

Avatar 1561

Chapter 1561: Scheming Tyranny

Tyranny dodged Fang Rui's precisely calculated attack by relying on their extraordinary synergy with one another.

An attack had been dodged, that was all, but it was a very meaningful dodge. The average viewers might not understand, but the pro player chat group did.

As the pro players praised Tyranny's coordination, Tyranny promptly went back to sticking close to the wall. The five players were like a wave rising and falling. The Spirit Reaches to the Rainbow pushed them aside, and when the qi moved past them, they fell back into place.

The attack had missed, and it hadn't even been able to create an opening for Su Mucheng. The rise and fall had happened in the blink of an eye. Tyranny's members were already back in their original positions.

Of course, Fang Rui's calculated offensive wasn't done yet.

The moment Boundless Sea fired Spirit Reaches to the Rainbow, he began preparing for the next attack.

Dragon Wave!

Boundless Sea attacked again. The qi swirled into a dragon that flew towards Tyranny with a roar. This Dragon Wave could be controlled manually by the player. As a result, the attack would be more nimble. Tyranny wouldn't be able to dodge it mechanically like the last attack.

However, Dragon Wave didn't have the same sort of piercing power as Spirit Reaches to the Rainbow. On Tyranny's side, Han Wenqing's Desert Dust rushed forward and activated Reinforced Iron Bones. He was clearly planning on tanking the Dragon Wave.

On the battlefield, it was never a good idea to go along with what the opponent wanted. This was the only way to firmly take the initiative.

Han Wenqing wanted Desert Dust to tank it, but Fang Rui wasn't going to let him. With a flick of his wrist, Boundless Sea lifted his arm, and the Dragon Wave rose into the air, passing over Desert Dust's head.

It was only by going against what the opponent wanted would you be able to disrupt the opponent's rhythm!

But Han Wenqing's rhythm wasn't broken. The Dragon Wave flew past his head, but his movements hadn't changed.

Continue charging straight forward.

Ahead was Boundless Sea! Since the Dragon Wave missed, he might as well attack Boundless Sea. With a sudden burst of speed, he instantly closed the distance between them. The Dragon Wave that flew past Desert Dust made Fang Rui feel like it wasn't going to make it.

On the other canyon wall, Ye Xiu noticed that the situation on Fang Rui's end wasn't looking good. Tyranny had suddenly changed their intentions. Happy was making it uncomfortable for them to their left and right. As a result, they began letting to take the offensive. Desert Dust's charge was simply a prelude. Tyranny was planning on ignoring the two long-ranged harassers and going straight for the kill on Boundless Sea. Desert Dust didn't turn back, tearing apart Fang Rui's original plans.

Tyranny never lacked courage. Despite knowing that Happy had likely set up an ambush, they still pressed forward because they were confident that they could break through Happy's arrangements.

It was true that they had become more cautious, but their direct playstyle hadn't changed.

Boundless Sea was their target!

Desert Dust threw a heavy punch. Behind him, Dark Thunder, Immovable Rock, Dazzling Hundred Blossoms, and River Sunset stopped hiding near the wall and spread out. Next, Fang Rui needed to figure out which target for his Dragon Wave to pursue. But right now, Fang Rui had no time to hesitate. In the blink of an eye, Desert Dust arrived.

Cancel!

Fang Rui wanted to cancel the skill, but suddenly, a figure appeared in what he felt was a very convenient position...

Nice!

Fang Rui was delighted. It was obviously better not to waste a skill. The figure was in such a perfect position. Fang Rui didn't hesitate and turned the Dragon Wave.

But that figure seemed to know that the Dragon Wave would come. The figure suddenly moved outwards, and Fang Rui instinctively followed the other side's movements. But then, he realized: not good!

Pu!

Desert Dust's fist smashed into Boundless Sea. The Dragon Wave was interrupted. Boundless Sea was sent flying like a broken kite. His gaze was still fixed towards the figure that had baited him into continuing with the Dragon Wave. Although in reality, he didn't need to look to know who it was.

Lin Jingyan. Whether it was personality or tactics, no one was more familiar with Fang Rui than Lin Jingyan. Only he would have the awareness to bait Fang Rui into not cancelling his skill.

Fang Rui was a very experienced player, but like ginger, the older, the spicier.

Heroic Leap!

Lord Grim jumped off the canyon wall and fell rapidly.

Tyranny had acted quickly, and Ye Xiu didn't react slowly either. As soon as he saw Desert Dust swing his fists towards Boundless Sea, he immediately gave up on trying to interfere through long-ranged attacks. The long-ranged capabilities of an unspecialized, whether it was damage or CC, was too poor.

Heroic Leap!

Lord Grim leapt into the air and then plummeted downwards. He had reacted fast, but Boundless Sea had already been sent flying. Tyranny noticed his movements and immediately spread out to surround him.

Tyranny's five players stood quite far apart, making it difficult for Su Mucheng to cover all of them. With a character attacking them from above, going near the wall wasn't Tyranny's only option. They had simply been making the best choice in that situation. At that time, Happy only had two people in front of them. With the others on Happy in unknown locations, they erred on the side of caution and prioritized defense. Now, not only was their left and right being attacked, Fang Rui was harassing them from the front. Tyranny took action and immediately scattered, splitting Su Mucheng's attention as each of them locked onto a target.

Desert Dust continued to attack Boundless Sea. The remaining four set up a net, intending on catching the falling Lord Grim.

Satellite Beam!

Dancing Rain let out a high-level skill. Her purpose wasn't to attack, but to defend. The powerful beam of light seemed to envelop Lord Grim as he fell. The smaller pillars of light immediately began to revolve around it. Under this protection, Tyranny couldn't easily attack Lord Grim. Only Zhang Jiale's Dazzling Hundred Blossoms could shoot a few bullets at him from afar.

Zhang Jiale set up a light cover, engulfing the Satellite Beam and the surrounding area. Zhang Jiale wasn't just attacking. He wanted to use the light cover to shield his teammates. At the same time, it would prove a hindrance to Su Mucheng.

The two sides seemed to have no way of immediately attacking each other. However, Zhang Jiale's Hundred Blossoms style was too grand, requiring an enormous consumption. Soon, because many of his skills were on cooldown, he had no way of keeping up the cover of light. But gradually, as the light dispersed, it revealed two figures that were unexpectedly rushing towards Boundless Sea instead of Lord Grim.

River Sunset and Dark Thunder, two Fighter classes, also targeted Boundless Sea. Their intentions on surrounding Lord Grim had been a feint to seal off Ye Xiu's next movements and to attract Su Mucheng's attention. With the cover from Zhang Jiale's Dazzling Hundred Blossoms, by the time their intentions were revealed, Happy would have lost the opportunity to respond immediately.

Boom boom boom!

Su Mucheng's Dancing Rain tried to stop them, but both Fighters had activated Reinforced Iron Bones. Under Supor Armor, they marched through Dancing Rain's attacks. At the same time, their bodies flashed with white light. Zhang Xinjie's Immovable Rock was healing them.

Attack these two? Or interrupt the healer? Either way, there was no way for Su Mucheng to stop the two from reaching Boundless Sea.

What about Ye Xiu?

Lord Grim was trapped by Zhang Jiale's shrinking blossoms of light. Previously, he had spread the light cover too wide. After the skills went on cooldown, he had no way of keeping it up. But he could do it if

he shrunk the area of effect since he was only facing against Ye Xiu. Zhang Jiale didn't only respond to the situation at hand, but also thinking ahead.

A few seconds ago, Tyranny had been in an uncomfortable position. But in a short moment, they had turned it around. Under Tyranny's pressure, Happy's weakness at the moment was made clear: they had less people!

Why?

Why didn't Happy go all out with their ambush?

Because Tang Rou's Soft Mist had suffered heavy injuries during her escape. She needed time to heal. With her way of fighting, if she had entered the battle at critical health, Tyranny would have likely killed her off in one wave. Not even Happy's healer would be able to save her. Happy had set up their ambush, slowly bringing their players in to stall for time and let Soft Mist recover more health.

But when their ambush was broken through, a fatal weakness was revealed.

"No wonder Tyranny pursued them so closely."

"They were biting fiercely onto Soft Mist's low health!"

"Because of Soft Mist's low health, Happy is practically lacking a combatant. She can't directly join the fight!"

"Could they have intentionally let Soft Mist go? They guided Happy into setting up this flimsy ambush. If Soft Mist had died, Happy would have a full-health character on the battlefield. Wouldn't Happy's ambush be much more threatening then?"

When the pro players saw this scene, they started typing like crazy into the QQ chat group, discussing their viewpoints.

"Happy being in a disadvantageous spot hasn't changed since Tang Rou ran into Tyranny!"

"Tyranny has been taking advantage of this point!"

"Truly cunning."

"Just watching it scares me!"

"What will Happy do?"

"What about Tang Rou? Soft Mist? She has to come out and attack now, no?"

"Maybe switch with that Summoner?"

"But it'll be difficult for a Summoner to open up this situation!"

"She's coming out!" The pro players also had the spectator view. The broadcast also knew where the key point lay, and a small window appeared, focusing on Soft Mist.

"Fuck, this is staking it all on one throw!!" Everyone was surprised by Happy's move.

Both Happy's Battle Mage and Summoner had come out. In other words, they had switched out their healer...

Chapter 1562: Former Radiance

In the team competition of the playoffs, Happy switched out their healer...

Everyone in the Alliance knew how bold Happy was and knew that they would occasionally make an unconventional gambit. However, no one thought that they would dare to do so in this life-and-death playoffs match.

A fully offensive team, staking everything in one throw.

In competitive play, these two phrases went hand-in-hand. When the formation came into play, it meant that there was no retreating. A team without a healer could only push forward and attack. There was no second option.

However, in the eyes of the pro players spectating the match, none of them felt like Happy was at a point where they needed to take this step. Su Mucheng's Dancing Rain stood at an absolutely safe position, and with her support, it wouldn't be a problem for Ye Xiu's Lord Grim to climb back up again and reach a safe position. Fang Rui's Boundless Sea was being attacked by three players and was indeed in a difficult situation, but with his cunning, he should be able to escape if that was his only goal.

The confidence in Fang Rui from the pro players showed just how much trouble he had given them over his career. However, after watching for awhile longer, they realized that if Fang Rui wanted to rely on his dirtiness to escape today, he would encounter an obstacle that he had never encountered before. Among the players attacking him was one called Lin Jingyan.

The one who understood him the best was his opponent.

Roll, twist, feint, turn!

Through Boundless Sea's dirty tricks, Han Wenqing's Desert Dust staggered into a bad position. Song Qiying was still too inexperienced and lacked the foresight. His River Sunset wanted to attack, but he discovered that he was being blocked by his teammate, Desert Dust.

Did he escape?

A Brick crashed into Boundless Sea's face.

Lin Jingyan's Dark Thunder.

The attack wasn't nearly as striking as the attacks from the two Strikers, but whenever Boundless Sea was able to create an opening, Lin Jingyan's Dark Thunder would always be there to seal it off.

It had only been a short moment, yet it had already happened three times.

It had only been a short moment, yet Boundless Sea had already lost a third of his health.

Because of Lin Jingyan, Han Wenqing and Song Qiyong could focus fully on attacking because the task of preventing Fang Rui from escaping belonged to Lin Jingyan. If not, Han Wenqing's and Song Qiyong's assault wouldn't have been so lacking that Fang Rui could find three openings in such a short amount of time. All of it was because Han Wenqing and Song Qiyong didn't care about giving him openings because Lin Jingyan had their backs.

In the group arena, Lin Jingyan had been the main reason that Tyranny had fallen behind. However, he was now Tyranny's most trusted player.

Number four!

He had successfully stopped Fang Rui for a fourth time.

Fang Rui was starting to panic. Not a single peep came from him. Of the three players attacking him, two of them were Strikers, who were close-quarter specialists. How could he have any time to spare to type out any trash talk? In the beginning, he thought that he would be able to easily escape from those two blockheads, but after being stopped twice by Lin Jingyan's Dark Thunder, he realized that those two weren't stupid.

