish it off?

Doubtful Demon slowly left the battle, but he wasn't willing to go too far. He wanted to see what the outcome of the battle would be. Perhaps there was an opportunity there. He slowly retreated, looking for a safe place to peep at the battle. As he backed up, he discovered that he had backed up into a group of people.

Fuck!

Fang Rui suddenly fumed. He was just one person playing dirty, but Happy was going too far. All five of them were playing dirty. They were all shamelessly hiding in a corner, waiting to reap the benefits.

Too shameless!

Fang Rui cursed inwardly, but he didn't dare challenge Happy's five players. He took advantage of the fact that Happy hadn't discovered him yet and tried to leave.

Fang Rui had wanted to quietly move his Doubtful Demon away, when he suddenly heard a click from underneath his feet.

A trap had locked up his foot. Doubtful Demon's stealth wore off.

"What the fuck?" Steamed Bun cried out in surprise, seeing a person suddenly appear out of nowhere.

"Shhh. He's here to send us his shard." Ye Xiu said calmly.

Chapter 1114: Dangerous Game

"Shameless!!" Fang Rui immediately shouted, after being caught in the trap.

Was he really angry enough to resort to such an outburst? Of course not. He already knew that there was absolutely no way for him to escape, but he refused to let Happy get away with this so easily. By yelling, he hoped that he could catch the attention of Misty Rain and Royal Style, drawing them over here to impede Happy's progress.

"Hahaha, go ahead and shout all you want, you can shout until you go hoarse and no one will hear." Ye Xiu said accompanied by a smirking emoji. Fang Rui turned his camera. It was true, there was no use! They were too far away, not to mention that they were fiercely fighting, with all sorts of sound effects from the skills they used. The sound of his voice had no way of carrying all the way over there.

"Kill him quickly!" Ye Xiu ordered, his Lord Grim acting first. A Back Throw pushed Fang Rui's Doubtful Demon into a dark corner, and the other four members of Happy weren't as polite as they unleashed a barrage of attacks on him. Fang Rui noticed that these guys were avoiding loud and flashy skills, instead using silent and subtle ones - they intended to smother him here.

Fang Rui was upset, but what could he do? No matter his skill, no matter his status as the master of playing dirty, there was simply no way for him to escape from this corner after being surrounded by five pros.

Doubtful Demon fell. Now, Team Wind Howl was completely wiped out.

The shard that Wind Howl had obtained was held by Doubtful Demon, as expected. Fang Rui had gone through great struggles to protect this shard, using all of his shameless tactics to escape from tight spots, but in the end, Happy snatched it just like that.

Fang Rui shook his head and let out a sigh, then stood up and stretched his arms. He glanced around the room, and saw Zhao Yuzhe still shooting glares at him out of the corner of his eye.

Fang Rui could only smile bitterly. He was a veteran player, having played for many years now, and the problems that Liu Hao had noticed, he understood even more clearly.

After Tang Hao had joined Wind Howl, it seemed as though Wind Howl's strength vastly increased, and they had even made it to the semifinals last season. However, Fang Rui's capabilities in this team had been suppressed. His dirty playstyle was entirely opposed to Tang Hao's playstyle, as well as that of the newcomer Zhao Yuzhe.

As time went on, he felt like more and more of a stranger to Wind Howl. They'd gotten through last season like this, but the problem was very apparent. Fang Rui felt it. Tang Hao and Zhao Yuzhe felt too. How could the club managers not have noticed either?

Fang Rui remembered how the club had acted when encouraging Lin Jingyan to retire last year, and he felt lost as to what his own future now looked like. Seeing the dissatisfaction that both Tang Hao and Zhao Yuzhe displayed toward him, Fang Rui felt that his footsteps toward the exit were only quickening. Tang Hao was the now core of Wind Howl. Zhao Yuzhe had a good future ahead of him and was being looked after heavily. Fang Rui had no chance of winning this battle. Should he just back off? Accept Wind Howl's new style?

Unfortunately, Fang Rui had been playing dirty for so many years. These skills and instincts had been thoroughly ingrained into him. To have him follow Tang Hao and Zhao Yuzhe, the fierce and direct playstyle of these youths, he simply couldn't do it. His class wasn't suited for it either.

It looked like his time was up...

In the training room, Tang Hao stood up, Zhao Yuzhe stood up, and the rest of the players followed, returning to their rooms to rest. Fang Rui tilted his neck back and stared at the ceiling. For these people who spent their lives in the game, this was the sky they saw the most often, the ceiling lights acting as their starlight. After so many years, he was used to this sight. But now, it looked like he would be saying goodbye to this piece of sky.

Let's take things one step at a time!

Fang Rui shut off his computer. As the last one to leave the practice room, he didn't forget to turn off all the lights and power.

Wind Howl withdrew from the event, but the battle in the Ghost Lair continued. Happy now had two shards, and they were in a good position as they watched the ongoing battle without either of the two sides knowing. Right now, the most important thing was patience, patience to wait until these two teams beat themselves bloody.

This wasn't a competition where the goal was to kill the opponent. In this competition, there was only one goal: shards!

A shard could only be held by one character on the opposing team, so in this battle, the strategy of attacking everyone and defending everyone wasn't used. Instead, both sides directed all of their attacks onto one target at a time. Kill one, see if they held a shard. If obtained, then retreat, if not, then repeat the process.

Ye Xiu hoped that both sides protected their shards well, that way more characters would be killed off one by one as each team tried to find the other's. At the same time, he was also studying the battle closely, seeing if he could guess from their movements which characters held their respective teams' shards.

"Did you find anything?" Su Mucheng asked, as she too watched the battle.

"Hm, there's nothing stand-out about Royal Style. They're protecting their healer, but that's to be expected. The healer could have the shard, though, so protecting him would serve two purposes," Ye Xiu said.

"So Misty Rain is currently targeting Gentle Angel," Su Mucheng said. Gentle Angel was the name of Royal Style's Paladin. As a healer, this sort of sweet and pleasant name was relatively common. This character was also a female character, and its previous owner was female. But now, the owner had changed. Ren Junchi, a manly man, but with an account called Gentle Angel. Just looking at the conflict of these names, it was fairly clear what kind of person this player was.

"Yes, exactly. It's more difficult to judge Misty Rain's side though. The four long-ranged attackers have the safety of distance, and Li Hua's Ninja is nimble and evasive, the shard could easily be on any of them. Using what you know about Chu Yunxiu, who do you think she would have assigned the shard to?" Ye Xiu said.

"Like you said, it could be anyone," Su Mucheng said.

"Alright." Ye Xiu was helpless. The current situation couldn't be considered too good.

"Better pay attention closely. If Royal Style did give it to Gentle Angel, and he's killed first by Misty Rain and drops it..." Ye Xiu trailed off. That would be the worst outcome for these lurkers. They were hoping for both sides to suffer heavy damage, so if only one person died before the battle finished, they wouldn't be at as large of an advantage.

"Footsteps!" Tang Rou suddenly said.

"Huh? Where?" Ye Xiu immediately asked. After all, Tang Rou's ears had been trained professionally and were sharper than those of anyone else here.

"From the way we came!" Tang Rou said.

"I didn't hear anything?" Steamed Bun was still confused, controlling his Steamed Bun Invasion to crouch on the ground, turning this way and that as he pressed his ear to the ground.

This seemed to be the legendary "ear to the ground" listening method, Steamed Bun must have have learned it from somewhere. But would Glory have this sort of mechanism? Ye Xiu, the man titled the "Glory Textbook," made a face at Steamed Bun's idiocy.

"From the way we came." Tang Rou confirmed.

"It's Tyranny!" Ye Xiu said. It couldn't be anyone else but Tyranny.

With this, Happy was stuck in the middle. On one side, there was the fierce battle between two teams, and on the other side there was the rapidly approaching Tyranny. Happy had no way out. Although their current position hid them from the two fighting teams, there was no way they could evade the notice of Tyranny unless they were completely oblivious or distracted.

"Prepare for battle..." Ye Xiu was helpless. For another team to come from behind, they really were unlucky here.

Right now, should they try to keep their battle with Tyranny separate from the ongoing one, or should they try to group all four teams together into a one big chaotic free-for-all? Ye Xiu thought rapidly, and eventually reached a decision. A huge four-way battle like that would be disadvantageous to the parties without healers, which included Happy. Plus, Happy had three rookies who lacked experience and judgment. In such a chaotic battle, they would certainly fare worse than the more experienced pros.

Better keep the two battles separate!

Ye Xiu led his team out of the corner to advance towards where Tyranny was approaching from, to further separate themselves from Misty Rain and Royal Style so that they wouldn't discover their battle here.

The footsteps grew closer and closer, until finally, the silhouettes of Tyranny's five finally appeared in their view.

"Don't act rashly, follow my lead," Ye Xiu said in the team channel.

