

Avatar 491

Chapter 491 - Strong Enemies!

“Brothers, forward!” Ocean Ahead shouted and led the charge. This clearly wasn’t an action an Elementalist should be doing. Elementalists might have powerful spells, but they usually hid behind others for protection.

“Slow down!” Loulan Slash hastily caught up to him and used his body to force him back. Ye Qiu told them to be careful because their opponents were strong. Ocean Ahead not only didn’t listen to the warning, but he became even more excited. Loulan Slash understood his personality well, so despite being upset, he couldn’t do anything about it.

“Let them come to us. We’ll wait here and save our stamina.” Ye Xiu laughed.

“Little Bei, Night Tide.” Loulan Slash called out. These two characters stepped forward. All three of them were melee classes, so they usually fought up front.

Ocean Ahead could only move backwards obediently. The staff in his hand never stopped waving around though. Ye Xiu watched all of this and knew that he was impatiently waiting, ready to attack at any time.

Ye Xiu chuckled. Even though he was playing the role of a gunner on this team with long-ranged attacks, seeing how excited Ocean Ahead was, he decided to let him make the first move. Ye Xiu feared that if he made the first move, Ocean Ahead would recklessly waste skills or charge forward.

“Heavenly Lightning! Little Bei, jump!” Ye Xiu suddenly yelled.

“They’re coming!!” Ocean Ahead shouted as he lifted up his staff. If a noob saw this, the noob might think that it was too early to cast a spell. However, Ocean Ahead was a great expert and knew that when Ye Xiu made this command, he had considered the enemy’s movement speed as well as his cast time. Casting the spell at this moment was perfect.

“Jump?” Little Bei hesitated, but he still jumped without wasting any time.

“To block his staff.” Ye Xiu smiled.

“D*mn.....” Little Bei thought it would be for this reason. He was positioned right in front of Ocean Ahead. When an Elementalist casted a spell, the staff would point towards a certain location, indicating where the spell would land. An experienced opponent could determine the spell’s target by observing the staff’s movement. Ye Xiu had Little Bei jump up in order to block the enemy’s view of the staff, stopping them from figuring out the spell’s target. He might be able to block the enemy’s view of the Elementalist too, so they wouldn’t even know that the Elementalist was casting a spell.

Bang!!

Thunder boomed from the skies and gray clouds billowed forth as lightning flashed down. The ground below glowed red and it seemed as if the land had turned transparent. Bang! Bang! Bang! The red earth cracked open and flames rushed out.

Level 70 Elementalist skill, Heavenly Thunder Earthen Fire, a damaging attack with both lightning and fire properties.

Lines of lightning and fire intertwined with each other like a network along the street. The scene looked like the coming of an apocalypse. If the people inside didn't die, then it wouldn't match the fiery visual effects.

Ye Xiu didn't give out any orders as he watched the area in which the skill targeted. The figures inside the crackling fire and lightning were difficult to see. However, they were still moving forward at high speeds.

"They're looking to die!" Ocean Ahead was astonished.

Heavenly Thunder Earthen Fire was a persistent effect skill. Lightning and fire erupted randomly within the skill's area of effect. Each bolt of lightning or flare of fire dealt damage. If a player stood still inside the area and didn't move, he might take less damage than moving about. Experienced players would usually stand still and wait for the spell to end. However, the enemies were unexpectedly charging through it. Ocean Ahead was naturally surprised at their actions.

In the blink of an eye, a figure broke through the circle of fire and lightning. This person didn't have any burn marks on him. Ocean Ahead stared with his mouth wide open. Similar to how there would be blood if a character was hit by a blade or bullet, spells also had some sort of visual indication if a character had been struck by one, but this person had absolutely no marks on him, which meant he hadn't been hit by any of the lightning or fire.

"How is that possible?" Ocean Ahead gaped. This enemy had clearly been inside the Heavenly Lightning Earthen Fire and Battle Mages didn't have any instant movement skills. At best, Battle Mages had the movement speed buff from Neutral Chasers.