If he wanted to escape, his opponents weren't those two, but his old partner!

After changing classes, he had taken advantage of the fact that his opponents were unfamiliar with the new "Qi Master Fang Rui". Unfortunately, his old partner was still able to keep up with his thoughts and his pace even after he had changed classes.

If he wanted to escape, he needed to find a way to break through. He needed to do something he had never done before.

Fang Rui suddenly stopped trying to escape and started defending and dodging, doing his best to survive.

Give up on escaping? Quietly wait to be rescued?

The spectators were all thinking the same thing. After all, they knew about Happy's strategic decision, and Fang Rui obviously knew about it too. An Wenyi was switched out for Luo Ji. This sort of decision wasn't something that An Wenyi could decide on his own. Ye Xiu had clearly given the order in Happy's team chat. As a result, Fang Rui also knew that his team was coming full force to rescue him.

It was unlikely that Tyranny wouldn't think of Happy coming to rescue him, but it was unlikely that they would expect Happy to give up on their healer. In Tyranny's preparations against Happy's rescue operation, Tyranny would likely be considering either a Battle Mage and Cleric, or a Summoner and Cleric situation.

Was Happy trying to surprise Tyranny?

The pro players thought about this question, but it didn't look like Tyranny planned on making any changes. After Fang Rui stopped trying to escape, the three attackers kept the same formation. The two Strikers went all-out in their offense, while Lin Jingyan was on guard.

Fang Rui was even more annoyed.

However, he hadn't given up on escaping! Because he was quite clear about the high risks of switching out their healer. He knew that the reason Happy had made such a risky decision was because of his current predicament. If he could safely escape, Su Mucheng was already safe, and Ye Xiu could easily escape as well. In that case, Happy could regroup and try a different strategy. There was no need to gamble everything on one throw.

Fang Rui's thoughts had originally been the same as the other pro players watching. Happy shouldn't need to have to make such a risky play in this important life-and-death match yet. But soon, he changed his mind. Right now, he was in the predicament. He was the breakthrough that Tyranny had seized. He was the one who wasn't able to escape, pulling Happy down along with him. Although it wasn't like escaping from a 1v3 was ever an easy task, Fang Rui hated how he was the weak point.

Tang Rou and Luo Ji would come soon, but Fang Rui still wanted to try and change the current situation before they arrived.

However, Tyranny wasn't going to fall for it. He faked his true intentions to try bait Tyranny into changing their approach, but Tyranny refused to do so.

Truly a bunch of stubborn bastards!!

With no time to type out any words, Fang Rui could only curse at them inwardly. He was truly annoyed at Tyranny. How could he know that in reality, when he began faking his true intentions, Lin Jingyan immediately warned Tyranny: "Ignore it."

In the end, Lin Jingyan had seen through him.

After Fang Rui changed classes, Lin Jingyan wasn't used to the way his Qi Master played either. However, Lin Jingyan understood how Fang Rui thought. Oftentimes, he wasn't predicting what Fang Rui would do, but predicting how Fang Rui wanted to do it. He wasn't looking at Fang Rui's methods, but rather his intentions. With his two teammates pressuring Fang Rui, he was able to get a more precise read on him.

Fang Rui saw that his plan wasn't working and could only try switch it up again.

If trickery doesn't work, then try brute force!

Fang Rui decided. He tossed aside his dirtiness and suddenly began trying to brute force his way out.

At this moment, a message popped up in Happy's team chat: Lin.

The message came from Ye Xiu. Artillery fire soon followed.

Su Mucheng's Dancing Rain suddenly increased the pressure towards his side. In an instant, artillery shells rained down.

Perfect!

Fang Rui cheered. This sort of surprise almost made him cry out in excitement.

Team competition. On this stage, you were never alone. When you needed help the most, your teammate would always support you.

Boom boom boom.

Artillery shells blotted the sky. Amidst the flames, Boundless Sea swung his fists, Spirit

The swirling qi carried Boundless Sea as he shot forward.

His target, Dark Thunder!

To break through, Fang Rui chose his old partner. Familiarity was something both sides could use as weapons. Fang Rui felt like he had a better chance breaking through against Lin Jingyan than those two Strikers. Moreover, Su Mucheng was providing support towards this side, which came from Ye Xiu's orders. It seemed like Ye Xiu had thought the same as him!

Dark Thunder backed away.

He dodged Dancing Rain's artillery fire, while also getting out of the way of the spiralling qi. His retreat was straight as an arrow. He tried his hardest to maintain the distance between the two of them, refusing to let out an opening.

Tyranny had lost one point in the group arena because of him. He wasn't going to give up another opening, not just for this match, but for this entire year, perhaps even for his entire life.

In this short moment, Lin Jingyan had completely forgotten his age. He completely forgot what would come next. He only knew that he needed to stop Fang Rui from escaping no matter what.

Right now, Dark Thunder wasn't a character controlled by a faltering old general, but by a dazzling one. He was clearly just jumping backwards, but the rhythm he did it at felt smooth and easy.

Jump jump jump. He jumped backwards in a straight line. The Spiral Qi Rush tore through the air, but it was never able to reach Dark Thunder. This attack, supported by Dancing Rain's artillery fire, was unexpectedly unable to dig out an opening from Lin Jingyan.

Fang Rui immediately wanted to attack again, but to his surprise, Lin Jingyan reacted far faster than he could. It was as if Lin Jingyan had been waiting for this moment.

Tiger Flips the Mountain!

Double Crescent!

Pain of Scars!

The outdated Demon Subduer three-hit combo once again shined brightly.

Boundless Sea was knocked backwards. Two injuries were torn out from Boundless Sea as the two crescents struck, leaving him bleeding.

Boundless Sea had been completely blocked.

Fang Rui was in a daze. He hadn't thought that Lin Jingyan would be able to reach this step. He thought that he had understood Lin Jingyan well enough. He was sure that his Spiral Qi Rush would have been enough to break past Lin Jingyan's limits and send him flying back or forcing him to the side.

But it wasn't enough!

Lin Jingyan used the most direct method to dodge the Spiral Qi Rush, using that outdated combo of his to counterattack.

Fang Rui wanted to try break through by force, but in the end, Lin Jingyan had beaten him.

Fang Rui suddenly realized that perhaps he only understood a portion of Lin Jingyan. The signature technique of Lin Jingyan's unexpectedly seemed so unfamiliar to him.

Chapter 1563: Cleric Blockade

Boundless Sea fell, and in that instant, the sky and earth flipped for Fang Rui. All he could see was a flurry of fists and feet. Han Wenqing's Desert Dust and Song Qiying's River Sunset had chased after him and attacked ferociously!

His health dropped rapidly. Dancing Rain's artillery support wasn't enough to stop them. Tyranny's three Fighters attacked fiercely amidst the fire and smoke. White light continued to flash on top of them. Zhang Xinjie's Immovable Rock was going all-out to heal them. This was how Tyranny operated. Even the smallest thing wouldn't be missed by them. Their arrangements had multiple layers to them. Each and every member of Tyranny contributed towards the pressure on Happy, making their opponents appear weak and insignificant.

Tyranny was like an impregnable war machine, slowly crushing down on Happy. Scheme? Trap? Ambush?

None of those were important. Zhang Xinjie had always been considered incompatible with Tyranny's style, but once he began to truly integrate himself into Tyranny, people realized that it was as if the final piece of the puzzle had been placed down for Tyranny. The new Tyranny was both bold yet cautious, more reliable and stronger. Wasn't this the overwhelming power that Tyranny had always sought?

Even the people watching felt a shudder. How could this sort of Tyranny be beaten? Fang Rui's Boundless Sea was just their first stepping stone. And then? Lord Grim? Dancing Rain? Or Soft Mist and Concealed Light who were on the verge of arriving?

Facing such a domineering Tyranny, Happy had unexpectedly chosen to go with a healer-less team composition?

The broadcast occasionally switched over to Soft Mist's and Concealed Light's direction. What these two did next would likely determine the outcome of this match.

Would these two rookies be enough to shake the domineering Tyranny?

Almost no one had any confidence in them, showing just how powerful Tyranny appeared to everyone. With such meticulous coordination and efficiency, an opening? No such thing!

"Stop!" A message suddenly popped up in Happy's chat from Ye Xiu. When Tang Rou and Luo Ji saw the message, they immediately stopped.

Were they giving up?

Was there no way for them to rescue this situation?

Was the miracle worker Ye Xiu also helpless today?

Tang Rou and Luo Ji had stopped. The situation couldn't be saved. Su Mucheng's Dancing Rain suddenly shifted her target to Dazzling Hundred Blossoms.

Dancing Rain focused on Dazzling Hundred Blossoms to provide cover for Lord Grim to retreat.

Under the heavy gunfire, the light cover from Zhang Jiale's Dazzling Hundred Blossoms began to falter, and Lord Grim immediately seized this opening.

Climb the wall?

No!

Lord Grim twisted around, and with a Shining Cut, he headed towards the battle between four Fighters on the other end. Ye Xiu was going in alone to save Fang Rui's Boundless Sea.

Happy hasn't given up? So why did Ye Xiu tell Tang Rou and Luo Ji to stop?

Everyone was at a loss, even the pro players watching couldn't understand.

Lord Grim moved like lightning, but he wasn't able to use the Shining Arc to make it all the way over, only two thirds of the way over. Suddenly, a figure flashed in front of him.

Ding!

A clash of weapons, and then white light flashed.

Immovable Rock!

The one blocking Ye Xiu's Lord Grim was unexpectedly Zhang Xinjie's Cleric, Immovable Rock. The Backlight Cross in his hands parried the incoming Shining Cut.

However, Clerics were lacking in Strength and wouldn't be looking for the stat in their equipment. Although they could also swing their weapons as a basic attack, due to their low Strength, it was very ineffective. Cleric basic attacks had no way to parry a Shining Cut, but Lord Grim had truly been stopped. The Shining Cut had somehow been knocked aside by Immovable Rock's cross.

Zhang Xinjie's Immovable Rock had equipment with Strength?

That was everyone's first thought, but everyone knew that it didn't really make any sense. Clerics weren't going to sacrifice other important stats just to buff their basic attacks.

Then what was the reason?

Everyone was doubtful. Then, they saw Immovable Rock continue moving. After blocking the Shining Cut, his cross swung towards Lord Grim. This seemingly decorative cross moved like a meteor in Immovable Rock's hands. White light rippled, once, twice, forcing Lord Grim back.

"This is... Crusader's Trials??" In the end, the Knight players amongst the pro player chat group recognized the skill.

“Your Clerics actually choose to use Crusader’s Trials??” The player added. The player instinctively worded it as “your Clerics”. He was Team 301’s newly-transferred European player, Bai Shu. As someone in a different competitive scene, seeing something he had never seen before, he immediately thought that it was a China-specific strategy, hence the “your Clerics”.

“Hah, what’s special about that? It’s pretty common here!” Royal Style’s Lin Sen expressed.

“Yeah yeah!” The other players added with a sense of satisfaction. They felt like Zhang Xinjie was truly giving face to their country’s Glory scene. Making this foreign player feel as if he was seeing a whole new world was too awesome of a feeling.

They forgot that Bai Shu had teammates too. Team 301’s Yang Cong private messaged Bai Shu, telling him that the others were messing with him. It was their first time seeing Crusader’s Trials on a Cleric too.

Crusader’s Trials.

The Knight’s Level 70 skill used basic attacks as the foundation. However, the priority of these basic attacks would naturally be much higher than usual. As the skill stacked up, the priority would only increase. Although the first strike had successfully interrupted Lord Grim’s Shining Arc, it could be seen that because it was a Level 1 skill from a Cleric, it had only barely succeeded. If it had been a maxed Crusader’s Trials from a true Knight, the first strike would have overwhelmed a skill like Shining Arc. The Assassin’s Shining Arc was actually considered an attack with rather weak priority.

Immovable Rock’s Crusader’s Trials had only just barely been able to parry the Shining Arc, but he quickly followed up with successive trials. Ye Xiu clearly hadn’t expected Zhang Xinjie’s skill choice and was caught off guard. No matter how experienced he may be, he had never met a Cleric whacking him with a cross.