It could be said that there were no secrets between the Ye Xiu and Tyranny's old veterans. They understood each other extremely well, having fought for so many years, and it would be difficult for either side to surprise the other. With no surprises, then there was only direct confrontation left as an option. But Happy was much weaker than Tyranny. Ye Xiu would have to figure out some sort of tactic if they were to survive this.

Tyranny's five, upon seeing Happy's five, came to a stop. The two sides had already identified each other. Ye Xiu heard someone on Tyranny say, exasperated, "How come it's you guys again?"

"The feeling is mutual," Ye Xiu said.

Right after saying that, Ye Xiu heard the sound of an explosion from behind him.

He knew that there was a fierce battle ongoing back there, and he didn't want Tyranny to find out, so he arranged their meeting a little farther away. They shouldn't have been able to hear the battle from here, but that explosion... The battle over there, was it moving?

Ye Xiu heard the sound, so of course Tyranny heard as well.

"Flash Bullet? Who's over there?" Zhang Jiale immediately recognized the sound effect of one of his Spitfire skills.

"Royal Style it seems." Zhang Xinjie immediately made this judgment. Flash Bullet, a Spitfire skill. Among the 25 players who entered the Ghost Lair, there were only two Spitfires, Zhang Jiale's Dazzling Hundred Blossoms and Chen Wanhe's Flash Save.

"Who are they fighting?" Zhang Jiale asked.

"Misty Rain?" The sound of numerous bullets gave them their answer. Only Misty Rain had brought three Sharpshooters.

How did the fight between those two teams move all the way over here? Ye Xiu was quickly thinking over this question - but in an instant, he understood.

It was Fang Rui!

That guy, harming others even without any benefit to himself! Before he died, he must have sent a message to those two teams telling them that Happy was over here waiting for an opportunity. Since everyone was using their professional accounts this time, they had each other added as friends and it was easy enough to send a message like this to them.

So these two teams pretended to fight, either trying to pull Happy into some kind of trap, or steadily approaching Happy until they could suddenly turn and attack them. In any case, they weren't going to let Happy just wait for easy pickings.

As expected of the master of playing dirty, he had played a dangerous game that could have backfired.

Messages were very easy to send, but Happy had forgotten this point. Good thing that Tyranny had come and caused a change in plans, otherwise who knew what would have happened?

Chapter 1115: What Kind of Line-up Is This?

Misty Rain and Royal Style's battle was approaching. It seemed like these two teams were preparing to fake their battle to paralyze Happy, then, once they were close enough, surround Happy and team up to attack them. But now that Ye Xiu saw their plan, the paralysis was broken. He obviously wasn't just going to wait for them to come.

Except now, Happy was trapped in between three teams and was unable to do anything. If Ye Xiu were on Tyranny and saw Misty Rain and Royal Style's intent, he wouldn't hesitate to team up with them right here and ruthlessly destroy Happy in a 3v1 before anything else.

What to do?

Ye Xiu's mind worked rapidly. At the same time, he looked around to observe the situation, and suddenly realized that Tyranny, upon discovering a battle up ahead, looked like they were subtly trying to retreat.

Avoiding the battle first? Then coming back to pick off whoever was left?



That was too naive! They were already exposed to Happy, how could Happy let them peacefully stand to the side and watch? Trying to retreat now would only make them suffer what would have originally been Happy's fate: being crushed by the other three teams.

Such a simple logic, how would Tyranny's old foxes be unable to see it?

In that instant, one possibility flashed through Ye Xiu's mind: had these guys still not discovered what the goal of the Ghost Lair dungeon was?

Because if that were the case, Tyranny still didn't know what the teams were supposed to be doing in this dungeon. And so they acted the same as when they had first met up with Happy, preferring to be cautious and avoid conflict, because they still had no idea why they should be fighting.

To this, Ye Xiu could only feel regret, even if it was a regret layered with elation. Luck was really a fickle thing. After obtaining a shard, the situation in the Ghost Lair was obvious. Happy, Wind Howl, Royal Style, and Misty Rain were all fighting for their lives, which showed that they all understood the point of this dungeon, and that they had all managed to obtain a shard. But Tyranny... It seemed like they still hadn't encountered a mini-boss and obtained a shard, so they still had no idea what was going on in this dungeon.

"Why are Misty Rain and Royal Style fighting?" Ye Xiu didn't waste any time, acting dumb to gauge how much the Tyranny members actually knew. Of course, on their own side, Tang Rou, Steamed Bun, and Mo Fan didn't have experience in this sort of tactical competition, so they would probably be confused. Ye Xiu immediately sent a reminder in the team channel, so that they wouldn't expose his act.

"Unclear." Tyranny's Zhang Xinjie answered.

"There must be some special reason," Ye Xiu said.

"Obviously." Zhang Jiale said.

"Let's retreat first, move quickly," Ye Xiu called.

Tyranny immediately retreated the way they came, which showed that this had been their intent all along. Ye Xiu let out a long breath. They were too lucky! Happy was now, like Tyranny, a team that didn't know anything, and so together they could temporarily avoid conflict.

Two teams, ten people together they headed down the tunnel, putting some distance between them and the battle between Royal Style and Misty Rain.

"Let them fight first. And then we..." Ye Xiu sent a few laughing emojis.

"Shameless!" Zhang Jiale said.

"Dirty!" Lin Jingyan said.

"You aren't going?" Ye Xiu asked.

Tyranny fell silent, because there wasn't a good answer to that question. How could they not go? Up until now, they still hadn't figured out the goal of this dungeon, but Misty Rain and Royal Style's fight should give them the answer. But if they revealed this now, there would probably be negative

consequences for them, so the best plan was to wait for the other teams to destroy each other and then go in.

And so Tyranny avoided directly answering Ye Xiu's question.

"How come they seem to be getting closer? How are these two teams fighting?" Lin Jingyan said, listening to the sounds of the battle.

"Did they discover us?" Ye Xiu pretended to be shocked.

In reality he was very clear, the situation was like this exactly because those two teams hadn't discovered them here. Royal Style and Misty Rain received Fang Rui's message and knew that Happy was waiting somewhere for an opportunity, so they pretended to fight fiercely as they moved in this direction to surprise and block off Happy. But the two teams still hadn't found any sign of Happy.

Was Fang Rui lying?

Even though this guy liked to play dirty, there was no reason for him to lie to Misty Rain and Royal Style like this. So they were fairly certain that Fang Rui's information was correct.

Then, there was only one explanation: Happy had figured out their intentions and were avoiding them.

This upset the two teams.

Happy avoided them, but would they stay away forever? Knowing that these two teams would fight sooner or later, would they just hang around to wait for their chance? The two teams couldn't decide what to do, and there was no further instruction, so they could only continue their pretend fight. When they arrived at where Fang Rui had said Happy was hiding, the two teams saw that there was only one path Happy could have taken from there.

The two teams decided that, without knowing Happy's whereabouts or status, they had no way of confidently fighting. But since the situation had already gotten to this point, there was no reason to continue the pretense, so the teams stopped their fighting, and began to charge down the path.

"Huh, they stopped?"

The sounds of battle suddenly stopped, coming as a surprise to Tyranny.

"They finished fighting? They shouldn't have!" Zhang Jiale said. Just then, there had been the sounds of all sorts of skills being used, so clearly there were a good number of players still alive. Was there some giant fire that wiped out all of the characters on one side? That didn't make any sense.

"They must have discovered us and decided to give chase!" Ye Xiu said.

"Who ran so slowly that they saw us?" Lin Jingyan said. Tyranny was still in the dark!

"Why are you still talking? What do we do? Continue to avoid them, or?" Ye Xiu said.

"We'll have to fight sooner or later," Tyranny's Captain Han Wenqing said. They still didn't know the reason for battle, but seeing how Misty Rain and Royal Style were fighting, it seemed like it was an inevitable outcome. So, if they were going to fight anyway, then retreating certainly wasn't Tyranny's style.

"Since it's come to this, then we'll go fight together, catch them while they're disorganized!" Ye Xiu shouted.

Upon hearing this, the Tyranny members agreed. If they were going to fight, then take this chance and fight quickly!

So the ten characters turned around and began charging back the way they came. At this time, Royal Style and Misty Rain had chased them here, and the two sides met. Happy and Tyranny's spirits were fierce and bright, but Royal Style and Misty Rain's spirits were suddenly crushed.

"Oh no! It's a trap!"

The two teams thought this simultaneously.

They had clearly been chasing only Happy here, where did Tyranny suddenly come from? It was originally supposed to be a 10v5, which the two teams felt would be an easy fight, but now it had unexpectedly become a 10v10. They had also spent quite some energy putting on that show of a battle... but even disregarding that, just look at the opposing side's roster.

Ye Xiu, Su Mucheng, Han Wenqing, Lin Jingyan, Zhang Jiale, Zhang Xinjie...

What kind of line-up was this? It was enough to make anyone cry! Royal Style and Misty Rain's line-ups weren't weak among the professional teams, but in front of this intimidating list of names, they suddenly seemed pathetic.