The Battle Mage in front of them had a full set of equipment. White, red, yellow, blue, and purple magic undulations circled around his feet, arms, hands, spear tip, and spear handle. These magic undulations were five types of Chasers buffing his character. He was the first person to break through the Heavenly Lightning Earthen Fire and his battle spirit wasn't any weaker than Ocean Ahead's.

"For Heavenly Lightning Earthen Blaze, you need to be able to practice until you can manually control it." Ye Xiu wasn't surprised by the Battle Mage like everyone else had been. Instead, he took this opportunity to give Ocean Ahead a lesson.

"Ah?" Ocean Ahead stared blankly. After casting the spell, the targeting for the lightning and fire could be manually controlled. However, the skill was strong enough already with just the system's automatic targeting, so oftentimes, Elementalists would use this chance to send out other spells for extra poke damage. Ocean Ahead also felt like this made sense and it didn't seem like very many players in the pro scene controlled it manually either.

In this short amount of time, the Battle Mage had already closed in. A Battle Mage with Neutral Chasers had astonishingly high movement speed.

Loulan Slash, Little Bei, and Night Tide jumped forward to intercept him. Loulan Slash swung his sword, using Colliding Stab to see if he could knock the enemy Battle Mage back into the Heavenly Lightning. Such a simple move would never hit an expert under normal circumstances. However, Loulan Slash wasn't alone. To the left, Little Bei's Battle Mage threw out a Falling Flower Palm. To the right, Night Tide's Grappler slammed the ground to create a shockwave.

The combined attacks of the three covered a huge range. The enemy Battle Mage didn't move away and met Loulan Slash's Colliding Stab head on. Just before the attack was about to hit, the enemy Battle Mage suddenly jumped.

This jump allowed the enemy to dodge the shock wave, but Colliding Stab was a flexible move. As soon as Loulan Slash saw the enemy leap up, he swung his mouse and his Swordpoint swung upwards towards the Battle Mage.

"Roll back!!!" Ye Xiu shouted.

"What?" The three up front felt unsure who he was talking to.

"Could he be talking about me?" After all, Loulan Slash was the person directly facing the opponent, so he reckoned Ye Qiu was warning him. He didn't have any doubts about Ye Qiu, so he hastily rolled backwards, but because of this slight moment of hesitation, he had done it slightly too slow.

The enemy's spear stabbed forward like a viper. Even though Loulan Slash's Swordpoint had swung upwards, it had missed the enemy by just a tiny bit. The enemy's spear had a longer range, so the spear stabbed straight through his body.

Like a gale, the spear tossed him up into the air and then slammed him back into the ground in a circular arc. Circle Swing was a move that forcefully knocked the target onto the ground and couldn't be teched out of with a Quick Recover.

When Loulan Slash crashed into the ground, the enemy Battle Mage also landed. He retracted his spear and stepped forward. Then, he suddenly turned around and stabbed twice. Two cold lights flew to his left and right.

"F*ck!!!" Little Bei gaped. He was a Battle Mage too and could tell this move was the low level skill Double Stab. However, this enemy Battle Mage had actually been able to split the two stabs, one for each person. This required extremely high mechanical skill to achieve, especially since Little Bei and Night Tide weren't next to each other! Little Bei had never imagined Double Stab could be mastered to such a level.

Pu! Pu! The attack had been too sudden. Neither of them had been able to react in time. Double Stab had a small knockback effect. The attack had been split into two, so the effects were halved, but the two were both pushed back half a body's length. The enemy Battle Mage had already turned around, so he was facing forward. He no longer had his four allies nearby to cover for him. His Battle Mage pushed his palms out with a Falling Flower Palm.

Deception reacted quickly and shot towards him. His body turned around in midair and kicked out using Bird Fall.

This skill was very fast. The direction of the attack could be controlled by the user. When Deception used this on other players, it always connected.

"Bang!"

Falling Flower Palm shot out.

At the same time, Deception stepped on the enemy Battle Mage's shoulder. His Bird Fall had hit the opponent, but it hadn't been able to interrupt the Falling Flower Palm. Fortunately, the Bird Fall had been able to delay the palm, giving Ocean Ahead enough time to jump back and dodge the attack.

Deception was about to slide down the Battle Mage's back after stepping on his shoulder. At the same time, he flung the rope on his ninjato out in preparation to activate a Body Bind Technique.