Because of this surprise, the slight pause was enough for Dazzling Hundred Blossoms to catch up. Zhang Jiale was no longer spreading a cover of light. He was focusing on Lord Grim, who was now caught between a flurry of cross strikes and a barrage of bullets.

With this delay, the distance between Ye Xiu’s Lord Grim and Boundless Sea had pulled away.

Ye Xiu perhaps felt it more clearer than anyone else how troublesome the current situation was. The battle strength that Tyranny displayed had surprised him. He hadn’t thought that Tyranny would be able to find their rhythm in this life-and-death match.

The current Tyranny was no longer the Tyranny that Ye Xiu was familiar with. Tyranny had reached a new realm.

Ye Xiu could only tell Tang Rou and Luo Ji to stop. They had no way to break past Tyranny’s wall at the moment, which was why he tried to scout them out himself, while seeing if he could help Fang Rui as well.

In the end, nothing came out of it. Zhang Xinjie’s Immovable Rock had blocked his way forward.

Crusader’s Trials.

For a Cleric to choose this sort of skill, why? Was it in order to contest with the enemy for a short if the enemy closed in?

In any case, the Crusader's Trials had been very effective. Ye Xiu's Lord Grim had just stepped on the gas pedal, but before he could even accelerate, he had to step on the brakes.

"Don't worry about me!"

Fang Rui typed out in the public chat.

The enemies had surrounded him, and since Tyranny was suppressing Happy, it wasn't hard for Tyranny to figure out what Happy wanted to do. For example, Ye Xiu's Lord Grim suddenly turning around. Zhang Xinjie immediately realized that Ye Xiu still wanted to save Boundless Sea, so he was able to react in time and block him.

If this sort of suppression could be utilized well, it was enough to decide the winner of the match.

Fang Rui's declaration was rather solemn.

He was Happy's left and right arm, but right now, it was as if he were poisoned. If this continued, the poison would likely spread to the entire body. If he was cut off promptly, although it would be a heavy blow to the team, it would not be fatal.

How this situation should be handled was a difficult problem, especially in such an important match.

It was difficult, and there was no time for any hesitation.

What would Ye Xiu do? Everyone was focused on Lord Grim. The broadcast felt like if they moved the camera even slightly away from him, the crowd would start cursing violently at them.

Lord Grim stepped forward and sword light flashed!

Sword Draw!

Ye Xiu hadn't given up. He still pressed forward. Clerics didn't have any close-range methods. Crusader's Trials was now on cooldown. Zhang Xinjie's Immovable Rock could only use his body to block. However, this sort of sacrifice was bearable.

Sword light struck Immovable Rock. Although he had also swung his cross, without help from a skill, it was practically ignored. Moreover, Sword Draw itself had high priority.

But this seemingly negligible resistance was able to provide an opportunity for Immovable Rock.

Immovable Rock wasn't pushed back as far as a result.

A beautiful bullet shot towards Lord Grim from behind. Zhang Xinjie had tanked the hit because he didn't want Lord Grim to get past him. Zhang Jiale's Dazzling Hundred Blossoms was behind Lord Grim, carefully watching over him.

Hua!

Suddenly, at this moment, the umbrella unexpectedly opened while the sword was halfway pulled out. But the shield was only for a split second, as another sword light flashed out. Compared to the previous one, it was brighter and stronger.

Downwind Sword Slash!

A streak of blood flew into the air, and Immovable Rock was thrown to the side. Lord Grim had opened up a path!

Chapter 1564: Magnetic Field Coil

Lord Grim swept past Immovable Rock. Zhang Xinjie saw it, but he had no way to stop him. However, from his angle, he was able to see Lord Grim pull something out from his folded umbrella.

What is that?

This sort of movement must be a skill, but what was it? The worst part about the unspecialized was that it was practically impossible to make any predictions on one.

“Careful!” Zhang Xinjie could only give out a vague warning, but with how little Tyranny communicated in the chat, it could be seen just how concerned Zhang Xinjie was. For him, the unknown was the most terrifying.

Tyranny couldn’t ignore Ye Xiu. Even the inexperienced rookie, Song Qiying, had learned to never underestimate Ye Xiu. Facing him, anything could happen.

However, that didn’t make Zhang Xinjie’s warning meaningless. Tyranny’s players knew very well that Zhang Xinjie wouldn’t warn them simply as a reminder. If he spoke, it meant that something had happened already. It wasn’t clear what that something was, but it was enough for them to be “careful”.

Tyranny’s three Strikers immediately looked towards Ye Xiu’s Lord Grim after the warning.

Was an attacking coming?

This was the signal that they got from Zhang Xinjie’s warning.

Sure enough!

Lord Grim had yet to close in, when he threw a grenade with his left hand.

The three were surprised.

If it was just a normal grenade, it wouldn’t be hard to deal with. But for an unspecialized, it might not be a normal grenade. Was it a special grenade from a Spitfire skill? Such as an Implosion Grenade?

There was too little time for Tyranny to ponder over it. This would be a test of their eyesight. What did the grenade look like? If they couldn’t tell, they wouldn’t be able to respond.

“Norm”

A single word popped up in Tyranny's team chat. Zhang Jiale's Dazzling Hundred Blossoms was being suppressed by Dancing Rain, but his eyes were mainly focused on Lord Grim. He was the farthest from that grenade, yet he was the first to deduce what the grenade was. He didn't put his years of experience as a Spitfire to shame.

Norm, a normal one.

It was a low-level grenade with no special effects.

No one doubted Zhang Jiale's judgement. Han Wenqing's Desert Dust stepped forward and used a High Kick.

Boom!

An explosion occurred at his feet. Although it was the lowest-level grenade, the explosion would produce a small shockwave. However, by moving back as he retracted his kick at the right time, he was able to cancel out the impact.

Boom boom boom!

Ye Xiu wasn't so quick to give up. He fired three Anti-Tank Missiles from his umbrella. Since he hadn't yet closed in onto the three Fighters, he sent out long-ranged attacks.

The three Anti-Tank Missiles fired towards separate targets. As long as one of them failed to deal with their missile, Fang Rui would likely be able to escape. However, the three Fighters near Tyranny turned nearly in sync. Their formation hadn't been broken. It was as if none of them had even moved, yet all three Anti-Tank Missiles missed.

What else?

Tyranny hadn't relaxed yet. Lord Grim suddenly stepped to the side and fired a shot.

A Stun Bullet shot towards River Sunset. The sidestep wasn't without purpose either. With this step, River Sunset and Desert Dust were lined up. If River Sunset dodged this bullet, Desert Dust would need to dodge as well. However, Han Wenqing's line of sight would be blocked by River Sunset. It was rather similar to when Fang Rui surprise attacked at the beginning with a Spirit Reaches to the Rainbow.

Dodge!

One to the left, the other to the right!

River Sunset and Desert Dust seemed to swap places. The bullet seemed to pass right through them.

Dodged again!

Song Qiying had reacted fast, but what about Han Wenqing? Han Wenqing had relied on his experience and intuition. With Lord Grim's side-step, the three of them would be in a line. Hearing the gunshot, he quickly deduced that a bullet was heading towards him. He didn't need to see it. Song Qiying had gone left, so he went right. In this way, there wouldn't be any openings for Boundless Sea to take advantage of.

None of Ye Xiu's attacks were working, and Ye Xiu didn't have the time to stand around and keep trying. Zhang Jiale was being suppressed by Su Mucheng, but it wasn't a complete suppression. Dazzling Hundred Blossoms was shuttling back and forth amidst the explosions, and all of his attacks were aimed towards Lord Grim.

There was also Zhang Xinjie's Immovable Rock. Clerics had ways to control a battlefield as well.

There was also the three Fighters surrounding Boundless Sea. Those three could turn on him at any moment. Coming to rescue Fang Rui but ending up trapped alongside him wasn't the outcome that Ye Xiu wanted to see.

That's all that can be done.

That was what everyone was thinking, including the pro players in the chat group.

Happy was at a numbers disadvantage at the moment. Ye Xiu didn't dare let Lord Grim get too close, afraid that Tyranny would entrap him and Fang Rui together. He prioritized his own safety first. But with five enemies around him, how long could he stay safe? It was already quite impressive for him to be able to get out those three attacks.

Lord Grim turned around and rushed towards one of the canyon walls. His intention to climb up the wall and escape was clear as day. However, he hadn't completely given up on trying to rescue Fang Rui. A 1% chance was still better than none.

Bang!

Another gunshot. This time, it was a Floating Bullet. If the bullet hit, it would knock the target into the air and create an opening in Tyranny's encirclement.

Unfortunately, this attack had missed. River Sunset, who had been the target, sidestepped it.

"Out", the moment the gunshot rang, Ye Xiu typed out a message in the chat.

Out?

Were Tang Rou and Luo Ji going to start moving again?

Brief but imprecise messages were like torture towards the audience. Fortunately, the answer would soon be revealed. The person going out was Fang Rui. Boundless Sea immediately moved towards where River Sunset had originally been.

That was considered an opening?

Would he be able to break out?

It was just half a body length of distance. River Sunset needed only one step to get back to where he had been positioned originally and attack. Would Boundless Sea be able to break past this sort of defense from a Striker?

Fang Rui didn't seem to even consider it. Boundless Sea rushed forward and even attacked back, using what Strikers specialized in.

Front Kick.

A low-level Striker skill. Although in reality, even Strikers didn't like using this skill because this skill had a knockback effect. For Strikers who wanted to be as close as possible to their opponents, how could they want their target to be knocked back? Of course, it was occasionally useful when you were in a disadvantageous position and wanted to reset the field. As a result, this sort of skill wouldn't be completely tossed aside, although usually only a point or two would be put into it.

Fang Rui wanted to use this skill to create a path out for himself? And seeing Boundless Sea's kick, it looked like he had only put in a point or two as well as a defensive skill.

Yet this Front Kick had unexpectedly landed on River Sunset. The viewers watched dumbstruck as River Sunset slid back. Boundless Sea didn't stop for even a moment, kicking as he moved. He had been struggling to get out for so long, and he was going to do it in this way?

How is that possible!

Everyone was doubtful. Whether it was dodging the Front Kick or stopping it, let alone a pro player like Song Qiying, even an average player could do it. That was why no one had considered it an opening of any sort.

But Song Qiying, Han Wenqing's future successor, had actually been kicked away? Had he been distracted?

No!

Boundless Sea had escaped. The two old generals on Tyranny didn't have time to figure out the reason. They needed to rescue the situation. However, when the two raised their arms, everyone noticed that their movements seemed rather slow. Then, they saw that the two characters, no, three including Song Qiying's River Sunset, were being pulled in place by some sort of force.

"Magnetic Field Coil!!" In the end, the pro players figured it out first. This time, the answer came from Xiao Shiqing. This Mechanic was the first to see through the reason for their slowed movements. It was the Mechanic skill: Magnetic Field Coil.

Everyone immediately understood.

It wasn't that Song Qiying had reacted too slow or gotten distracted, but rather that Ye Xiu's Lord Grim had placed down a Magnetic Field Coil at an unknown time. When he yelled "Out", he had attacked in coordination with the Magnetic Field Coil. River Sunset had been affected by the skill and his movements were slowed. That was why he wasn't able to react properly to Boundless Sea's Front Kick. By the time he noticed it, Boundless Sea had already sent him flying back.

This was the limit to what Ye Xiu could do. He needed to prioritize his own safety. After that Floating Bullet, Lord Grim had gotten to the wall and started climbing.

They escaped. In the end, they were able to escape...

Just when everyone was thinking this, Han Wenqing's Desert Dust suddenly leapt into the air.

Magnetic Field Coil?

Magnetic Field Coil didn't completely seal a character's movement. The character would simply be heavier. And for Lord Grim to have Magnetic Field Coil, the skill could only be at level one. Its effects would be weak. If it hadn't caught them off guard, Fang Rui might not have been able to get past Song Qiying. Right now, Desert Dust was using an attack under the effects of Magnetic Field Coil, a Soaring Tiger.