Could they fight this battle?

The two teams were still in a shock because of this line-up, but Happy and Tyranny were already upon them, attacking without even a greeting. Su Mucheng's Dancing Rain fired a Stinger into the air, which exploded apart and rained down upon the players. To the left, Tang Rou's Soft Mist burst forward with a Dragon Breaks the Ranks. To the right, Zhang Jiale's Dazzling Hundred Blossoms covered a path with a display of light and shadows, into which Han Wenqing's Desert Dust disappeared. When he emerged again, it was with a Ferocious Tiger Flurry sweeping right into the heart of the opponents' ranks.

Happy and Tyranny's allied assault was too ferocious, too relentless, too powerful. Royal Style and Misty Rain originally thought they had the initiative when giving chase, but now they couldn't find their pace at all.

Ye Xiu's Lord Grim had also charged into battle, but his eyes, instead of being fixed on his battle target, were continuously moving about, analyzing the field. Ye Xiu was confident that in this situation, where the opponents were on the defensive, it would be easier to see which characters held the shards. These players would be at the center of their teams' adjustments.

Soon enough, Ye Xiu saw the clues.

Even though they had been caught by surprise, in the end these were professional teams, and there was order to their chaos. Misty Rain, for one, was trying to increase the distance between themselves and the others. The three Sharpshooters and Chu Yunxiu's Windy Rain were continuously retreating, and the crossfire pattern made by the three Sharpshooters clearly served to protect one character in particular -

Windy Rain. As for Royal Style, they didn't have such a sharp change in their battle pattern, but they continued to focus on protecting their healer Gentle Angel.

The answer was right there. For Ye Xiu, these were crucial clues, but Tyranny... it was a shame that they still didn't know about the shards. From their perspective, Royal Style's protection of their healer was a perfectly normal action, and Misty Rain using their Sharpshooters to cover Windy Rain also wasn't out of the ordinary. The Sharpshooters had much better mobility than an Elementalist, so this sort of retreat would of course involve the Sharpshooters helping out the Elementalist more.

After Ye Xiu determined who held the shards, he immediately informed his team through the team channel, but he didn't make any adjustments to the battle strategy. They were currently teamed up with Tyranny, whose primary goal was to wipe out every opponent, so for now they could only pay closer attention to these two targets.

Misty Rain, who lacked a healer, was currently in a much worse situation than Royal Style was. Additionally, in a chaotic 20-person battle, their long-range attackers didn't have enough space to maintain a safe distance and move around easily. Ye Xiu saw that they were trying to escape, and immediately ordered Happy to block their path of retreat, and at the same time loudly shouted at Tyranny, reminding them not to let the fish slip through the net.

Upon hearing this, Misty Rain and Royal Style became angry.

True, they weren't in a good situation right now, but up until now none of their characters had fallen. The battle was in a stalemate right now, it was far from the point where victory or defeat was apparent.

Fish slipping through the net? What are you talking about? Who's the net and who's the fish?

The dissatisfaction caused by Ye Xiu's words caused the fighting spirit of Misty Rain and Royal Style to suddenly spike. Multiple players suddenly started playing at a higher, fiercer level than before, suddenly stabilizing their positions.

"Can you shut up!" Seeing this, Tyranny seethed. This trash-talk, instead of crushing the opponents' spirits, served the opposite purpose! Misty Rain and Royal Style, in a disadvantageous position, had been hesitant with their attacks, but now that Ye Xiu said this, they were like fish fighting to the death to break free of the net. Because these two teams knew that Wind Howl was done for, and all that was left were the four teams right here. Might as well use this one battle to decide a winner once and for all!

With this thought, the two teams began to counterattack, with each player experiencing a small surge in power. And, as the battle rhythm shifted, the protection of their important characters inadvertently slipped, just the tiniest bit.

Cloud Grasping Fist!

At this moment, Ye Xiu sinisterly unleashed his ultimate move...

Chapter 1116: Duped

Cloud Grasping Fist!

Lord Grim's actions were sneaky to the extreme. He had made his way to Zhang Jiale's Dazzling Hundred Blossoms, borrowing the flashiness of his attacks as cover.

Just looking at Ye Xiu's shameless sneakiness, Zhang Jiale was sorely tempted to toss a grenade to send this guy straight into the midst of Dazzling Hundred Blossom's attacks. Just kill him and be done with it. But then he remembered that they were supposed to be working together, and so he resisted the temptation.

Ye Xiu notice Royal Style's shift in tempo shifted and seized it, using the Hundred Blossom cover to launch a sneak attack. Royal Style was completely unprepared. As for Ye Xiu, it was actually quite tricky to accurately attack while under the cover of Hundred Blossom's light and shadows. This was a detail easily overlooked.

Royal Style's Ren Junchi understood that the victor of this dungeon could be determined with this one battle, and so he was supporting his teammates with all his strength, assisting their counterattack. But all of a sudden, his character was moving forward out of his control. Ren Junchi was confused, but he suddenly realized what had happened.

"Oh shit!" Ren Junchi only had time to give a shout to warn his teammates, but everyone's reactions were too slow. They could only watch, wide-eyed, as Ren Junchi's Gentle Angel was suddenly dragged from their sides, into the midst of Dazzling Hundred Blossom's attack range.

"Save him!" Tian Sen immediately shouted, already waving the scythe in his hand and sending several Lightning Talismans flying in the direction Gentle Angel had been grabbed. Before he reached the enemy ranks, first use some attacks to disrupt the enemy's rhythm.

But Ye Xiu was prepared. He directly pulled Gentle Angel out of the Hundred Blossoms Style cover, and with a Fling, Lord Grim sent Gentle Angel farther away.

"Fuck!" Zhang Jiale cursed.

Ye Xiu hadn't even warned him that he was going to do this, after flinging Gentle Angel, Ye Xiu just patted his butt and left. Meanwhile, Royal Style was still furiously trying to rescue their healer, and Zhang Jiale's Dazzling Hundred Blossoms was about to take the brunt of their fury.

"What's wrong with you!" Zhang Jiale yelled.

"You can take care of this. I believe in you!" Ye Xiu replied as Lord Grim quickly made his escape.

Zhang Jiale was helpless; he couldn't just retreat. Once Royal Style saw that their healer had been sent somewhere else, he would probably have to stop them. And the other members of Tyranny, upon seeing that Ye Xiu had captured Royal Style's healer, would of course have to cooperate to take out the healer.

On Happy's side, Ye Xiu had already prepared for them to receive the healer even before he went to grab him. Once he threw the healer over there, a barrage of attacks fell upon the healer. Under this fierce assault, how long could a healer last? Royal Style's rescue team couldn't make it over in time and Misty Rain's attack strategy relied on distance, so they didn't have the power to charge in.

In the midst of chaotic battle, Gentle Angel fell. Tyranny's members were pleased, but none of them noticed that in the crowd of Happy members around the fallen player, someone plucked an item from the ground beside Gentle Angel.

Tyranny was in the dark, but Royal Style was clear on the situation. Right now, they had neither healer nor shard, and they suddenly unleashed the ferocity of a team that had nothing to lose. But Tyranny's experts were experienced with this sort of sudden shift in tempo, and this change didn't throw them off. They were temporarily beaten back by Royal Style, but soon enough they stabilized and counterattacked, defeating another Royal Style player, Xu Huiliu's Striker.

Royal Style was being thoroughly routed, and Misty Rain faltered as well, as the pressure of the attacks on them increased. Their long-ranged attacks simply had no way of countering the explosive power of Happy and Tyranny.

"It's time, charge!" Ye Xiu ordered. This time, he wasn't mounting a sneak attack, Lord Grim was playing a direct attacker. Together with Tang Rou's Soft Mist, they launched an assault that would deal the death blow to Misty Rain.

With Tyranny's attacks restricting their movements, Misty Rain no longer had enough room to maneuver. The long-range attackers couldn't do anything as Ye Xiu and Tang Rou's characters closed the distance. Their formation was instantly broken apart.

"Beautiful. Working with you guys is great! You haven't let me down!" Ye Xiu praised loudly. When Happy attacked, Tyranny's coordinated support had been the key to knocking down Misty Rain; without them, it still would have been possible for Misty Rain to defend.

"Shut up, will you!" Tyranny, of course, didn't need any of Ye Xiu's praise.

"Keep working hard!" Ye Xiu called. On Happy's side, their attacks were clearly targeting one character, Chu Yunxiu's Windy Rain. After they had blown apart Misty Rain's formation, the other players were seemingly forgotten.

But Chu Yunxiu wouldn't be going down that easily. With a Teleport, the Elementalist instantly escaped from Happy's attacks, travelling to a place where it'd be the most difficult for Happy to readjust their formation and continue attacking.

But as soon as Windy Rain reappeared, a Satellite Beam fell from the sky. This was an attack made by correctly predicting the exact location at which Windy Rain would teleport to.