"Dodge!" Deception heard Lord Grim shout, but was puzzled by the warning. Suddenly, the tip of a spear flashed and his body was launched into the air. Following afterwards, a flurry of magic chasers barraged him.

Boom boom boom boom boom!!!!

Magic chasers continued to chain into each other as Deception tumbled higher and higher into the air.

At this moment, lightning and fire crossed over each other in front again. The enemy's Elementalist had also cast a Heavenly Lightning Earthen Fire. Loulan Slash, Little Bei, and Night Tide were instantly enveloped by the spell. Several figures broke through Ocean Ahead's Heavenly Lightning Earthen Fire and entered their own.

The lightning and fire made everything a blur. The thunder's booms covered up the sounds of attacks. Soon afterwards, three figures flew out from the storm. Loulan Slash, Little Bei, and Night Tide had been pushed out from the spell.

Loulan Slash and Night Tide crouched on the ground after using a Quick Recover. Little Bei fell face first into the dirt and slid to Lord Grim's feet. The opponents had used an unteachable skill.

A ball of lightning formed and floated in the air as it crackled. The three saw this and grew alarmed.

Spellblade skill: Electric Wave Formation!

Chapter 492 - Sun Xiang's Dragon Raising Its Head

In the confrontation between the two teams, Ocean Ahead might have been the first to make an attack, but it resulted in his own team being swept away.

Loulan Slash, Little Bei, and Night Tide were thrown into the enemy's Heavenly Lightning Earthen Fire and then knocked back out.

Deception may have hit his intended target with Bird Fall, but it wasn't because his opponent couldn't dodge it. Rather, his opponent didn't feel the need to dodge it. Following afterwards, his opponent's rapid attacks quickly broke through Deception's own follow-up attacks. The magic chasers exploded, sending him tumbling through the air and into a wall.

Ocean Ahead had been blown back by the Falling Flower Palm. Neither him nor the Cleric had yet to take damage, but they no longer had any protection from the frontline. The enemy Battle Mage had completely exposed the backline and he posed a heavy threat to them.

In this brief exchange, the other four enemies hadn't even arrived in front of them yet and their formation had already been destroyed.

Now, an Electric Wave Formation had been placed.

The crackling electric ball was storing up energy. The Spellblade was casting this spell. As soon as he finished channelling, the electric ball would expand, creating a circular sphere, where enemy players inside would take electric damage over time. The spell couldn't be dodged, whether one went into the air or underground. The only way to escape from the attack was to get out of the Electric Wave Formation's effective range.

A max skilled Electric Wave Formation had a radius of 15 body units. With the team in complete disarray and the enemy Battle Mage completely controlling the situation, it would be very difficult for them to escape this attack.

At this moment, Ye Xiu finally acted.

He leaped into the air and his Thousand Chance Umbrella opened up. Ta ta ta ta! A stream of bullets shot into the Heavenly Lightning Earthen Fire.

A faint curse could be heard amidst the loud thunder. The electric ball suddenly shook. Everyone's hearts tightened, but the electricity didn't burst out. Zi! Like a power outage, the electric ball blinked and dispersed.

The veterans obviously knew this was because the Spellblade's attack had been interrupted. The Spellblade had been hiding inside the Heavenly Lightning Earthen Fire, but Lord Grim had still been able to hit him.

Meanwhile, Ocean Ahead and Thousand Falling Leaves were frantically running. They had seen how terrifying this Battle Mage was. This Battle Mage had broken through the Heavenly Lightning Earthen Fire completely unharmed. What did this mean? It meant that he had dodged the random attacks from the Heavenly Lightning Earthen Fire with inhuman reactions and hand speed. Then, he leaped into the midst of their entire team, sent four of them flying, and even sent Ocean Ahead a palm. Ocean Ahead and Thousand Falling Leaves had no close combat capabilities. Why would they dare to stay still and fight?

But this Battle Mage didn't even glance at the two of them. He stepped forward with his spear pointing directly at Lord Grim. With the distance between them, this spear was way too far away to hit him, but at the same time, magic waves emanated out from the spear, forming a dragon --- Battle Mage Level 70 skill, Rising Dragon Soars the Sky.