It was a skill with powerful jump. It would be slower than usual due to the Magnetic Field Coil, but he would still be able to reach Boundless Sea.

Hit!

Tyranny's fans prayed, but in the end, it was off by a bit. It hadn't been easy for Fang Rui to get out, so he immediately activated Qi Flowing Cloud to increase his movement speed. Boundless Sea was currently running for his life. Desert Dust had been restricted by the Magnetic Field Coil. Although the effects were small, it still weakened the jump enough.

Just off by a bit!

Everyone felt regretful over it, when suddenly, Desert Dust dropped down.

Thousand Ton Drop!

At the final moment, he cancelled the Soaring Tiger and switched skills.

Boom!

His legs touched the ground, shaking the earth with the force of a thousand tons. Under the effects of Magnetic Field Coil, the effects of Thousand Ton Drop were buffed. Boundless Sea had only been half a body length away from Desert Dust, and he was launched into the air from the impact.

Ferocious Tiger Flurry!

Desert Dust rushed forward, his clothes fluttering in the wind. Fang Rui was still stabilizing his Boundless Sea, when the first punch struck.

Pu!

The punch had struck him squarely in the waist. Just when it seemed like Boundless Sea would be sent flying away, Desert Dust's other fist smashed downwards. With a bang, Boundless Sea crashed into the earth.

Ferocious Tiger Flurry, all of the attacks hit!

Han Wenqing was deal with the effects of the Magnetic Field Coil effectively. After the fourth strike, he was outside of its range. His attack speed immediately surged, and Boundless Sea was hit repeatedly. After being attacked by three Fighters for so long, Boundless Sea didn't have much health left. Qi Masters were a Cloth armor class. Their defense wasn't anything noteworthy.

Ye Xiu? Lord Grim was up on the wall, unable to help.

Su Mucheng? Even though she had the high grounds, it was too difficult to expect her to cover everything. It wasn't only a matter of stopping Han Wenqing. Lin Jingyan and Song Qiyang were also rushing towards Boundless Sea.

After ten minutes and forty-two seconds, Fang Rui's Boundless Sea was killed.

Chapter 1565: A Poor Performance

The cheers were thunderous.

No matter how low Soft Mist's health may be, she wasn't dead. This sort of lead felt unstable. No matter how dire Boundless Sea's circumstances may be, if he wasn't dead, circumstances could always change.

But now, they could finally be at ease.

Boundless Sea was dead. His name had turned gray. He had already left the match. Tyranny had won a one point lead.

In terms of overall points, it seemed to be even. However, a one point lead in the team competition also meant a numbers advantage. The point wasn't the most significant part. This lead would tip the balance of the team competition.

Tyranny's stadium resounded with an ocean of cheers. Even the Li Yibo began livening up and started shouting rapidly...

Happy's side was silent.

Facing Tyranny, they had never felt like they had the upper hand. And now, their team was down a member, a key member like Fang Rui too.

The Happy fans sitting in the away team seats fell silent. The people sitting at Happy's bench like Chen Guo were silent as well.

The match would stop for no one though.

Boundless Sea was killed. Ye Xiu's Lord Grim had climbed up to the top of the canyon wall and began coordinating a pincer attack with Su Mucheng again. This time, Tyranny no longer dodged as cautiously as before, instead pushing forward swiftly and resolutely. Fortunately, Tang Rou and Luo Ji had received Ye Xiu's message and retreated beforehand. However, from the looks of it, Happy was in disarray, and the attacks from Lord Grim and Dancing Rain didn't seem to pose much of a threat to Tyranny. Their attacks didn't seem as focused as before. It looked as if the two were just casually throwing out a few attacks here and there.

"Don't panic. We'll take our time," Ye Xiu's comforting words were plain and simple. For the Happy fans watching, not only did it not put their hearts at ease, it made them feel as if Ye Xiu's confidence and fighting spirit were waning.

But soon, message after message jumped out in the chat.

These weren't words of comfort or encouragement, but instructions.

The match wasn't over yet!

Ye Xiu gave out clear orders, showing his belief in his team.

Fang Rui could also see these messages, but he no longer had the ability to carry them out anymore.

What was I able to do?

Fang Rui couldn't help but ask himself.

He had come to Team Happy as an All-Star player and held the highest salary in the team. Even if he wasn't the main pillar, he could still be considered a core member of the team.

This was how the public saw him as, and Fang Rui believed it as well. Happy's team competition lineup always included himself, Su Mucheng, and Ye Xiu, the three All-Stars as the core. Their positions in the team competition were unshakeable.

And how had he performed?

His class change was indeed a big uncertain factor, but many of his high points this season had been a result of his class change catching his opponents off guard.

The class change wasn't an excuse. Fang Rui was very clear on this point because the more he played the Qi Master, the better he got. He didn't feel like the class was hindering him in any way.

Was this the best he could do?

In the playoffs, Happy had fought against Blue Rain and now, Tyranny. Although he was a core member of Happy, he had never been the deciding factor in their wins. Wei Chen and Luo Ji, the two players with the fewest appearances on stage, had been more important in the playoffs. The few times that they had appeared, they had contributed significantly to their wins.

And himself?

In the group arena, Tyranny had pulled back the lead through him. If not for that, Happy might have been able to go into the team competition with a two point lead.

In the team competition, he had unexpectedly been the first to be killed. His teammates had set things up well for him, but what was he able to do with it? A Spirit Reaches to the Rainbow, and then? Fang Rui felt too ashamed to think of everything else that came afterwards. Even at the end, Ye Xiu had done his best to give him an opportunity to escape, and the outcome? Tyranny had caught him.

An unfavorable position? A numbers disadvantage?

Fang Rui didn't want this sort of excuse. In Wei Chen's game against Blue Rain and Luo Ji's game against Tyranny, they had made decisive plays, pulling Happy back from a disadvantageous situation.

Yet he wasn't able to do so!

Fang Rui felt ashamed. At the same time, he also kept watching the unfinished match attentively.

We have to win! I still want to play, play well...

Fang Rui mumbled to himself as he watched his teammates on the stage.

Back on the battlefield, Happy had regrouped under Ye Xiu's orders. They clearly didn't want to continue fighting with Tyranny here. They wanted to reset the battle and fight in a different place. During this gradual process, Happy's players began to regain their calm. Even Ye Xiu had felt distressed over the loss of Fang Rui. He wasn't nearly as calm as he appeared. The others were even more so. Luo Ji's palms were covered in sweat. Although this was his second time in a playoffs match, this was his first time in a deciding game. The pressure for this match was different than before. And now, Luo Ji had become the biggest deciding factor for Happy's win. Under this enormous pressure, he nearly fell behind twice while retreating with Tang Rou's Soft Mist because he wasn't able to keep up his movement pacing.

However, Ye Xiu's step-by-step instructions that followed help Luo Ji calm down.

I can't make a mistake! I definitely can't.

Luo Ji was different from Fang Rui, who was unhappy with not being the deciding factor for their win. Luo Ji didn't dare have any such hopes. Don't make a mistake. That was all he wanted. It was his bottom line, and he felt that it could be done if he tried his hardest.

Luo Ji carried out Ye Xiu's orders meticulously. Through this focused attention on these orders, Happy was able to recoup their morale.

Tyranny didn't like for things to be this calm. They had wanted to strike when the iron was hot and chase after them, but they weren't able to reach Ye Xiu and Su Mucheng above them. They hadn't even seen the other members on Happy yet. Since it was a random map, everyone only had a rough understanding of the map. There was no way to get a grasp of the details before the team competition. The area that Tyranny was heading into was unknown territory. They had no way of predicting what Happy would do next.

They could only see that Happy had given up on this canyon region. Ahead was the exit to the canyon. The canyon walls sloped downwards until it was flat at the exit. Outside, to the left, was the spawn point at the left end of the map. To the right was the path to the Seven Color Springs at the center of the map. The two sides knew about these paths through the brief introduction to the map.

Left? Right? Or continue forward?

Tyranny didn't make any decisions yet. When they reached the canyon exit, they needed to check for ambushes.

Chapter 1566: Powerless Ambush

Tyranny slowed their steps as they approached the canyon exit. Up above, Ye Xiu's Lord Grim was still harassing them. On the other hand, Su Mucheng's Dancing Rain had already disappeared. Had she gone over to the canyon exit in preparation to ambush them?

Tyranny was in the dark, but they had no intention of cowering. They simply slowed down, putting on a safer and more cautious attitude as they exited the canyon.

Left?

Right?

Each of the five members of Tyranny looked in a different direction as soon as they exited the canyon.

Both left and right!

Wyvern, Thunder Eagle, Spirit Cat, Frost Wolf.

Two above, two below hiding to the left and right of the exit. Concealed Light had summoned his four beasts and had them lie in wait for Tyranny to come. As soon as Tyranny rushed out, before the summons moved, a cannon shot could be heard. Dancing Rain, who had rushed down from the canyon wall ahead of time, also came to the exit to set up an ambush. When she saw Tyranny, she immediately attacked.

Artillery shells and the four beasts flew towards Tyranny. At the same time, a Devil's World Flower appeared in the center of Tyranny's formation.

Boom boom!

Explosions sounded, not just once either. Dancing Rain's artillery fire had arrived. However, a grenade had also been thrown by Dazzling Hundred Blossoms. At the same time, three fists swung towards the Devil World Flower. The poor Devil World Flower had only dug halfway out from the ground, its petals still unfolding, when Tyranny instantly destroyed it.

Tyranny had been on guard against an ambush. Now that an ambush had come, they were ready. With one glance, they saw how the four beasts were arranged, as well as Dancing Rain's position. The Devil World Flower had no chance to sneak attack them. Before it could even display its abilities, it was destroyed. Then, the entire team turned right and rushed out!

Tyranny ignored the wyvern and frost wolf to their left, as well as Dancing Rain firing from afar. All of them headed right towards the Thunder Eagle and Spirit Cat. Behind them was their Summoner, Concealed Light.

From rushing out of the canyon, examining their situation, dodging the cannonfire, killing the Devil World Flower, and rushing towards the right, all of it had taken place in less than a second. Let alone being shaken by the ambush, Tyranny didn't even let their opponents take the initiative. Not even a second had passed, and their counterattack had begun. Their entire focus was on Concealed Light. In an instant, Happy seemed to be in a dire situation.

Thunder Eagle?

Spirit Cat?

Tyranny wasn't concerned with these two summons. Zhang Jiale's Dazzling Hundred Blossoms attacked as he moved. The Thunder Eagle swayed unsteadily as it was shot. The Spirit Cat moved about nimbly like a shadow, but in the next second, an imprint of a punch appeared on the shadow. The Spirit Cat was knocked several steps back before rolling on the ground and disappearing.

Emperor's Fist!

It was a high-level Striker skill, instantly killing the Spirit Cat.

Who had used it?

Everyone thought that it was Han Wenqing's Desert Dust, but when they saw who it was, they realized that it had come from Song Qiying's River Sunset.

"Beautiful!"

Han Wenqing praised. Desert Dust charged forward.

In the blink of an eye, Tyranny had eliminated the two summons. Luo Ji's only choice was to retreat, and Concealed Light was already backing away.

This was Happy's ambush?

This obviously couldn't be all. Soft Mist had been healed to full health by An Wenyi. With her spear raised, she rushed out towards Tyranny from behind Concealed Light.

Even so, no one thought that anything would change.

The terrain surrounding the canyon exit was rather simple. There was no way to set up any elaborate ambushes. All anyone could do was make the first move when the enemy side rushed out.

This sort of ambush couldn't threaten Tyranny. Happy wasn't able to establish any sort of advantage with their initiation, and in the blink of an eye, Tyranny had turned it around on them. Of the five creatures summoned by Concealed Light, only three were left. He wasn't even able to use Elemental Beast King Formation before his summons died. The long-ranged Dancing Rain had no way to stop Tyranny either. All Tang Rou's Soft Mist could do was protect Luo Ji for a bit. How could she contend against the entirety of Tyranny alone?

As for Ye Xiu?

Ye Xiu's Lord Grim was hopping down from the canyon wall. His rapid descent looked imposing, but how could he be the meteor that wiped out the dinosaurs?