Chu Yunxiu immediately realized she had fallen for the trap. Happy had known that she would try to teleport to escape, and they had purposely left that opening for her to jump to. And the Launcher's extremely long range allowed her to instantly cover any corner of the battlefield.

Caught by the Satellite Beam, Windy Rain couldn't move, and two shadows suddenly appeared by her right and left.

Lord Grim and Deception, two Shadow Clones. Even though they couldn't travel as far as a Teleport, it was an instant movement technique too, and there was no faster way to close the distance to an opponent.

Afterwards, Windy Rain was grabbed by Lord Grim, and with another Fling, was sent to where Happy wanted. Misty Rain's three Sharpshooters pounced on them in an attempt to save their captain. Li Hua directly used a Shadow Dance with his Dark Forest, acting like a whole army of troops to try and disrupt Happy.

"Help please!" Ye Xiu shouted, of course not to Happy, but to Tyranny.

"You hold your position, throw Windy Rain over here!" Tyranny answered.

This sentence was really a lucky hit. Tyranny of course didn't know about the shard held by Windy Rain, but in the current situation, sending Windy Rain over to their side was just one logical option. After all, even though the teams were allied, they could still take damage from each other, so executing a combined attack would require extremely careful coordination. For example, when Ye Xiu's Lord Grim had stolen away Gentle Angel, he had to hide behind the Hundred Blossoms display, unlike the Tyranny members who could dive directly into the lights and shadows.

As soon as Tyranny proposed this plan, they prepared to receive the target, but when they looked over, they saw that Lord Grim and Steamed Bun invasion were still fiercely engaging in battle with Windy Rain! Besides these two characters, the others didn't have Fling! It seemed that tossing a character over wasn't very convenient for Happy.

There was no other option, Tyranny had to change their plans. It was just a small thing, not enough to pose any difficulty for them. To supplement Happy's attacks without disrupting their rhythm - that was something they could do.

Under Happy and Tyranny's partnership, the situation stabilized. Windy Rain was caught in between the two teams, and her health bar was plummeting. The three Sharpshooters and the Ninja persevered in their attacks, and Chu Yunxiu coordinated with them as she fought back, but in the end they still were unable to rescue her.

No solution!

After fighting to this extent, both Misty Rain and Royal Style wanted to retreat. If they continued fighting, they would all die here and that would be the end, but if they retreated now and preserved their health, there would still be a bit of hope left.

Both teams wanted to withdraw for now, but now Tyranny was making things difficult. They still didn't know about the shards, so they just wanted to wipe out the two teams entirely. Although they were currently partnered with Happy to crush their opponents, they were still calculating their chances as they compared the states of their two teams. Tyranny had a healer, while Happy didn't. Although Tyranny had supported Happy in their attacks, Zhang Xinjie hadn't let a single heal fall upon any of Happy's members, even though there was nothing in the system stopping him from doing so.

After fighting Misty Rain and Royal Style, Tyranny and Happy would inevitably turn on each other. But one side had a healer while the other didn't, which alone was enough to tip the scales. After defeating those two teams, Tyranny was prepared to seize this opportunity to take care of Happy as well.

Tyranny's ultimate goal was the total annihilation of all three other teams, a much more ambitious goal than the others. Royal Style and Misty Rain wanted to retreat now, but Tyranny wasn't about to let that happen. They would bite down hard, and not let go.

So they caught Royal Style, but there was a hole in Happy's trap for Misty Rain. Just as they killed Windy Rain, the other four members chose to retreat.

"Where are you running!" Ye Xiu yelled. "Give chase!" As he spoke, he led Happy to furiously pursue the retreating team.

"This guy did that on purpose, didn't he?" Seeing this, Tyranny's players began to discuss among themselves.

"It's clear, he's defending against us..." Zhang Xinjie sighed. He hadn't given Happy's side a single heal. Looking back, that must have made their intent too obvious.

"That guy's just too sneaky." Zhang Jiale shook his head.

"I say... Happy's already gotten away with all of the shards, why are you guys still being so kind to them?" Royal Style's three players couldn't last much longer. Once they saw that Misty Rain's members had run, and Tyranny was still attacking them, they were helpless. Tian Sen had no idea that Tyranny still didn't know about the shards; he thought that Tyranny was trying to shake a shard out of these three players. But the issue was, their team's shard had already been dropped by Gentle Angel! Thinking about how Tyranny was wasting their time, but was in such a relaxed mood, Tian Sen couldn't resist any longer and exposed the truth.

"Shards? What shards?" After Tyranny's five heard this, they were startled.

"Fuck, no way?" Tian Sen was shocked. These Tyranny brothers still didn't know what was going on?

Tian Sen quickly explained the situation in the dungeon. Once Tyranny heard this, of course they understood what had happened. They had been duped by Happy.

"Hurry and give chase!" Han Wenqing ordered, and Tyranny turned their fire.

Chapter 1117: Catching Dark Forest

"Hurry and give chase!" Han Wenqing ordered. Royal Style's three players let out a breath for it seemed like they were saved. They could wait for Tyranny and Happy to fight it out, and maybe it'd be another devastating battle, providing them with an opportunity.

But soon enough, the three realized that they had misunderstood.

The "hurry" in Tyranny's statement included killing them.

Then again, it made sense. Tian Sen admitted that their shard had already been stolen by Happy, but Tyranny had no way of verifying that this was the truth unless they killed all three of them to see if any of them were still holding a shard. They had already been fighting for so long that it wouldn't take very long for them to kill three players.



Royal Style thought that they could relax, but ended up being the first victims of Tyranny's rage at Happy.

Tian Sen was helpless, Chen Wanhe was helpless, He Weitang was helpless. The three players fell, and Royal Style was officially wiped out.

Tian Sen had been telling the truth when he said that they didn't have a shard. Their shard was indeed on Gentle Angel, who had dropped it to Happy.

To this, Tyranny was somewhat regretful, but they weren't annoyed. Royal Style had already been beaten down, but letting them go free would definitely have come back to bite them. Killing them now prevented that possibility from happening in the future.

Now, it was time to chase after Happy.

Happy had claimed they were going to kill Misty Rain, but Tyranny now knew that it was just as likely they had just used the opportunity to escape. Although they didn't know who on Misty Rain held the shard, just from looking at Happy's attack pattern, they were able to guess that Windy Rain had held it. Now that Happy had their shard as well, would they continue to cause trouble for Misty Rain?

Happy wouldn't, but on the other hand, Misty Rain probably wouldn't just let Happy go. Misty Rain couldn't fight against the Tyranny-Happy alliance, but if it were just Happy, Misty Rain had a better chance. Just because they lost a player didn't mean that they couldn't fight. If that were true, then they might as well just withdraw from the game altogether.

Tyranny had been duped, but that was only because they lacked information. Once they understood how the event worked, the logic was as simple as one plus one. After taking care of Royal Style, they would chase in the direction that Happy and Misty Rain had fled. They would hope that these two would fight bitterly, leaving a chance for them to defeat them and take the shards.

Tyranny's thought process was entirely logical.

Misty Rain ran, Happy pursued. After Misty Rain discovered that Happy was the only team chasing them, they suddenly changed their course of thought. Happy had taken quite a bit of damage when killing Gentle Angel and Windy Rain. It was the same situation as when they had killed Tang Hao's Demon Subduer.

It was unfortunate that Misty Rain didn't have a healer, so it was very difficult to recover health during battle. Happy didn't either, but they had Ye Xiu's Lord Grim, who could serve as a healer in a pinch. It would be more disadvantageous for Misty Rain to drag this out longer.

So Misty Rain suddenly stopped running. They turned and began charging back the way they had come.

But this didn't catch Happy by surprise. They entered battle mode smoothly.

"Attack Dark Forest." Ye Xiu had already issued orders in the team channel, so Happy's five members focused all of their attacks onto Dark Forest without holding back.

"They figured it out?" Seeing how he was clearly singled out as the target of attack, Li Hua's heart beat faster.

Yes, Ye Xiu had figured it out. On Misty Rain's side, Chu Yunxiu's Windy Rain hadn't been the only player with a shard. Li Hua's Dark Forest held one as well. Misty Rain had already obtained two shards, which also explained why Tyranny had been unable to find one. There were only five shards, and they were all claimed by four teams. How could there be any left over for Tyranny?

Dark Forest had a shard? Ye Xiu couldn't be a hundred percent certain, of course, but after careful evaluation of battle, he made this judgment, and now, it was time to test his theory.

Dragon Breaks the Ranks!

Soft Mist was the fastest, separating from the others as she launched her attack. Li Hua frantically controlled Dark Forest to dodge, but unexpectedly, the target of Soft Mist's attack wasn't himself. She travelled right past him with her attack, landing in the midst of the three Sharpshooters. Happy was focusing their attacks on Dark Forest, but they couldn't ignore the three Sharpshooters completely. They still had to give them the necessary attention to stop them.

Steamed Bun accompanied Soft Mist on her path of attack.