Ye Xiu's Lord Grim dodged to the side. Even though this Rising Dragon Soars the Sky had a long attack range, if it didn't have the proper set-up for it, with such a large distance between the target, it would only be able to hit in theory. However, there was more than enough time for the target to dodge. Lord Grim didn't seem flustered at all and leisurely headed towards the side.

Who would have thought that the magically formed dragon would suddenly shake its head to the side and bite down on Lord Grim. All of the magic waves poured into Lord Grim and with a dazzling explosion, Lord Grim was blasted flying away.

"Are you kidding me!!!!" Little Bei had just gotten up from the ground and his eyes almost popped out seeing this scene.

Dragon Raises Its Head!!!

Not just Little Bei, but everyone else recognized it too. When this Rising Dragon Soars the Sky flew out, the dragon clearly twisted its head. It was reputed that only Ye Qiu alone could perform this variation of the move, Dragon Raises Its Head!

Lord Grim was only a Level 52 character and his equipment was lacking too. The damage he took certainly wouldn't be light after being hit directly by a Level 70 skill. He used a Quick Recover and landed on the ground steadily.

"Who are you?" Little Bei shouted.

To be able to perform such a mighty Dragon Raises Its Head, could this Battle Mage be the real Ye Qiu? Could this Lord Grim actually be a fake? Little Bei wondered.

"Sun Xiang." Sun Xiang's tone was filled with arrogance. He was very satisfied with how this Dragon Raises Its Head had turned out, especially with it being able to hit Ye Qiu. This was a scene he had dreamed of countless times and the dream had turned into a reality. Unfortunately, the scene took place in a random street in game. There weren't any spectators watching. If this had taken place in the All Star Competition, how great would that have been?

As soon as this name came out, Loulan Slash and the others immediately stood there stupidly. A God! What an amazing practice today turned out to be. After taking down the little thieves, the boss came out?

"Who's that? Is he good?"

At this moment, Deception came down from the wall and asked.

"Bro, seriously? Did you buy this your account?" Loulan Slash asked incredulously. Deception was very infamous. As players in the game, they obviously knew who he was. They had never interacted with him before though. Today, because of Ye Xiu, they were fighting together as allies, but they hadn't talked to him much, b. But Deception actually didn't know who Sun Xiang was, which made everyone very astonished. They wanted to doubt him, but then again, he showed the skill to back up his name. They had seen Deception's capabilities while fighting alongside him. He wasn't any weaker than them.

"You really don't know?" Ye Xiu was also surprised. Deception didn't know about him, so he probably didn't pay much attention to the news nor any drama floating around. He didn't have any friends either, so it would make sense if he didn't know about him, but to not even know the name of a God like Sun Xiang? That was strange for an expert like him. Could he actually be someone who only cared about himself and didn't care about anyone else?

"Why should I know?" Deception asked in return.

"You're just pretending." Sun Xiang laughed coldly. Deception had been the only one to hit him, so his skill obviously wasn't bad. Sun Xiang doubted such an expert didn't know a God like him.

"How'd you like the taste of my Dragon Raises Its Head? It's not bad, right?" Sun Xiang ignored the pretending guy. He only had Ye Qiu in his eyes. He thought he could easily succeed him, but his ghost always seemed to be haunting him.

“Mm, not bad.” Ye Xiu seemed to be as calm as ever. Beside him though, a girl had cried out loudly. This girl was Chen Guo, of course. She wasn’t happy at all about Sun Xiang’s Dragon Raises its Head. She had originally been indifferent towards Sun Xiang, but after knowing about the details about Ye Xiu’s release from Excellent Era, she now hated him. And now, Sun Xiang was actually able to perform Dragon Raises Its Head. Chen Guo didn’t feel comfortable knowing this.

“How talented. You couldn’t do it in the All Star Competition yet, no?” Ye Xiu continued.

“You’re right, but now I can do it even better than you.” Sun Xiang said. After returning from the All Star Competition, he had gone through intense practice and research before mastering Dragon Raises Its Head. In addition, after comparing it to Ye Qiu’s previous uses of the move, Sun Xiang was certain his Dragon Raises Its Head had an even greater range than Ye Qiu’s.