Even so, Tyranny paid the most attention to Ye Xiu's Lord Grim. The approaching Soft Mist could easily be held off.

Brick!

Lin Jingyan's Dark Thunder lifted his hands and threw a Brick towards Lord Grim.

Hua! The Myriad Manifestations Umbrella opened up, blocking the Brick. But Han Wenqing used Ye Xiu's dead angle from opening the umbrella to close in and let out a punch.

"It's a counterattack!!" Zhang Xinjie warned. Previously, when Ye Xiu had broken past him to rescue Fang Rui, Zhang Xinjie had been paying close attention to him. In the end, he hadn't noticed the Magnetic Field Coil being placed down either. When he thought back, the scene of Lord Grim fishing something out from his umbrella might have been Lord Grim placing down the Magnetic Field Coil.

Unfortunately, he hadn't been able to call back then. However, experience was accumulated bit by bit. Zhang Xinjie was already aware that to call out Ye Xiu's moves might be impossible with only one

person. Not only did his Myriad Manifestations Umbrella making things complicated by opening up such a wide range of skills, Ye Xiu could also use it to hide his character's movements.

As a result, when Lord Grim jumped down from the canyon wall, Zhang Xinjie's Immovable Rock had moved to a different angle to observe Lord Grim's movements. When the Myriad Manifestations Umbrella opened, Immovable Rock moved to Lord Grim's side. He saw that after the umbrella opened, the canvas separated from the umbrella rod.

The canvas was a shield. In the other hand was something else, but either way, it was a common move from Knights.

Through his different viewpoint, Zhang Xinjie was able to immediately determine what skill Lord Grim would likely use.

Maelstrom Counterattack!

It was a skill where the shield absorbed a blow, while the other hand counterattacked. When the Knight awakening skill, Knight's Spirit, was used, the skill transformed into Honest Maelstrom Counterattack, reflecting the damage back fully.

Lord Grim couldn't learn Knight's Spirit. His Maelstrom Counterattack was only level one, so the reflected damage was rather limited. But the damage was secondary. This sort of counterattack was enough to disrupt Tyranny's current formation and tempo.

Luckily, Zhang Xinjie had noticed it and promptly gave out a warning. Desert Dust immediately stopped his punch and jumped out of the way.

For Maelstrom Counterattack to work, the opponent had to attack first. It couldn't be used as a standalone attack. The previous second, Tyranny had been lying in wait for Lord Grim. The next second, Lord Grim had become nothing but air to them. Han Wenqing and Lin Jingyan went to help River Sunset take down Soft Mist.

By now, Zhang Jiale's Dazzling Hundred Blossom had killed off the Thunder Eagle. He turned fire, keeping the Frost Wolf and Wyvern at bay. The health of summoned creatures wasn't nearly as precious as a player's. Oftentimes, sacrificing some health to attack was okay. However, Spitfire attacks didn't only deal damage. The vast majority of their bullets had special effects. By using these additional effects, blocking off two summons wasn't anything difficult for Zhang Jiale.

The situation was completely under Tyranny's control. Lord Grim's descent became rather embarrassing. Lord Grim had indeed prepared a Maelstrom Counterattack. Ye Xiu had predicted that Tyranny would focus him. As soon as he came down, he would certainly be attacked, so use a Maelstrom Counterattack to scatter them. That was Ye Xiu's plan.

But this time, Zhang Xinjie had seen through it. Tyranny had completely avoided him. His Maelstrom Counterattack immediately became worthless.

Ye Xiu wasn't able to see Tyranny's team chat, but seeing how Tyranny had seen through his plan, trying to make his plan work would be a waste of time.

Charge!

Ye Xiu cancelled Maelstrom Counterattack. His Myriad Manifestations Umbrella form didn't change forms. He used another Knight skill to make his way towards them.

But Tyranny had seen through it once again. Han Wenqing and Lin Jingyan had only pretended to go attack Soft Mist. In reality, their attention had been on Lord Grim. They weren't surprised by Ye Xiu's quick decision to give up on the Maelstrom Counterattack.

Desert Dust twisted his body and swung his arm.

Collapsing Fist!

Directly towards the incoming Lord Grim.

Chapter 1567: Push and Pull

Desert Dust's fist struck Lord Grim's Myriad Manifestations Umbrella. These two rivals of ten years would always clash against each other, neither one backing down.

Lord Grim's Charge was stopped, while Desert Dust stumbled back. The Knight's Charge had slightly higher priority than Collapsing Fist. With this advantage, getting past Desert Dust was an easy matter. The problem was that Han Wenqing wasn't the only person that Ye Xiu needed to get past.

Tiger Flips the Mountain!

Ye Xiu had opened a path past Desert Dust, but Lin Jingyan's Dark Thunder blocked it with a Tiger Flips the Mountain. Ye Xiu had no way to advance and could only retreat.

During this time, Han Wenqing was able to stabilize his Desert Dust. Dark Thunder's Tiger Flips the Mountain had missed, so he quickly followed it with his own attack.

Launching Kick!

Desert Dust flew threw the air with a kick.

If it was a 1v1, Launching Kick was a very punishable attack. However, Han Wenqing had an experienced helper, Lin Jingyan, by his side, who would patch up any openings.

Ye Xiu could only have Lord Grim jump back again. He unsheathed a sword from his umbrella, sending out a Sword Draw.

Han Wenqing and Lin Jingyan were in a 2v1 situation, and they didn't hesitate to take advantage of it. Lin Jingyan's Dark Thunder put up his arms, tanking the Sword Draw. Han Wenqing's Desert Dust rushed out again. Lord Grim raised his sword, following with an Earthquake Sword.

Ye Xiu had slashed horizontally and vertically with these two low-level skills, mimicking the Berserker's Gore Cross. The Sword Draw was blocked by Lin Jingyan. The Earthquake Sword seized this small gap. Han Wenqing had rushed out too quickly and had no time to react to it. The Earthquake Sword swept him up along with the earth.

Ye Xiu didn't dare continue fighting. He immediately used a Shadow Clone Technique, his two hands quickly forming the seals. Dark Thunder closed in and swiped his claws at him, but he was too slow. Lord Grim's shadow clone disappeared into smoke as the real body moved away safely.

Turn around, Falling Flower Palm!

Lord Grim attacked again, coordinating with Soft Mist.

Tang Rou had been blocked by Song Qiying. At the moment, their fight was even. But Lord Grim's sudden appearance caught Song Qiying off guard. With a "pa!", Song Qiying's River Sunset was sent flying towards Zhang Xinjie's Immovable Rock.

Each and every detail on the battlefield had been considered by Ye Xiu. Although his Maelstrom Counterattack had been seen through, his following attacks had given Tyranny quite some trouble.

Immovable Rock dodged River Sunset, but Su Mucheng's Dancing Rain decided that it was time to give him special care and coordinated with Lord Grim's Falling Flower Palm. Dancing Rain had fired a Satellite Beam right where Immovable Rock had dodged to. In an instant, Immovable Rock was swallowed by the light.

The damage dealt by Satellite Beam wasn't low, but it was as if it hadn't affected Tyranny in the slightest. River Sunset ignored it. Immovable Rock ignored it.

After destroying Lord Grim's shadow clone, Lin Jingyan's Dark Thunder gave chase, throwing out a Paralysis Needle.

As for Han Wenqing's Desert Dust. The Earthquake Sword had knocked him back, but by twisting his body, he was able to spring off the wave of earth. Desert Dust rolled and then sprinted forward. In the blink of an eye, he had closed the distance. In contrast, Soft Mist's spear seemed dull and slow.

Punch!

His fists moved like a blur as they twinkled with light.

Bang, bang, bang, bang. Lord Grim and Soft Mist were both hit by the flurry of punches.

Striker Level 75 skill, Light Speed Punch.

The speed of light was just a description. It wasn't so fast that it couldn't be blocked. However, the attack came out far faster than most other skills. The afterimages formed from the skill were rather deceiving as a result.

Lord Grim and Soft Mist were knocked back. The Tyranny crowd erupted into cheers.

They were beaten!

The viewers all thought the same, but not Han Wenqing. The two looked as if they had been sent flying, but in reality, both of them had jumped back. To put it more precisely, the Light Speed Punch had landed as they jumped back, making them lose their balance.

A loss of balance wouldn't pose a problem for those two just based on the fact that they had been able to react so quickly and jump back.

Attack!

Continue attacking. Don't give the enemy any room to breath.

Han Wenqing thought to himself. Desert Dust had already charged forward, but he hadn't expected them to counterattack before even steadying themselves.

Cloud Whirling Storm!

Tang Rou's Soft Mist had been able to sneak in a high-level skill. Soft Mist didn't know what she would need to do to balance herself when she landed. It was very easy to mess up one's rhythm when attacking under these circumstances. Usually, most players would use a quick low-level skill to defend themselves, but she unexpectedly decided to use a high-level skill instead.

Magic danced around her spear and then burst out.

This is Cloud Whirling Storm?

Dark Thunder immediately stopped. Lin Jingyan had originally thought that he had enough space to circle around it, but when the Cloud Whirling Storm burst forth, the range of the magic AoE was far greater than he had expected. It moved extremely irregularly too, so he had no way to predict where it would move to.

What is this?

The camera switched over to Soft Mist's perspective. She had used the skill while adjusting her balance. Because of her multitasking, her control over the Cloud Whirling Storm was rather messy, but this messiness was what made it unpredictable.

Lin Jingyan was gloomy. He knew that the Paralysis Needle he had thrown struck his target. Lord Grim wasn't moving, no? It was because the moment that he had jumped back, the Paralysis Needle had hit him, putting him in a Paralyzed state.

If they could catch and kill him, their victory would be certain!

Lin Jingyan grit his teeth. Dark Thunder immediately activated Reinforced Iron Bones and charged into the Cloud Whirling Storm.

The magic assaulted Dark Thunder, crackling as it burned away his health.

But with his Super Armor, Dark Thunder was able to quickly move through it.

Powerful Knee Strike!

Dark Thunder immediately leapt towards Lord Grim, who had yet to land on the ground.

Bang!

He had only made it halfway through before hitting a target. A Spirit Cat pounced into the air, intercepting Dark Thunder.

The Spirit Cat's had lower priority than Dark Thunder's Powerful Knee Strike, but it could still take the hit in place of someone else. Dark Thunder landed on the ground, while the Spirit Cat rolled to the side. It

was then quickly killed, leaving behind a piece of scorched earth. Zhang Jiale's Dazzling Hundred Blossoms had cleared away the summons behind him by now and had shifted his attention to this side. But just when he turned around, Concealed Light resummoned his dead beasts. As a result, Han Wenqing quickly went to finish off the Spirit Cat blocking Dark Thunder.

The Elemental Beast King Formation created through the four beasts was nothing to be scoffed at. As a result, when facing a Four Beast style Summoner, killing off one of the beasts to prevent it from coming into play was very crucial.

The Spirit Cat was instantly killed. The newly-summoned Thunder Eagle, Wyvern, and Frost Wolf continued to harass their enemies fearlessly.

"Ye Xiu!!" Lin Jingyan shouted in the chat.

There was no time to lose! Tyranny was about to attack Ye Xiu's Lord Grim, when they saw a bright light shine on top of Lord Grim before dissipating.

Lord Grim landed on the ground and rolled. A black shadow slithered from his sleeves, Shadow Cloak!

Everyone on Tyranny was experienced enough to recognize that bright light.

Purify, a Paladin skill that dispelled debuffs and status effects from the target's body. Happy's healer, An Wenyi, had chosen it to put on his Little Cold Hand's weapon.

It was a level one Purify, and could only remove one status effect. However, Lord Grim only had one status effect on him, Paralysis. After being Purified, he could immediately move normally again. He Quick Recovered and used Shadow Cloak. Tyranny was able to react in time though, if not, Lord Grim would have been able to catch all of them.

The initiative was still held by Tyranny though. After dodging the Shadow Cloak, Tyranny immediately pushed forward again.

Happy pulled back.