Although Tang Rou's forcefulness and Steamed Bun's strangeness weren't enough to directly take down the three Sharpshooters, the chaos they caused was definitely too much for the Sharpshooters to quickly break free. While the two Happy players kept the Sharpshooters busy, Ye Xiu, Su Mucheng, and Mo Fan surrounded and prepared to take down Dark Forest.

Ninjas specialized in assassinations and sneak attacks, so they were normally relatively difficult to catch. But it was a shame, for Happy also had a Ninja on their side.

Mo Fan's technique might not be as polished as Li Hua's, but his scrap-picking experience made him particularly skilled in several areas. For example, when tracking a target, not only was he incredibly patient, he was able to focus all of his attention, make good decisions, and maintain precise control of his actions.

Tracking someone while scrap-picking required picking them out from the midst of a chaotic crowd. Right now, however, it was just one opponent to track, and this was an incredibly simple task for Mo Fan.

Li Hua was the number one Ninja in Glory, so he quickly sensed Mo Fan's skill, and didn't underestimate him just because he was a rookie. And then there were the other two opponents, Ye Xiu and Su Mucheng, the most highly-skilled partners in Glory. Li Hua didn't dare take them lightly; he wanted to withdraw.

This... was perhaps the greatest criticism the Glory world had toward Team Misty Rain: when facing difficult situations, they didn't have the fierce spirit to keep pushing, they would always reveal a thread of weakness. This had become an iconic characteristic of their team.

Ninjas had many escape techniques, and as the number one Ninja, Li Hua's skill in this area was unquestionable. Immediately, Dark Forest tossed a Smoke Bomb, releasing a thick cloud of purple smoke everywhere. Dark Forest vanished in its midst, but he wasn't finished yet. The opponent could no longer directly catch him, but Li Hua didn't rely on his own movements to change coordinates and escape.

Instead, using the smoke cover, he simply used a Shadow Clone Technique, hiding his false body in the smoke, while his real body...

His real body was also in a cloud of purple smoke.

Li Hua wanted to cry. This cloud of purple smoke wasn't his, this was the smoke from a Smoke Bomb dropped by Deception. Li Hua couldn't tell where it was dropped, he only knew that he was swallowed within. Originally intended as a technique for escape, this time it was used as a technique to prevent the opponent's escape. Right now, Li Hua had no idea what his surroundings were, and he didn't dare to randomly move around. What if he took two steps out and fell right into Lord Grim's arms?

However, this was also only temporary.

As the number one Ninja, after the Smoke Bomb finished exploding, Li Hua was able to judge from the smoke's thickness where exactly the bomb had been placed. From that, he knew which direction would be the fastest way to travel out of the cloud of smoke.

But, this could all too easily be a trap. Taking the shortest path, Li Hua felt that he was bound to be caught by Happy.

Walk in the opposite direction, then? But what if it was reverse psychology?

Fine! There were more than two directions, so he would take neither the shortest nor the longest, but instead a direction chosen at random - Happy couldn't predict randomness, could they?

Indeed, Happy had no way of predicting a randomly chosen path. After Deception tossed the Smoke Bomb, they surrounded the cloud entirely, the five characters forming a circle. No matter where Dark Forest exited, they could immediately attack him. Although it wouldn't be enough firepower to directly kill him, it would at least prevent his escape.

So when Dark Forest finally emerged from the smoke, a sword was already flashing toward him.

Your defense isn't enough!

This was Li Hua's immediate judgment. If he was only being attacked from one angle, even if it were Ye Xiu, he believed that he could escape. Unfortunately, just as the sword was about to land, Li Hua heard an explosion above him. Lifting his head, he saw a Stinger explode in the air, sending countless bits of shrapnel raining down towards him.

Dancing Rain.

Su Mucheng.

Su Mucheng of course was not the only Launcher in the Alliance, but she was absolutely the best at executing this type of supportive attack. Her timing and control were outstanding, resulting in this surprise effect.

Su Mucheng was a true expert of restriction. She restricted not just the actions of one player in particular, but the entire battlefield. Her playstyle took full advantage of the Launcher's excellent range.

If the player's skill wasn't up to par, then even if the playstyle were the same, the demonstrated power and efficacy would of course differ. Su Mucheng was the number one in Glory at this Screen Cannon style.

Excellent Era had been relegated this year, and the Pro Alliance had almost forgotten the power of this Screen Cannon. In fact, shortly after Ye Xiu retired, it seemed as though Su Mucheng had weakened greatly. Those who didn't understand thought that Ye Xiu's retirement had affected Su Mucheng's state of mind, but those who understood knew that this restriction style, meant as a coordination with one's teammates, also in turn required the teammates to coordinate with the restriction, seizing the opportunity to kill.

Su Mucheng could coordinate with her teammates, but the return coordination she received was lacking. Because of this, it naturally seemed as though her power was lacking.

This sort of perfect partnership and coordination, how long had it been since they'd seen this? Li Hua didn't have time to consider this question, because he was about to be played to death by this partnership.

The partnership between one close and one far successfully immobilized him, and a second later, Mo Fan's Deception arrived as well. In a 1v3 situation, Li Hua couldn't find an escape route, and it wasn't Misty Rain's habit to explode with power in the face of struggle. The three Sharpshooters tried to help, but Happy already had Li Hua firmly under their control, and didn't mind suffering some damage.

Kill!

At this moment, Tang Rou and Steamed Bun both turned their attacks on Dark Forest as well. Misty Rain lacked a healer, and Ninjas weren't a durable class, and there was no escape route, and there was no way to pull off a sudden explosive turnaround. At last, Dark Forest fell, and, as Ye Xiu predicted, he dropped a shard.

"Retreat!"

Happy had obtained all five shards, so they had no reason to continue fighting with Misty Rain's three remaining Sharpshooters. Ye Xiu immediately directed his team to withdraw.

Chapter 1118: Split Up

Happy wanted to run. That was their current goal, but Misty Rain still had three players left and they weren't easy to escape from. Fortunately, there was a bit of internal conflict going on outside the game between the three remaining Misty Rain players.

Lu Yining had been crowned season eight's Best Sixth Player. He was a very dependable player, but right now, his position in Misty Rain was somewhat awkward. He was likely to leave this summer. And the ones to push him into this situation were Shu Keyi and Shu Kexin, the two sisters.

It wasn't possible for Lu Yinning to not have any opinions about this matter. Not only were Shu Keyi and She Kexin new rookies, they were also quite arrogant. It could be said that Lu Yining didn't have any good feelings towards them.

At the moment, Misty Rain was fighting to improve their team's hardware. Lu Yining was about to leave. His participation in this event had been forced to begin with. He just didn't want his emotions to ruin his reputation. Misty Rain was in a difficult situation right now, but hoping for Lu Yining to cooperate with Shu Keyi and Shu Kexin to turn this situation around was quite optimistic.

When Happy retreated, Shu Keyi and Shu Kexin tried their best, shooting at them as they chased. For these sisters, a defeat in this dungeon and to Happy at that felt like *deja vu*. In last year's Christmas event, the two sisters had planned on using the leaderboards to make a name for themselves. Unfortunately, they were defeated by Ye Xiu multiple times in succession. In the end, even though they had been noticed by the pro scene, the results didn't meet their expectations.

This time, they had come out to strengthen their team. Misty Rain's luck was quite good. They encountered two minibosses and obtained two shards, making them the team in the lead. However, they were once again thwarted by Happy.

They only had three players right now. Besides Happy, there was also a powerful opponent like Tyranny glaring at them like a tiger watching its prey. The two sisters had been a part of pro scene for half a year now. They knew how powerful the pro teams were and no longer had the naive confidence in thinking that they could challenge Tyranny by themselves. They didn't have any confidence in challenging Happy either, but they couldn't swallow their anger. They had to at least try.

Bullets flew.

The two Sharpshooters fired their guns as they chased after Happy. Lu Yining was in no mood to fight, but he had to at least show a bit of effort. As a result, he also shot at Happy as he ran, but he clearly wasn't being very diligent about it.

The two sisters quickly noticed his listless attacks.

"Can't you try harder!" Shu Keyi expressed her dissatisfaction.

"Hmph." Lu Yining replied with his nose. Sure enough, he tried harder. He tried even harder to sandbag.

The two sisters saw this. He was deliberately opposing them! There was nothing they could do though. They had heard the rumors going around in their club and knew Lu Yining definitely didn't have any favorable opinions towards them. The two were helpless. They hadn't specifically joined Misty Rain to kick Lu Yining from his position. Everyone played the same class, so it would be hard to avoid competition between them. Someone's spot had to be taken, so someone would naturally have to leave. The two sisters felt like Lu Yining's dislike for them was unprofessional.

The two obviously weren't going to compromise. With their personalities, it would only serve to make them work even harder to let the team know that they had made the correct decision. Shu Keyi complained to Lu Yining, but all it did was make that guy respond even more negatively, so she stopped talking.

Ignore him! We'll do it ourselves!