“So what?” Ye Xiu said.

“.....” Sun Xiang was stumped. He had done something even Ye Qiu couldn’t do and felt extremely happy about it. However, Ye Qiu himself didn’t seem to think much of it. It was like punching cotton, not satisfactory at all!

“So what? Ha ha, this means you’re already of the past. Did you really think your little show off of Dragon Raises Its Head in the All Star Competition would be enough to make others not forget about you? But now, you’ve already been completely replaced. What else can you do to prove yourself?” The Heavenly Lightning Earthen Fire faded away and four characters walked out. The one who replied to Ye Xiu was the Spellblade, Liu Hao.

Lord Grim turned around slightly. Ye Xiu glanced at them, but simply repeated himself: “So what?”

“Hmph! You’re pretending!” Liu Hao also choked slightly at Ye Xiu’s response and then used Sun Xiang’s line.

“I really hope to see how long you’ll be able to keep on lying to yourself like that.” Liu Hao continued. Liu Hao’s skill in provoking others was at a higher level than Sun Xiang’s.

“He Ming? Shen Jian? Zhang Jiaying?” Ye Xiu looked at the enemy’s classes and guessed their identities.

Loulan Slash and the others sucked in a cold breath. This was Excellent Era’s main team! That Spellblade was probably Excellent Era’s vice captain, Liu Hao. This was the pro team’s main roster! Their equipment was just slightly lacking.

“Sorry, Ye. Today, we’re going to have to play as pigs and eat the tiger.” He Ming said.

“Play as pigs and eat the tiger?” Ye Xiu laughed, “It won’t be that easy! Do you know what it means to play as pigs and eat the tiger?”

“Ye, your actions in the tenth server can be considered as playing as a pig and eating the tiger.” He Ming calmly answered.

“It looks like you don’t understand it well enough.” Ye Xiu said.

“Oh? Then, please give us a lesson.” He Ming said.

“To play as a pig and eat the tiger, the tiger has to do his part too. If a pig plays as a pig, then the pig can’t even try to eat the tiger.” Ye Xiu said.

“You.....”

“It’s just an analogy. You don’t need to assign roles to it.” Ye Xiu smiled.

“Ignore him. He’s good at this sort of trash talk.” Liu Hao said in a low voice. He didn’t care about Ye Xiu’s mocking.

“Who’s the pig? Who’s the tiger? We’re about to find out.” Sun Xiang said.

“Are you guys really pro players? We have the absolute advantage. Do you guys actually not see that?” Ye Xiu said.

“What?” Let alone Excellent Era’s players, even Loulan Slash’s group stared stupidly at these words.

“We have more people.” Ye Xiu said.

TL:To play as a pig and eat the tiger comes from a story. A hunter is tasked by a village with killing a tiger. The hunter is unable to do so with force, so he learns to how to oink like a pig. The tiger hears the oinking and thinks there is prey nearby. The hunter lures the tiger over in this way and then launches a sneak attack, when the tiger least expects it. The tiger may not have immediately died, but it is gravely injured. The hunter finishes off the wounded tiger and brings the dead tiger back to the village.

Chapter 493 - Valuable Reverse Teaching

“We have more people on our side.....”

Excellent Era’s side had a standard five player team. Ye Xiu’s side had a total of seven players which included Deception, Lord Grim, and Loulan Slash’s team. From a numbers perspective, Ye Xiu’s side had the advantage.

However, playing Glory was never as simple as counting numbers. Having a numbers advantage didn’t guarantee a victory. Just before, seven players had easily annihilated twenty five players. It would be too embarrassing to think about things in this way. Apart from Ye Xiu himself, everyone else was dumbstruck by Ye Xiu’s words, even Chen Guo.

“Ha ha ha ha.” Sun Xiang was the first to recover from the shock and let out a few loud laughs. However, his laugh seemed somewhat forced. Then, he continued: “Don’t blame me for being too blunt, but with just these guys, what can you do?”

Sun Xiang’s Battle Mage turned around in a circle and looked down at the few players around him.