Lord Grim and Soft Mist coordinated with Concealed Light's summons, protecting Concealed Light and Little Cold Hands, attacking and retreating. Su Mucheng's Dancing Rain wandered around on the edges of the battlefield, harassing and disrupting Tyranny's offensive maneuvers.

But Tyranny continued to push forward.

Although it was a 5v5 again, Tyranny still had a sixth player that could be subbed in. They had the numbers advantage, which allowed them to be bolder and make aggressive moves.

Bold and aggressive was exactly what Tyranny was best at. Their offense was relentless. Happy was unable to escape from it. They could only face it, fighting while retreating.

Wave after wave of cheers came from Tyranny's fans. As long as Tyranny kept up this pressure, it seemed as if Tyranny's victory would only be a matter of time.

However, Tyranny's players weren't celebrating yet. They didn't dare get careless.

“Careful.” Zhang Xinjie typed into the team chat. In his eyes, although Happy was retreating, they weren’t retreating because they had no other choice. Their control over their tempo was quite firm. The direction of their retreat was within their grasp.

Happy was waiting for an opportunity to counterattack. Zhang Xinjie was certain of it. Did that mean this opportunity was lying in wait in the direction that they were retreating towards.

That area was the center of the map, the Seven Color Springs. It was an area that Tyranny had never ventured into. Was there a feature in that area that could be taken advantage of by Happy?

Was it another area that could collapse?

Seeing Concealed Light now and then recalling how Happy had only now come together as five after so long, Zhang Xinjie couldn’t help but think of this possibility.

Chapter 1568: Switch

Who should we send to scout out the terrain?

This was Zhang Xinjie’s first thought, but he quickly dispelled it. On paper, Tyranny should be stronger than Happy, but if one of their members left to scout their surroundings, it would be a 4v5. Right now, Happy was on the defensive. A 4v5 under these circumstances wouldn’t be too big of an issue, but circumstances could change. If it became a 4v5, Happy would certainly turn on them and attack. Ye Xiu wasn’t someone who would just stay idle at such a prime opportunity.

We can’t send someone out to scout ahead. We can only see what we can do given our present situation.

Does Luo Ji really have that sort of talent?

When, Zhang Xinjie’s gaze shifted towards Concealed Light, he couldn’t help but think of this question. The vast majority of people considered Luo Ji’s talent at “seeing through the terrain with a single glance” was a bluff and couldn’t be believed. But it wasn’t as if it was impossible. For someone like Zhang Xinjie, it would constantly weigh on his mind. He even guessed that this might have been Happy’s goal, but there was nothing he could do about it. He wasn’t paranoid about it or anything. He would simply take it into account when he made his plans.

The terrain collapsing was only one of many possibilities. It might not be the case. Perhaps it might just be that the terrain gave Happy certain advantages that they could use against Tyranny.

Be more cautious and continue with their pursuit?

It would be a perfectly good option under normal circumstances, but what if it was a trap?

In the end, the safest option seemed to be to shy away from Happy’s preferred route.

Zhang Xinjie concluded after careful consideration.

Increase our aggression!

He gave out an order to Tyranny.

Han Wenqing was the first to understand his intentions. He was also the first to carry out the order.

Desert Dust had just forced Soft Mist back. With a step forward, he followed up with a kick.

Soft Mist blocked the kick with her spear. To Desert Dust's side, Lord Grim sneakily sent out a Circle Swing.

Cloud Body, Double Tiger Palm!

Desert Dust twisted his body, just barely dodging Lord Grim's umbrella. Then, he followed with a Double Tiger Palm, one palm towards Lord Grim, and the other towards Soft Mist.

Lord Grim jumped back and dodged it. Soft Mist sidestepped it and then slid forward, stabbing towards Desert Dust with a Dragon Tooth.

Han Wenqing didn't dodge or block it, striking back with a Straight Punch. Desert Dust avoided the Dragon Tooth using the dash provided by the skill, while simultaneously throwing a punch towards Lord Grim.

But as Lord Grim jumped back, Ye Xiu counterattacked, using a Dragon Tooth as well. The Dragon Tooth collided with Desert Dust's Straight Punch. Both sides trembled from the impact. Neither skill trumped the other, an even match.

The words "increase our aggression" wasn't a buff. It didn't mean the team's battle strength would suddenly rise to another level. To be more aggressive, the players needed to make adjustments to the tempo of the match.

To put it simply, it was to shift the balance between offense and defense towards offense. In other words, sacrifice defense for offense.

The outcome would be more aggressive exchanges. When one would normally choose to dodge or defend, one would instead continue to attack. Taking more damage didn't matter.

Desert Dust's Straight Punch didn't seem to embody this philosophy, but Han Wenqing had made his decisions with it in mind. The main purpose of the Straight Punch had been to deal damage to Lord Grim, dodging Soft Mist's Dragon Tooth was simply in the passing. It could be seen as a reflection of Han Wenqing's many years of experience. Even if attacking was his priority, it was best to minimize the damage.

Soft Mist's Dragon Tooth had missed, but Han Wenqing wouldn't be able to dodge her next attacks. Soft Mist followed with a Double Stab, both strikes hitting Desert Dust. At the same time, a grenade appeared in front of her face. With a boom, Soft Mist was thrown to the side. Soft Mist immediately rolled to reduce the impact. Lin Jingyan's Dark Thunder was rushing towards her, when a black shadow cut him off. Concealed Light's Spirit Cat pounced towards Dark Thunder.

The team competition was closely linked together. As soon as Han Wenqing became more aggressive, the rest of the team followed. In response to Tyranny's sudden aggression, Happy immediately responded with a tighter defense.

Zhang Xinjie immediately became even busier. Not only did he need to carefully survey the situation, these intense trades were a test for healers. As the team's biggest support, if the healer wasn't able to keep up, Happy would likely take advantage of it and find an opening.

Small Heal, Great Cure, Focus, God's Protection, Spirit Enlightenment, Sacred Fire...

White glow poured out from Immovable Rock's Backlight Cross. Glory's number one healer was number one for a reason. Despite such a complex and chaotic battle taking place, his Cleric was the most eye-catching one. When measuring a Cleric's performance, the easiest way to do so was to look at the health on the respective teams. At the moment, the health on Tyranny's five members were lined up together, bouncing up and down like a song.

As for the musician?

Immovable Rock was given a close-up along with the movement of the health bars. His movements weren't nearly as graceful as the health bars. Immovable Rock was traveling back and forth amidst artillery fire, his originally spotless robe had turned into a mess.

How could Happy not have noticed Tyranny's increased aggression?

Interfering with the healer was the counter to aggressive trades.

Happy was aware of this point, but Tyranny was aware of it too. As a result, close-ranged fighters like Soft Mist weren't able to even get close to Immovable Rock.

However, Soft Mist was Happy's easiest member to block. Su Mucheng's Dancing Rain wandered around the edges of the battlefield. Tyranny's three Fighters couldn't touch her. Only Zhang Jiale's Dazzling Hundred Blossoms could fire back but the threat he posed to her was extremely limited. Dazzling Hundred Blossoms had consumed an enormous amount of mana setting up light covers in the previous fights. Right now, he needed to play more conservatively. He couldn't maintain a cover of light, and in terms of attack range, Spitfires lost to Launchers.

Su Mucheng wasn't the only one Zhang Jiale needed to deal with either. The Wyvern and Frost Eagle summoned by Concealed Light were flying beasts. The three Fighters naturally had a much harder time against these summons compared to a long-ranged gunner like him. As a result, Zhang Jiale needed to keep both Dancing Rain and Concealed Light busy.

Finally, Ye Xiu's Lord Grim was the most annoying and most nauseating enemy. Lord Grim was both a close-ranged and a long-ranged threat. If you focused on him, he was like a general with a hundred tricks up his sleeves. If you ignored him, he would take any chance he could get to attack Immovable Rock and interrupt his healing.

There were numerous forces trying to disrupt Immovable Rock, trying to destroy Tyranny's aggression and force Tyranny into defense. During the most critical moments, Tyranny's vice-captain would keep ordering for Tyranny to maintain the same tempo.

"Keep up the aggression!"

"Keep up the aggression!"

Han Wenqing and Zhang Xinjie would say the same thing.

As a result, Tyranny continued to attack and put pressure on Happy, minimizing their protection over Zhang Xinjie to restrict Happy's freedom. Tyranny was able to keep up this tempo going, but Zhang Xinjie needed to deal with the attacks coming towards him on his own.

Dodge and tank. Immovable Rock dealt with the attacks this way, while preserving his healing. The difficult situations that he faced along with the harmonious healing that he produced were two intense opposites, making it even more clear just how skilled Zhang Xinjie was.

Attack while ignoring defense!

For defense, the others on Tyranny would be relying on Zhang Xinjie!

How could this sort of Tyranny lose?

Tyranny had won. Happy had no way to deal with Zhang Xinjie. This was what countless people thought. Tyranny's fans had already started shouting victory cries. The threat of the Seven Color Springs? Could Happy even hold on until then? Even if they could, how many of them would be left?

What else can Happy do?

The pro players in the chat group were discussing this question.

When they watched matches, they would pretend that they were the ones playing the match. If they were winning, how could they widen the lead? If they were losing, how could they bring it back?

The chat group became a war room. People would put in their thoughts, while others would argue against it. Their words were like a simulation of the battle.

"It's time to go all in," Tiny Herb's Wang Jiexi said.

He was referring to Happy, of course. If Tyranny kept this up without making a mistake, they would win. Happy needed to do something to save themselves.

Everyone knew that interrupting Zhang Xinjie was key. From the looks of it, disrupting Zhang Xinjie was the only way to affect Tyranny significantly.

But doing so wasn't easy. Happy had interrupted Zhang Xinjie's healing here and there, but it wasn't enough. Once or twice would throw off Tyranny's rhythm. Right now, Happy needed to completely suppress Zhang Xinjie's Immovable Rock to turn around the situation.

Attack!

Forcing their way through was Happy's last remaining option.

Their focus would need to be Zhang Xinjie's Immovable Rock!

Who would initiate it? The pro players paid attention to this question. They didn't believe that Happy would just sit there and watch Tyranny defeat them. Happy would certainly struggle. Even if they lost in the end, they wouldn't go down without a fight.

Soft Mist!

The camera suddenly shifted over to Soft Mist.

Dragon Breaks the Ranks!

Magic gathered at the tip of her spear. Soft Mist raised her weapon, ready to charge through.

Was she planning on breaking past the surrounding enemies to open up a path? However, Tyranny reacted promptly. River Sunset, Emperor's Fist!

Spear versus fist!

The clash between the two rookies continued. Dragon Breaks the Ranks was slightly stronger than Emperor's Fist, but not to the point of completely overwhelming the opponent. River Sunset staggered back, but Soft Mist's momentum had been stopped completely.

A figure dashed for the opening created from River Sunset's stumble.

Lord Grim! Shining Cut! An arc of light flashed across the field. Suddenly, an arm reached towards him from the side.

Tiger Flips the Mountain!

A Brawler mid-level skill, strong enough to block the Shining Cut. Ye Xiu had wanted to seize this opening to break through Tyranny's defenses, but who knew how many people were carefully watching over his every move.

Lord Grim immediately stopped.

Lin Jingyan had done his best to time the Tiger Flips the Mountain so that Ye Xiu wouldn't be able to dodge it, but he hadn't thought that Ye Xiu could suddenly stop moving. Had he predicted he would be intercepted?

Lin Jingyan could not wait for Ye Xiu to make his next move. If he saw the move and then countered, Ye Xiu would act before he did. As a result, he decided to take the initiative.

Turn, Double Crescent Fang!

He swung his arms in an arc, his claws slicing at all possible openings.

What could he do?

Lin Jingyan looked at Lord Grim and saw his hands moving.

Ninjutsu – Shadow Clone Technique.

It was Shadow Clone Technique again. But isn't it a bit far? If Tyranny wasn't even on guard against this move from Ye Xiu, then their years of experience were a waste. They couldn't guarantee that Lord Grim wouldn't use Shadow Clone Technique, after all, the hand seals to form it were extremely quick. Ninja seals could be done whenever he wanted to. It was difficult to interrupt it. They couldn't stop him from using Shadow Clone Technique, they could at least prevent it from being an effective tool.