The two sisters abandoned Lu Yining and attacked Happy even more fiercely. As for Happy, under Ye Xiu's lead, they continued to run while constantly harassing Misty Rain's players.

For them, Misty Rain was no longer a threat. Their only threat was the biggest threat in this dungeon, Team Tyranny, who were probably going after them right now.

Tyranny's misfortune had been Happy's fortune. Because of their good luck, they were able to avoid fighting their biggest threat. Their luck was gone now though. Tyranny must have figured it out by now. Even if they didn't, after beating Royal Style, Tyranny would still chase after them.

So they couldn't stop. They had to keep running!

As for Misty Rain at the rear, Ye Xiu didn't care about them at all because they weren't running from Misty Rain in the first place. Misty Rain just had to have three Sharpshooters though. It was very annoying. The sounds of their gunfire echoed in this underground cavern. If Tyranny wanted to chase after them, they could do so just by following the sound of gunfire.

In the end, Happy had to guard against Tyranny, only Tyranny.

Thus, as Happy ran, Ye Xiu took any opportunities that came up to counterattack. If these three tails could be removed, then it'd be best to remove them.

However, the Shu sisters weren't stupid. They realized the crux of the issue. The two had a much clearer understanding of their skill now. Trying to steal the shards with just the two of them would be like trying to steal the sky. In this situation, they needed to rely on Tyranny's help and fish in troubled waters. Happy was running away as fast as possible not because of their fear for the two sisters and that cheerleader, but because of their fear for Tyranny.

The more scared their opponent was of something, the more they needed to help that something. The sisters immediately adjusted their plans. They stopped chasing Happy as closely as before and started being more on the defensive. However, they weren't going to let Happy escape from them either.

Ye Xiu immediately saw through this change. As a result, he promptly made a decision: "Steamed Bun and I will stay. You three go find the Ghost King. Hurry!"

Team Happy split up.

Su Mucheng led Tang Rou and Mo Fan along with the five shards to figure out how to find the Ghost King. Ye Xiu and Steamed Bun stayed behind to block off the passage.

Fortunately, the underground passage was narrow, which made sealing it off that much easier. Ye Xiu and Steamed Bun took the initiative to attack the two sisters.

The two sisters were surprised. They clearly hadn't expected Happy to split up. Even though their side had three players, this underground passage was narrow, making it very difficult for anyone to circle around them. What's more, Lu Yining was still being very uncooperative with them. The two sisters had almost forgotten that their side had three people.

"Steamed Bun, you take the left. I'll take the right." Ye Xiu instructed. With his sinister eyes, he had noticed that Lu Yining was intentionally sandbagging. Even if Team Misty Rain frequently dropped the ball in tense situations, it wouldn't so bad that anyone would sandbag. Ye Xiu thought about it and guessed that it was probably unrelated to in-game matters and rather some sort of conflict in the team. As a result, Ye Xiu didn't pay much attention to Lu Yining. Their priorities should be the two sisters. The

synergy between those two sisters was quite impressive. There were even people in the scene that predicted these two sisters to be Glory's future Best Partners. Truthfully speaking, Ye Xiu agreed with this view too.

Steamed Bun followed orders. He immediately charged out, while also chatting with Ye Xiu: "Their names seem very familiar."

"They should feel familiar to you." Ye Xiu said.

"Really? Bro, have we met before?" Steamed Bun asked excitedly as he charged towards his opponent --  
- Shu Kexin's None Dare Attack.

Lower Your Head and None Dare Attack were two male characters. The two sisters had never attempted to hide their genders. Who would have thought that Steamed Bun would forget about them so cleanly. His impression of the two of them were practically zero.

Shu Kexin completely ignored Steamed Bun and attacked him fiercely.

Steamed Bun might be talking, but his playing wasn't weak. Steamed Bun Invasion twisted and turned. He dodged two shots and suddenly attacked with a Powerful Knee Strike, striking at None Dare Attack.

Ye Xiu wasn't slow either. Lord Grim had started attacking from afar using his umbrella's Gun Form. Mid-range and close-range skills poured out endlessly. Shu Keyi's situation was clearly more difficult than Shu Kexin's.

In these consecutive intense battles without any healers, potions were Misty Rain's only way to heal. But better potions had longer cooldowns. In a pro-level confrontation, relying on potions wasn't reliable. Misty Rain's three players didn't have much health left. And Ye Xiu and Steamed Bun were no longer escaping and instead attacking them proactively. Happy had a cheerleader healer Lord Grim, so their situation was slightly better. In this battle, Happy had the advantage. Lu Yining had to face an opponent now and he responded relatively seriously. It was just that their situation wasn't good. He wasn't able to turn the situation around. As he fought and fought, he concluded that it was impossible to win, so he turned around and ran. However, he still gave out a warning and shouted "I'm retreating."

This was clearly a formality. He wasn't being targeted, so if he wanted to retreat, he could just retreat. But those two sisters had their throats gripped by Ye Xiu and Steamed Bun and were being beaten up! Lu Yining quickly retreated, not even attempting to help protect his teammates.

The two sisters nearly died from anger, but they weren't the types to blame the gods and accuse others. The two tried hard, struggling to break free from their opponent's attacks.

In the end, Steamed Bun wasn't always the most reliable. He messed up and Shu Kexin's none Dare Attack escaped. But unfortunately for Shu Keyi, trying to escape from Ye Xiu and trying to escape from Steamed Bun were two entirely different matters. Shu Kexin obviously wasn't Lu Yining, who ran away on his own. After escaping from Steamed Bun's clutches, she tried to save her sister. But Shu Keyi, who was fighting Lord Grim, knew better how difficult it would be and decisively rejected it: "Forget about me! Run away first and look for an opportunity later!"

Even though the two were sisters, they neatly broke away. There was none of that cheesy drama like "If you're going to die, I'll die with you." After hearing her sister's opinion, she didn't hesitate to turn and run. Ye Xiu obviously wasn't going to let Lower Your Head go and killed her.

"Ya ya ya ya!!" Steamed Bun let None Dare Attack go accidentally. He felt very ashamed and wanted to redeem himself.

"Recover first." Ye Xiu yelled for him to stop.

Lu Yining escaped. Shu Kexin escaped. But she didn't go find Lu Yining. She wasn't placing any hopes on this guy no matter what.

The two characters ran one behind the other. They kept on running around randomly. They turned around and saw that Lord Grim and Steamed Bun Invasion wasn't chasing after them, but there were people ahead of them. Tyranny's five had finally arrived. Lu Yining was running at the front. Before he could greet them, he heard someone from Tyranny say with a voice filled with gratitude: "Over here!"

And then he was killed.

Tyranny was a very decisive team!

Chapter 1119: Catch Up

Misty Rain's two might have ran, but they had been counting on coming back when Tyranny and Happy erupted in conflict so that they could mop up the remains. Unfortunately, they had met Tyranny head on as they turned. There hadn't even been a greeting before Lu Yining's Something To Hide was wiped out.

Shu Kexing's None Dare Attack had been slower, allowing her to live for marginally longer. Seeing the five from Tyranny lunge predatorily, Shu Kexing felt that being over there with Ye Xiu and Steamed Bun was probably better.

"Neither of them have any." Tyranny lamented. They had killed another two, but the ground was still clear of items. They had already asked Royal Style about how this dungeon worked.

Even though Royal Style had been wiped out by Tyranny, everyone was a pro player. If they couldn't accept one loss, then everyone in the Alliance would be sworn enemies with each other. Pro players were able to distinguish between on field and off field situations. Thus, after Tyranny wiped out Royal Style and turned to ask them about Ghost Lair's situation, Royal Style didn't hide anything and told them all they knew.

The list of online characters made things even clearer. Wind Howl and Royal Style had all been kicked from the competition and had left the dungeon. Misty Rain's members were still alive, but could they still succeed in this dungeon?

Tyranny had swiftly ran in the direction that Misty Rain and Happy had gone, soon hearing the sounds of gunshots and following them. That was when they saw Something To Hide and None Dare Attack running towards them. Tyranny didn't show many mercy, crushing them at once. If they let them live, it



would just come back to bite them. Tyranny wouldn't back down at all even if it was Happy in front of them.

Having dealt with the two, Tyranny continued to advance. They hadn't gone far before they saw Lord Grim and Steamed Bun Invasion sitting in the tunnel ahead eating bread and drinking juice!

"Someone's here!" Seeing Tyranny, Steamed Bun immediately jumped up off the ground.

"Stay calm, we can recover a little more health and mana!" Ye Xiu was much more nonchalant, allowing Lord Grim to continue eating, his health and mana continuing to rise.

Steamed Bun had always listened to his boss and hastily had Steamed Bun Invasion take out food to continue eating. Seeing the two like this, Tyranny slowed their steps. There was a fork in the road further ahead. Were the other three members of Happy waiting there in ambush?