The shadow clone was destroyed by Dark Thunder, while the real body teleported elsewhere. However, Lord Grim was still a distance of three body lengths away from Immovable Rock. That was the limit of

Shadow Clone Technique. Afterwards, he saw a grenade fall one body length away from Immovable Rock.

Does he have a way to get in front of the grenade?

Flickering Stab?

They had seen Ye Xiu use it in the group arena against Han Wenqing, so they knew that Lord Grim had this skill in his arsenal. However, Flickering Stab would only move him one unit forward. He was two units away from the grenade though, so it wouldn't be able to get him where he wanted.

Ye Xiu had no way to get past the grenade in time. The grenade exploded, Implosion Grenade! The powerful shockwave sent Lord Grim flying back to where he came from. But before he reached his destination, a figure jumped out to receive Lord Grim.

Ferocious Tiger Flurry!

Han Wenqing directly used a high-level skill. Desert Dust began his dangerous dance in the air. Lord Grim also answered back though, fighting until they reached the ground. But under the pressure from Ferocious Tiger Flurry, Lord Grim could only retreat. Han Wenqing focused his attention here, ignoring everything else. For such a huge threat like Ye Xiu, having someone specifically on guard against him was completely reasonable.

Su Mucheng's long-ranged support? She was too far. She couldn't put enough pressure onto Zhang Xinjie. Su Mucheng had tried to push forward to pressure him harder and get Immovable Rock into her firing line to completely suppress his healing. But at that distance, Dancing Rain became well into Dazzling Hundred Blossom's range. Under the threat of a Spitfire's numerous special bullets, how could she set up her firing line?

Mounted Gun!

Su Mucheng activated another high-level skill. However, many of the pro players saw this move and had their doubts. It was true that while under Mounted Gun's effects, she couldn't be interrupted. The problem was that it also restricted her movements. Her goal was to attack Immovable Rock, not to win over Dazzling Hundred Blossoms. Immovable Rocks could simply move away, and Dancing Rain couldn't follow. Mounted Gun? What use was that? She wasn't fighting with Dazzling Hundred Blossoms.

Zhang Xinjie as everyone expected him to. As soon as he saw Dancing Rain use Mounted Gun, he immediately moved away. But after only a few steps, the ground in front of him suddenly lit up. Magic began to flow. It was a summoning formation.

The pro players' eyes lit up!

So Happy's had made arrangements here?

Dancing Rain had forced Immovable Rock into the jaws of the beast?

The camera shifted over to Concealed Light. They saw him stick close to a wall, trying to make himself invisible as he waved his staff.

In reality, none of Tyranny had overlooked him. You could see it simply by noticing that Concealed Light had never able to get his four summons to gather together. Tyranny had been on guard against his most threatening move, Elemental Beast King Formation, the entire time!

The present situation showed this. There were three summons: Frost Eagle, Wyvern, Spirit Cat, all surrounding Dark Thunder. Otherwise, Lin Jingyan's Dark Thunder would have rushed forward to take out Concealed Light or Little Cold Hands. These two characters had constantly been under Happy's protection, but now that Happy had begun going on the offense, they didn't have time to take care of them.

Lin Jingyan's Dark Thunder had leapt into the air to swipe his claws at the Thunder Eagle. Fighting with summons was treating the symptoms but not the cause. Lin Jingyan wanted to quickly break away from these three summons to directly attack the summoner. However, just when he swiped his claws, the Thunder Eagle turned into a bolt of lightning and disappeared.

Hit?

Lin Jingyan knew that he hadn't. This only happened when the summon was killed, or when the summon was resummoned!

Lin Jingyan heard an eagle cry and turned to look over. A new Thunder Eagle had flown out from the summoning circle in front of Immovable Rock. With a thunderclap, it dove towards Immovable Rock.

Immovable Rock dodged, but a second summoning circle had appeared next to him.

The Wyvern and Spirit Cat next to Dark Thunder immediately rushed towards Immovable Rock.

Lin Jingyan had no one on him now, but his heart began to drop. Two of the summons were moving towards there, and over there was a new Thunder Eagle and a Frost Wolf. All four beasts were on the verge of gathering together!

He had to stop one of them no matter what.

Dark Thunder twisted his body to attack, but the Spirit Cat was too nimble and dodged it. Lin Jingyan didn't try again. The Spirit Cat was the hardest of the four to hit. He tapped lightly on his keyboard and Dark Thunder leapt into the air. He stretched out his hand, grabbing the tail of the Wyvern.

His two hands pulled!

Fling!

The Wyvern was thrown as far away as possible, and then Powerful Knee Strike!

Dark Thunder rushed towards Concealed Light. Killing the Wyvern wouldn't solve the problem. Throwing it far away was the smartest choice.

The Frost Wolf walked out from the summoning circle. As for Immovable Rock? The Backlight Cross in his hands glowed as he fought against the Frost Wolf. Crusader's Trials. The skill he had brought into the match was being used again to contend with the Frost Wolf.

A third summoning circle appeared. Luo Ji was preparing to re-summon a Wyvern, but Dark Thunder had already closed in. He raised his hands and threw a Brick.

A figure flashed by, blocking it.

An Wenyi had used Little Cold Hands to body block the Brick, preventing Concealed Light's summon from being interrupted.

The Wyvern would be summoned again, but... he'd better not think of trying to use Elemental Beast King Formation. There was more than enough time for Dark Thunder to reach Concealed Light.

Little Cold Hands?

With a Slap, he swatted him aside.

The healer was always the focal point in a team competition, yet Lin Jingyan had ignored him. Concealed Light, only Concealed Light had the power for Happy to make a comeback!

Four Elemental Beast King...

Concealed Light shook his wand. The four beasts seemed to hear the owner's command and began to circulate their elemental power. The four elements gathered together, but before the spell could be completed, the summoning circle shattered.

Interrupted!

A Strangle. Dark Thunder held Concealed Light by the throat. He was pinned against the wall, unable to continue casting.

It's over...

The pro player chat group fell silent. It wasn't to say that they wanted Happy to win, but rather that they had hoped for more twists and turns in the match.

It was true that Immovable Rock had four summons surrounding him, but he was able to use Crusader's Trials to protect himself for a bit. Then, he used Angel's Wings to float into the air, greatly reducing the threat from the Frost Wolf and Spirit Cat. Zhang Jiale's Dazzling Hundred Blossoms also provided some support, shooting Ice Bullets at the Fire Wyvern, dealing bonus damage. Killing it would take a blink of an eye.

Summons without the Summoner controlling them was easy for pro players to deal with. As a result, the pro players no longer considered them as threats. After Zhang Xinjie's Immovable Rock used Angel's Wings and received help from his teammates, he was safe again.

Victory was certain.

Even the pro player chat group were sure of it as well. The camera had switched to Ye Xiu's Lord Grim. Pan Lin and Li Yibo were already giving him a eulogy as if the match was over.

"Ye Xiu built the team up from scratch, ravaging through the Challenger League, slaughtering their way through the playoffs, playing three close games against Tyranny. These accomplishments could be already considered a miracle," Pan Lin said.

“Yes, even if Happy doesn’t end up making it into the finals and winning the championships, their achievements are unprecedented in the history of Glory. With the Alliance continuing to develop, I doubt that anyone else would be able to ever do better. Once again, Ye Xiu has made history,” Li Yibo said.

“And the team that he formed has endless potential. We’ve seen just how extraordinary each of their members are. They still have a lot of room to grow,” Pan Lin said.

“Honorable even in defeat.”

“Honorable even in defeat.”

The two finished and observed a moment of silence. Desert Dust was swinging his fist towards Lord Grim.

If this punch killed Lord Grim, then it would be timed perfectly with their ending words. Pan Lin and Li Yibo couldn’t help but think this thought. When they looked, Lord Grim had quite a lot of health left. The two sighed helplessly.

In reality, let alone killing instantly, landing the blow wasn’t likely. However, the Myriad Manifestations Umbrella in Lord Grim’s hands didn’t open up to block the strike.

Han Wenqing was startled. Such an egregious mistake shouldn’t happen on Ye Xiu, no? He suddenly felt uneasy.

Hit!

Lord Grim seemed to shatter into pieces. At the same time, the sound of a cat crying could be heard. The black Spirit Cat was sent flying by Desert Dust’s punch.

What happened? Everyone saw it clearly: Lord Grim had turned into a Spirit Cat?

Glory didn’t have transformation skills. There was only one other possibility.

Summoner skill: Switch.

“THE FUCK?!”

“The Spirit Cat had been summoned by fucking Lord Grim?!” The pro player chat group went into an uproar.

Lord Grim appeared behind Immovable Rock.

“Angel’s Wing! The light has blinded you!” Ye Xiu exclaimed.

Assassin skill: Life-Risking Strike.

“How the fuck, where’d that come from!!!”

“He has two Night Walker weapon forms? I thought he already used both Night Walker skills!!” The pro player chat group was in an uproar again.

Chapter 1569: Life-Risking Strike

Everything was a mess.

The broadcast team was in chaos. Pan Lin and Li Yibo had just been lamenting over Ye Xiu's accomplishments. Then, they watched as their grieved person turned into a Spirit Cat.

"Angel's Wing! The light has blinded you!" Ye Xiu had already started his taunts. The broadcast hadn't been able to catch that Switch. When they hastily switched over to Immovable Rock, Lord Grim had already jumped into the air, slashing towards Immovable Rock's back with a Life-Risking Strike.

The pro player chat group was in chaos too. Too many things had happened all at once. Even they didn't know where to start. The biggest question right now: where did that Life-Risking Strike come from?

The Myriad Manifestations Umbrella had a total of 12 forms, giving Lord Grim a total of 12 high-level skills excluding class advancement and awakening ones. Every match with Ye Xiu turned into a sort of guessing game in the Glory community to which 12 skills he possessed. These 12 skills would occasionally be revealed during a match. After all, there was a purpose to every skill choice. The skill would be used if it could help him win.

What about today's match? Those playing the guessing game were naturally keeping track of which skills had been used, and the pro players loved to play this game.

Heroic Leap, Poison Needle, Underground Tunneling Technique, Flickering Stab, Wind Wave Sword, Magnetic Field Coil, Maelstrom Counterattack.

Everyone had been counting. He had also just summoned a Spirit Cat and used Switch, making it a total of 9 out of 12 skills revealed.

Life-Risking Strike seemed to be one, but it didn't make sense. Everyone knew what forms the Myriad Manifestations Umbrella could transform into. Three Priest forms, two Mage forms, two Fighter forms, two Swordmaster forms, two Night Walker forms, and one Gunner form, a total of twelve.

In today's match, he had already used two Night Walker skills, Underground Tunneling Technique and Flickering Stab.

He only had two Night Walker weapon forms, so how could he have a third Night Walker skill like Life-Risking Strike?

There was a thirteenth weapon form?

It was everyone's first thought, but when they took a closer look, everyone coughed blood.

Myriad Manifestations Umbrella? Lord Grim had put it away in his inventory. Lord Grim was currently holding a Dagger.

He had switched weapons...

For Gunners, switching weapons was called Dual Gun Style. For Swordmasters, switching weapons was called Dual Sword Style, and so on and so forth. They could all be collectively referred to as Weapon Switching Style.

Unspecialized... to use skills from different classes, they needed to equip different class weapons to fight. They were the biggest proponent of this Weapon Switching Style. The reason why other classes would choose to use a Weapon Switching Style was to make their movesets more flexible. On the other hand, unspecialized players chose to switch weapons out of helplessness. If they didn't, there was no way for them to play. As a result, among the classes that could employ a Weapon Switching Style, unspecialized players actually hated it the most.

For unspecialized players, the Myriad Manifestations Umbrella in Ye Xiu's hands was their biggest dream. It was a weapon that could transform into twelve different weapon forms. It would let them say bye-bye to the Weapon Switching Style.

However, despite already having a weapon with 12 different forms, Lord Grim unexpectedly carried a 12th one so that he could switch weapons. No one knew what to say.

The pro players instantly began to curse at him, showing off their hand speed.

As for the live crowd? Because of the projection technology, the live crowd hadn't missed it just because the broadcast had. They had seen Desert Dust strike the Spirit Cat, while Lord Grim appeared where the Spirit Cat had originally been.

Life-Risking Strike!

Blood for blood, life for life.

The damage dealt by the skill depended on the user's health. The proportion between damage dealt and health burned was determined by the level of the skill.

Lord Grim had added it to his weapon as a bonus skill, so it could only be level one. The amount of damage it dealt was limited.

Was this strike enough to instant kill Immovable Rock? No one bothered to make calculations because the answer would soon be revealed.

The ones in the most chaos were Tyranny's players. This change had been too sudden. Zhang Jiale's Dazzling Hundred Blossoms was currently attacking Dancing Rain. Song Qiying's River Sunset was in an intense fight with Tang Rou's Soft Mist. Lin Jingyan's Dark Thunder was trying to eliminate the threat of Happy's Summoner. In that instant, their backs had been facing there. They didn't know about what had just happened.

Up until Ye Xiu's taunting. Han Wenqing typed.

"Healer"

When Desert Dust struck the Spirit Cat, he immediately sent out a warning. He hadn't panicked. He had commanded the team as the captain for ten years. Giving out clear orders was instinct to him.

Others might have warned with a "Switch".

But that was too vague. Switch? Switch to where?

Even if Tyranny's players were experienced, if they saw this instruction, they wouldn't have thought of the Summoner's Switch skill.

The word Switch had multiple meanings. Giving this sort of order would only confuse the team even further.

But Han Wenqing wouldn't make this sort of mistake.

The Switch had happened already. The players fighting didn't need anyone to explain what was going on in the battlefield. What they needed to know was what the next step should be and how they should take it.

"Healer"

A single clear word!

On the other hand, Ye Xiu's taunting was eight words along with two exclamation marks.

There were many players who talked trash, but there were very few who let their trash talking get in the way of their playing. Everyone knew what the priority was.

While Han Wenqing had hastily warned his team using just a single word, Ye Xiu took his time to type out his message. Just from this comparison, it could be seen which side was in a more dire situation.

Tyranny's three players turned to look. Zhang Jiale's Dazzling Hundred Blossoms even fired towards there as he did so. With hundreds of matches of experience, he had unconsciously noticed how abnormal Han Wenqing's sudden warning had been.

By the time they turned their heads to look, all they saw was Lord Grim with his dagger pierced through Immovable Rock's heart. Immovable Rock hadn't turned to look. He was holding his Backlight Cross, about to cast an Instant Heal on himself.

But it was too late.

Dead.

When he saw his rapidly dropping health bar, Zhang Xinjie knew it already.

He had guessed that it was a Life-Risking Strike. And right now, only Ye Xiu's Lord Grim had the ability to use this skill.

Everyone else was waiting to see the outcome of this strike, but Zhang Xinjie? He was very confident in Ye Xiu. For him to use as risky of a move as Life-Risking Strike, he was certain that Ye Xiu had calculated it. This strike wouldn't give him any opportunity to turn things around. One hit certain death, OHKO.

The glow from Backlight Cross receded.

The Angel's Wings lost its luster and then shattered.

Immovable Rock plunged towards the ground, his name had turned gray.

31 minutes 58 seconds. Team Tyranny had lost Zhang Xinjie, their healer.

Apart from Han Wenqing, the other Tyranny members didn't know how it had happened, including Zhang Xinjie.

All they saw was Lord Grim next to the dead Immovable Rock, as well as the dagger in Lord Grim's hands.

Life-Risking Strike!

It had to be Life-Risking Strike. There was no other skill that had such explosive burst.

If it was Life-Risking Strike, then you die too!

Having lost their healer, Tyranny needed to kill Ye Xiu, and the opportunity was right there.

After Life-Risking Strike, he wouldn't be able to get healed for a certain amount of time.

For a level one Life-Risking Strike, the proportion between health burned and damage dealt couldn't be high. Thus, Lord Grim had burned away nearly all his health, leaving him with only 7% left.

With 7% health left, a group attack would instantly kill him.

But Tyranny couldn't be happy just yet. Of their four attackers, three of them were close-ranged and quite far from Lord Grim. Song Qiying and Tang Rou were fighting against each other. The two were interlocked, unable to escape from each other. Han Wenqing's Desert Dust was free to move around, but he was the farthest away. By the time he reached there, who knew if Ye Xiu would still be around.

In order to eliminate the threat of Ye Xiu from the rest of the team, Han Wenqing had tried his best to push Lord Grim as far away from them as possible. But with this Switch, Lord Grim instantly returned back to where he was. Han Wenqing's Desert Dust was now all alone. For a moment, he would have no impact on the battle. He had originally been the clearest on Tyranny about the situation and the first to react. But because of how far away he was, and because he was a Striker, all he could do was type... type!!!!

There was no need for him to type anymore. Everyone on Tyranny knew what to do. Desert Dust rushed back. Lin Jingyan's Dark Thunder left Concealed Light to attack Lord Grim. Zhang Jiale's Dazzling Hundred Blossoms continued to attack. He had always been the biggest threat towards Ye Xiu, but right now, he wasn't able to do what he wanted. As soon as he turned, Su Mucheng's Dancing Rain immediately multiplied the pressure onto him.

Burst!

Before Zhang Jiale could send out a burst of attacks, Su Mucheng acted first. She went all out, using everything she had, turning the surroundings into scorched earth. Zhang Jiale's Dazzling Hundred Blossoms was in the middle of the storm, taking a huge chunk of damage. As for Lord Grim? That Frost Wolf was running towards him, becoming Lord Grim's protection. The three summons that had previously been attacking Immovable Rock were still alive!

Chapter 1570: Substitute Attack with Defense

The Frost Wolf blocked Dazzling Hundred Blossom's attack, while the other summons surrounded Lord Grim in a defensive formation. As for Ye Xiu, he was perfectly fine with that and hid behind the summons.

At the same time, a summoning circle quietly began to form. But Dark Thunder, who was rushing towards Lord Grim, suddenly counterattacked and threw a Brick towards Concealed Light.

His Dark Thunder had Luo Ji's Concealed Light completely suppressed previously so that he wouldn't be able to summon any more creatures. However, there was no such thing as interrupting a Summoner from commanding his summons. Under these circumstances, most Summoners would instruct their summons to rescue them, but Luo Ji did not. His summons had continued to surround Immovable Rock, and then after the Life-Risking Strike, they stayed to protect Lord Grim.

As for himself?

He did his best to dodge Dark Thunder's attacks. If he couldn't dodge them... then he relied on Little Cold Hands.

White light constantly shined on Concealed Light, healing him. With a healer protecting him, a single character alone would find it difficult to kill him.

Lin Jingyan knew that if he could keep both Concealed Light and Little Cold Hands preoccupied that was the best scenario. However, although Luo Ji and An Wenyi were rookies, they weren't stupid. Even when the others on Happy were protecting them, they never stood together to prevent Tyranny from hitting two birds with one stone.

Even before, when An Wenyi had Little Cold Hands charge out to block a hit for Concealed Light, he had kept a certain distance from him.

The two from Happy were always on guard against the best case scenario that Lin Jingyan had been hoping for.

As a result, when Lin Jingyan saw the situation change, he had Dark Thunder turn his attention to Lord Grim. Of course, once he turned away, Luo Ji would definitely make a move, so as soon as he saw the summoning circle begin to form, he immediately threw a Brick at him. At the same time, he turned around and rushed back.

Luo Ji had previously been completely suppressed by him. Was there a need for him to attack in such a roundabout way? Of course not!

Lin Jingyan was scheming. He wanted to use this Brick to lure An Wenyi's Little Cold Hands into blocking it. He had calculated the distance. This time, if Little Cold Hands rushed back and he caught them off guard, he would definitely be able to keep both of them suppressed.

Right now, Tyranny was temporarily in a 4v5 situation. Han Wenqing's Desert Dust needed time to get back as well. There was no one watching over An Wenyi's Little Cold Hands. Having complete freedom, An Wenyi's healing abilities were comparable to Zhang Xinjie's. If you looked at Happy's health, their health bars were even and stable.

Control the healer!

The pro players in the chat group began discussing again. Keeping the healer in check was probably more important than killing Lord Grim. If the healer was kept under control, even if Ye Xiu's Lord Grim was able to hang on past the no-healing period after Life-Risking Strike, he would continue to be in danger because the healer couldn't heal him. It was two birds with one stone.

No one realized this point. At first, the pro players were puzzled by Lin Jingyan's actions. It wasn't until Lin Jingyan's Dark Thunder rushed back did they understand his intentions.

It wasn't that Tyranny didn't understand the situation they were in. However, the experience Lin Jingyan was ambitious. He wanted to suppress both Luo Ji's Concealed Light and An Wenyi's Little Cold Hands simultaneously.

After turning back, Lin Jingyan saw Dark Thunder's Brick strike Concealed Light's head.

The summoning was interrupted, but Little Cold Hands didn't come in to block it like he had expected.

Had he been seen through?

Lin Jingyan didn't care for the answer. It was just like how the pro players analyzed it. Keeping Happy's healer in check was the most important. Little Cold Hands didn't have anyone protecting him right now. It was a rare opportunity. If he couldn't bait him into it, then he would have to make his way over himself.

Dark Thunder rushed towards Little Cold Hands.

His bait seemed to have been a waste of time, but Lin Jingyan didn't think so. Happy's main healing target was Lord Grim, but for a period of time, Lord Grim couldn't be healed. As long as he could suppress Little Cold Hands during this period of time, everything would be fine. That slight delay wouldn't affect anything.

Suppress Little Cold Hands and Lord Grim would certainly die.

That was what everyone thought.

But despite having such a pitiful amount of health left, Lord Grim unexpectedly assume an aggressive posture.

With Lord Grim following behind, the Frost Wolf, Wyvern, and Frost Eagle charged at Dazzling Hundred Blossoms.

This wasn't a protection, but a screen. Dancing Rain coordinated with Lord Grim and bombarded Dazzling Hundred Blossoms with artillery shells.

Is he looking to die!!!

Everyone had the same thought.

With only 7% of his health left, not only did Lord Grim not run away, he was sending himself right to their door. If this wasn't suicide, what was it?

But the opinions and emojis that filled the pro player chat group showed that they didn't think Ye Xiu was looking to kill himself.

If you counted carefully.

1, 2, 3!

Zhang Jiale was being attacked on three sides, a 1v3.

Ignore everything else and kill Lord Grim?

Many people thought it was the right decision. The opponent had less health, so just finish it off.

The problem was that for a Spitfire, ignoring everything else couldn't be done. Spitfires didn't have any Super Armor skills. All attacks would affect them. If his gun was knocked to the side, his bullets would likely miss. If his hands were knocked askew, the grenades that he threw wouldn't go where he wanted them to go.

Lord Grim still had 7% of his health left. One or two attacks wouldn't do it. If Zhang Jiale wanted to kill him under these circumstances, he needed to maintain a certain level of attack efficiency.

The pro players all agreed that this would clearly be a huge test for Zhang Jiale.

Zhang Jiale also understood this point.

The Wyvern spat out a fireball, while the Thunder Eagle fired a bolt of lightning towards him. He was immediately facing attacks from all directions. The Frost Wolf roared and charged at him, its frost breath spread out to obscure his vision.

Chance!

Zhang Jiale saw an opening to attack Lord Grim. He rolled, while throwing a Grenade. Compared to shooting, grenades had AoE damage. Even if his aim was slightly off, the AoE might hit Lord Grim. It was more likely for the grenade to deal damage compared to his bullets.

Bang! A gunshot. Just when he threw the grenade, it exploded. Lord Grim's Myriad Manifestations Umbrella had fired a shot.

Ye Xiu wasn't the one being protected. He was one of the attackers!

Zhang Jiale was under attack from all sides, making it difficult for him to aim properly. In comparison, Lord Grim had it easy.

The best defense is a good offense. Happy was using this adage to suppress Dazzling Hundred Blossoms, who was trying to kill Lord Grim.