Tyranny had gone through battle after battle, hurrying over in pursuit after defeating Royal Style. They hadn't the time to sit down and use food to recover their health and mana like Ye Xiu and Steamed Bun, so they weren't in an optimal state. Seeing that Happy seemed to be plotting something, they might not be scared, but they kept their guards up as they began to move themselves into more tactical positions.

Zhang Jiale's Dazzling Hundred Blossoms was a ranged fighter. Seeing how Ye Xiu noticed but ignored their approach, continuing to recover health and mana, he couldn't let this go on and shot at them.

Lord Grim immediately got up and dodged, and his recovery process was interrupted. Zhang Jiale's skills continued to fly over, using his Hundred Blossom's style to pave a way for Tyranny's charge. Ye Xiu didn't dawdle either, getting Steamed Bun to follow him as he turned and ran.

Tyranny couldn't afford to be slow. Regardless of the possibility of an ambush, they had to press forward. But that was when they saw Lord Grim and Steamed Bun Invasion suddenly split up at the fork in the road, one swerving left, the other swerving right.

"This..." Tyranny's players weren't sure how to react. They hastily led their characters to the fork in the road and took a look. There was a left path and a right path with one figure running down each. As for the other three members of Happy? Who knows where they were...

Tyranny had already gained an idea of what Happy was planning. They had split up, Ye Xiu and Steamed Bun blocking Misty Rain's way and getting the other three to go ahead. So, something as important as the shards would definitely be with the other three. However, Ye Xiu and Steamed Bun had split up as well. Left or right, which would lead them to the other three?

Logically speaking, Ye Xiu was the core of their team, so Steamed Bun was more likely to be bait. However, on the other hand, Ye Xiu might have made himself bait because he was the core of the team. But then, thinking from another direction...

Stop. This sort of reverse thinking would never end. With Ye Xiu's schemes, it could be either. Thus, there was no way to solve this problem with logic. They just had to chance it, it was a fifty percent chance.

"Let's pursue Ye Xiu!" Zhang Jiale suggested. He had voiced what everyone had been thinking. In that moment, their thoughts had converged.

"Wait..." Zhang Xinjie suddenly spoke up. "If this is what we're thinking, then Ye Xiu might be using this to lure us away."

"So we chase Steamed Bun Invasion?" Lin Jingyan asked.

"So we're going to start guessing how far he's planned ahead again?" Zhang Jiale said.

Zhang Xinjie paused... True, hadn't they just decided to not try and guess Ye Xiu's line of thought? But how come they felt like their thought process would be used upon coming to a decision?

"Let's go after Ye Xiu." In this crucial moment, it was Captain Han Wenqing who stepped forth.

"What if we're wrong?" Lin Jingyan asked.

"Then at least we can vent by beating him up." Han Wenqing replied.

Immediately, everyone perked up. This reason was a great boost to their morale. Han Wenqing was a truly talented captain, able to boost everyone's morale with just a single sentence!

The five immediately swerved left in pursuit. Their hesitation had cost them, but it was a good thing that Han Wenqing was able to settle things quickly. The five of them could, at least, still see Lord Grim's figure. This guy occasionally turned to use Aerial Fire to propel himself backwards as he ran, clearly keeping an eye on what was behind him.

Since Tyranny wanted to catch him, they wouldn't just race him. They were pro players. If they relied solely on their movement speed to catch someone, then that was just competing with their equipment. A pro level pursuit would involve skills as well, either to increase their movement speed or to use attacks to hinder their target.

In Tyranny's formation, there were two ranged attackers. Zhang Jiale's Spirfire and Qin Muyun's Sharpshooter naturally carried the task of hindering Lord Grim's movement. The two raised their guns and shot, different skills speeding forth. Lord Grim was forced to continuously dodge as he ran and this naturally impacted his movement speed. After all, he wasn't faced with normal players anymore, but pro players, including an experienced God like Zhang Jiale.

As Zhang Jiale and Qin Muyun's Gunners shot and ran, Han Wenqing and Lin Jingyan's two Fighters raised their speed and charged. Lin Jingyan could play dirty, but when it was required and when it was time to go all out, he wouldn't hesitate either. Brawler Dark Thunder directly activated a Powerful Knee Strike, flying forwards. Skills that involved lunging or jumping forth like this moved much faster than normal sprinting. Han Wenqing's Desert Dust had also activated Cloud Body, his character bounding forwards rapidly with buffed speed.

Ye Xiu might be a God, but his current opponents weren't normal players. It didn't take long for Han Wenqing and Lin Jingyan to catch up under Zhang Jiale and Qin Muyun's control.

Against this old opponent, Han Wenqing was merciless. He didn't wait for his character to completely catch up before activating a high-level skill. With a Soaring Tiger, Desert Dust lunged at Lord Grim feet first.

High-level skills like this that came out of the blue were easy to dodge for pro players, but Ye Xiu knew that under Han Wenqing's control, Soaring Tiger was a move that could vary in many ways. He would

have to be extremely careful when dodging. However, there was also Lin Jingyan to consider, and the combination of the two could end up trapping Lord Grim completely with one strike. Thus, against this high-level skill, Ye Xiu didn't bother dodging.

Clang!

The sounds of their clash rang out.

Ye Xiu might not have dodged, but he wouldn't just take the skill head on. Lord Grim brought up a sword horizontally as he was about to be struck, blocking the blow with a Blade Master's Guard.

The damage had been greatly reduced and Soaring Tiger's knock-down effect was neutralized. However, Lord Grim was still kicked back. Ye Xiu used this momentum to go into a roll. Meanwhile, Desert Dust had been thrown up even higher by this kick and came crashing back down at Lord Grim with a Thousand Ton Drop.

Thousand Ton Drop was a skill with Super Armor. Even a powerful skill like Dragon Breaks the Ranks wouldn't be able to knock this attack away. At most, the two sides would neutralize each other and both would take damage. In addition, normal Super Armor was able to neutralize most attack effects, but had a weakness to grabs. Grabs could break Super Armor. However, Thousand Ton Drop was an exception. The Super Armor given by this skill couldn't even be broken by a grab and grabs would be neutralized. The only kind of skill that could be used to break the Super Armor from this skill were skills that specialized in breaking Super Armor. For example, the Brawler's Inject Poison.

Unfortunately, Lord Grim didn't know any of these kinds of skills. Even though he had access to all the low level skills of all the classes, low level skills were for beginners that allowed players to experience the style of the class, but they wouldn't go too deep into things. Most of the contents of that class would be accessible after classing. Thus, Lord Grim had never learned any skills geared towards breaking Super Armor. Faced with Thousand Ton Drop, he didn't have any way to counter it, so he could only avoid it.

Thus, Lord Grim used Charge!

He dodged and took the initiative to attack at the same time, faced with Tyranny's entire team while alone, no less.

Ye Xiu's choice of action was completely unexpected for all five members of Tyranny. Lin Jingyan wasn't prepared at all and the Charge had been directed at him, throwing him out at once. However, Lin Jingyan was no punching bag. As he was knocked away, he also used Sand Toss.

Ye Xiu hastily turned his view. Lord Grim's head turned and dodged the blinding effect of the Sand Toss. However, a Grenade from Dazzling Hundred Blossoms then arrived in front of him. It was quite a ways away, having completely missed. But Ye Xiu knew that this Grenade wasn't used to deal damage, it was a bloody Flash Bomb that inflicted Blind.

"Have you all no shame?" The Flash Bomb went off under Ye Xiu's accusing yell. Although being on a team meant that you wouldn't be inflicted with effects like this, the moment the Flash Bomb went off, the flash filled their screens with white light and they could barely see. But, when their vision returned, they were met with the sight of Lord Grim holding the Myriad Manifestations Umbrella open and

blocking his own view with it. Sand Toss from behind and Flash Bomb in front, but he hadn't been blinded at all.

"Have you no shame!!" Zhang Jiale bellowed in anger.

Chapter 1120: Switching Accounts

Using the Myriad Manifestation Umbrella, Ye Xiu dodged this seemingly unbreakable blind, but he was still surrounded. Although Lin Jingyan's Dark Thunder had been sent flying by Lord Grim's Heroic Charge, Han Wenqing's Desert Dust had already landed heavily on the ground, directly charging toward him with a Ferocious Tiger Flurry.

Another direct powerful attack.

A 1v1 would be a rough battle, but Han Wenqing wasn't fighting by himself right now. Although he himself hadn't done any set-up for this powerful attack, he had his teammates. Lin Jingyan and Zhang Jiale's blinding partnership hadn't succeeded, but when he used the Myriad Manifestation Umbrella to block the flash, he also blocked his own line of sight. By the time he could close the umbrella again, Desert Dust's fists were already waving before him.

Ferocious Tiger Flurry, a Level 70 attack, it was a skill that could be controlled after activation. Users of different skill levels could affect the power of this attack. Han Wenqing's skill as a Striker didn't need to be mentioned, and the Ferocious Tiger Flurry was exactly the kind of powerful attack he preferred with his playstyle.

Ordinary controls had no way of keeping up with the rapid flurry of punches and kicks from this skill; it was impossible to continuously dodge all of them. The only possibility was to escape out of the attack range, but this was also difficult, because Ferocious Tiger Flurry was simply too fast. Lord Grim closed his umbrella, the fist was in front of him, it seemed that Ye Xiu had no way of countering, Lord Grim was hit!

Lord Grim was instantly sent flying backwards, but Han Wenqing immediately knew that something was wrong. Ferocious Tiger Flurry was a series of attacks in succession; what was the point if the opponent was sent flying after the first punch? Lord Grim was sent so far backwards partly because of Ye Xiu's own controls - he borrowed the power of this punch to put some distance between himself and his opponents.

It was too naive to think that Ye Xiu had no way of reacting to this attack!

But it was also too naive to think that he could completely dodge Ferocious Tiger Flurry with that!

Desert Dust leapt forward and instantly closed the gap between himself and Lord Grim. The punches and kicks still flew toward his body, ready to kill.

Hit!

In one punch, Lord Grim was blasted to pieces. But was Lord Grim that fragile? Of course not, it was Shadow Clone Technique! In that split second during which he pulled away, Ye Xiu sped through the motions and completed the skill. The false body was left behind, while Lord Grim's real body flashed away.

Fighting against the entirety of Tyranny by himself? Ye Xiu wasn't that silly. No matter what, his goal was to run, and he was trying every method he could. He had no chance of winning, not unless the power went out at Tyranny and everyone went offline at once...

Unfortunately, running away wouldn't be easy. Space was limited in this underground dungeon, unlike the open air spaces where he could run and hide in any direction. Right now, there was rock surrounding him, as though trapping the fleeing Ye Xiu in a cage. It wasn't long before Tyranny caught up to him again with their long-range coordinated attacking strategy.

"You don't drop your equipment in this dungeon, right?" Ye Xiu was already thinking about what would come next. Judging from previous battles, aside from shards, players didn't drop anything else. Given the drop rates in the Heavenly Domain, this outcome was very improbable unless it were true that no items could be dropped in this dungeon.

"You'll know once you die!" Tyranny wouldn't be merciful to Ye Xiu just because of this worthy. This time, their encirclement was more complete than before. Even the Cleric Immovable Rock, who didn't have much battle power, was a blocking presence that limited the paths available to Ye Xiu. Tyranny accounted for all possible locations that Ye Xiu could teleport to with his Shadow Clone Technique.

"Okay okay, I surrender," said Ye Xiu.

"So what?" Zhang Jiale, not pausing in his attacks. This scum had to be dead before they could relax. If they just stopped their attacks when he announced surrender, he would certainly take advantage of that opening.

Tyranny's old generals were unfazed by Ye Xiu's trash talk. "Go die!" As Zhang Jiale shouted, Dazzling Hundred Blossoms was just about to toss a grenade at Ye Xiu's feet to deal the final blow, but suddenly, the screen flashed - a QQ chat window popped up out of nowhere.

It said: Lord Grim has poked you.

"Shameless!!" Zhang Jiale almost spat out blood. By the time he switched back to the game, Lord Grim was already gone. This poke wasn't any sort of game-changer, it just interrupted Zhang Jiale's final attack, but Lord Grim was still taken out by Lin Jingyan's Dark Thunder.

"What happened?"

Killing Ye Xiu should have been an exciting thing, but Tyranny's members found that Zhang Jiale was currently wearing a murderous expression. They all turned to ask what happened, only to find that Zhang Jiale had opened QQ chat on his computer and was furiously banging out paragraphs denouncing Ye Xiu's use of out-of-game interference tactics.

"You didn't mute?" Tyranny's members sighed, and at the same time were quietly relieved that they had all muted QQ.

When Lord Grim died, he didn't drop anything, showing that he really hadn't been carrying the shards. Tyranny didn't have time to stand around here and chat. They still had to find the other four members of Happy, and it was possible that they already used the shards to do something.

"Let's split up and search!" Zhang Xinjie suggested. After killing Ye Xiu, everyone felt a sense of relief. Before, they were wary of splitting up lest they fall into some kind of trap, but they now felt a little braver.

"Yes, let's split up!"

Tyranny divided their members into two groups, each taking one path. One path continued along their current route, while the other turned back to take the path along which Steamed Bun had escaped.

However, Ghost Lair's tunnels weren't so simple. After splitting in two, they ran into more forks in the road, and Tyranny still didn't have a single clue that would lead them to Happy. They could only continue splitting up, until all five were acting alone, increasing the number of paths they were checking at once.

"Found them! They've already started killing the Ghost King, hurry and come!" At last, Lin Jingyan was the first to find Happy's four players, and they were currently engaged in fierce battle with the Ghost King. Once the Ghost King was killed, then everything was over. But Lin Jingyan was alone, he didn't dare go up alone to attack. He could only sit and anxiously wait for his teammates.

"I'm close by, almost there!" Zhang Jiale answered. After wandering for so long, everyone had gained a sense of the layout of the dungeon, and Zhang Jiale anticipated that he could arrive quickly. Indeed, after less than two minutes, Zhang Jiale could hear the sounds of the boss battle.

"Where are you?" Zhang Jiale sent a message to Lin Jingyan.

"You've arrived?"

"Yeah."

"Us two will go first!" Lin Jingyan said.

"You stick to Su Mucheng, I'll harass the other three." Zhang Jiale laid out the plan.

"Okay," agreed Lin Jingyan.

"Go!"

The two characters charged forward, and following the plan, Lin Jingyan's Dark Thunder headed toward Dancing Rain, while Zhang Jiale took advantage of his attack range and began to harass the other three.

Facing against three rookies, Zhang Jiale was confident in his abilities. Dazzling Hundred Blossoms closed the distance, and his Hundred Blossoms cover enveloped the three at once. This was a high-level playstyle only found at the professional level, and Zhang Jiale knew that these rookies, lacking experience, would have their heads spinning under this interference.

"You came pretty quickly, huh?"

But at this moment, Zhang Jiale suddenly heard someone speak from the lights and shadows.

This voice, it was Ye Xiu, but how was he here? Zhang Jiale was frozen, as though struck by a grenade, but in the next second, he wanted to cry.

How could he not?

After all, this wasn't an official match, just an in-game event. Lord Grim died, so Ye Xiu calmly switched to another account and continued playing. It was as simple as one plus one.

But such a simple idea had been overlooked by Tyranny. Even the detail-oriented Zhang Xinjie had forgotten this possibility, after growing accustomed to his professional background. For these pro players, the possibility of such a tactic didn't even exist in their minds.

Ye Xiu was still here. Suddenly, the plan of having just the two of them run interference seemed a lot less feasible!

This is bad!

Zhang Jiale was so bold and reckless only because he was confident that the rookies couldn't handle his Hundred Blossoms style, but now... there was a Ye Xiu!

As soon as he realized something was wrong, a silhouette appeared out of the light and shadow. The rookies were disoriented, but Ye Xiu accurately determined Dazzling Hundred Blossoms' position from the pattern of attack and instantly attacked in his direction. And Dazzling Hundred Blossoms had indeed been standing a little too close. By the time Zhang Jiale wanted to dodge, Soft Mist was already in front of him.

Of course it's a Battle Mage...

Zhang Jiale had no tears left, no path of retreat. He was sent flying by Soft Mist's Dragon Breaks the Ranks, slamming into the wall, and was then battered by several Chasers. And then, that Ghost King sent an attack at Soft Mist. Soft Mist twisted and dodged, and the attack sent by the boss wasn't some direction-changing Chaser. It landed upon Hundred Blossoms' body.

Once Lin Jingyan knew Ye Xiu was here, he also knew they were in trouble. The two of them had only dared to attack by themselves because they knew that aside from Su Mucheng, everyone here was a rookie. Although they wouldn't be able to take them in a fight, they could still cause some chaos without too much difficulty. But Ye Xiu had switched accounts and run over here. Trying to interfere with him would be like kicking a steel board.

I have to run!

Lin Jingyan immediately made this judgment. He detached from Su Mucheng's side and began to run. Su Mucheng counterattacked instantly, and the powerful blasts landing upon Dark Thunder's backside truly made him pathetically embarrassed.

Meanwhile, after Zhang Jiale was slammed into the wall, he didn't dare land directly. Ye Xiu was still there, eyeing him! This guy, not only could he use his own attacks, he could use his aggro to lure the Ghost King over here. The intelligence of an NPC was incomparable to that of a god. It should have been on Zhang Jiale and Lin Jingyan's side, three against Happy's four. But now, under this direction, it was like a summoned monster at Ye Xiu's command, launching the fiercest attacks at Zhang Jiale.

"Can't hold, retreat for now!" Lin Jingyan shouted.

"What do you think I'm trying to do?" Zhang Jiale was depressed. Of course he wanted to run, but now he was stuck at the corner of a wall, surrounded by enemies.

"How much health is left?" Ye Xiu asked him.