If this was before Loulan Slash’s group had met Ye Xiu, they would have certainly been furious, but after getting to know Ye Xiu, in nicer words, they recognized the skill gap between them and their future opponents. In harsher words, the skill gap was far greater than they had expected. They had somewhat lost their confidence. Sun Xiang was looking down on them right now, but none of them said in anything in response because they recognized their inferiority.....

“So what!”

Someone retorted though. Deception. After being smashed into a wall, Deception rushed forward and threw shurikens in a V formation towards Sun Xiang's Battle Mage. The theory was the same as the Launcher's triangular formation of Anti-Tank Missiles.

Sun Xiang humphed coldly. This sort of little technique wasn't anything in his eyes. This guy pretended to not know him and was now shouting back at him? He would give him a good look at reality. After seeing the three shurikens, he tapped his keyboard and moved his mouse. His Battle Mage swung his spear in a V shape.

"V Sky Strike!" Little Bei cried out in astonishment. This was an extremely advanced Battle Mage technique, which he had yet to master. After Sun Xiang created a Z with his spear, the spear tip hit all three shurikens in an instant and knocked them on the ground. Sun Xiang had clearly mastered this technique. No matter how much Little Bei detested him, he had to admit his loss here.

But with his current circumstances, this technique was completely excessive.

Excessive movements would expose openings. Deception wouldn't let this go. His figure shook and left behind a Shadow Clone. His real body instantly travelled to Sun Xiang's side and a blade slashed against his throat ---- the Assassin skill, Cut Throat.

In terms of speed, Assassins were the king compared to the rest of the classes. However, this skill actually missed. Sun Xiang's Battle Mage had rolled forward, dodging the blade. Before even getting up, the spear in his hand stabbed backwards.

Attacking behind oneself was possible in Glory. It wasn't difficult to do, but more importantly, the player had no vision behind him, so the player had to completely rely on his own judgement of where the opponent was positioned.

Sun Xiang perfectly predicted Deception's position as if he had an eye on the back of his head.

However, Deception didn't react slowly either. When the spear stabbed towards him, he suddenly disappeared.

Underground Tunneling Technique!

As soon as Deception dug into the ground, he immediately tunneled out. Just as his character broke out through the ground, Sun Xiang's Battle Mage leapt up high into the air and swung his spear. It was a very simple Dragon Tooth, but Deception had no way to dodge it. After the Dragon Tooth hit, Deception was stunned and could no longer move. His Underground Tunneling Technique was interrupted and half his body was stuck underground. Sun Xiang followed up with a Circle Swing and threw Deception out from the earth to the side.

"Bang!" The sound of a gunshot.

Ye Xiu's Lord Grim shot out a Stun Bullet.

However, Sun Xiang clearly hadn't been entirely focused on his battle with Deception. He only had one goal. Whether it was Deception or Loulan Slash, both of them were simply weeds on the side of the road, not worth looking at.

Thus, he immediately knew Ye Xiu had made an attack.

It was a good opportunity to use a Stun Bullet. A normal player would have most likely gotten hit by the bullet mid Circle Swing. However, Sun Xiang was nowhere near a normal player and this sort of opportunity wouldn't be enough.

Sun Xiang forcefully cancelled his Circle Swing and stepped slightly to the side to dodge the bullet, but because he cancelled his Circle Swing, the effects wouldn't be complete. Deception was tossed out from the earth, but he wasn't slammed back into the ground. He quickly Quick Recovered and landed in a crouching position.

Ye Xiu's follow ups arrived. After the Stun Bullet came Anti-Tank Missiles. The three Anti-Tank Missiles covered a huge area.

However, no matter how huge of an area it covered, they were only Anti-Tank Missiles. Against an expert like Sun Xiang, it wouldn't be enough. His Battle Mage leapt up like a fish and squeezed his way out from a crack between the missiles, but a Grenade was already flying towards his face. Ye Xiu had linked together two Gunner skills.

Sun Xiang swung his spear at the grenade and sent it flying away as if it were a baseball.

This was absolutely terrifying.

Grenades could be blocked in this manner, but they would usually explode on contact. Sun Xiang had hit it away, but it hadn't exploded, which meant the moment his spear made contact with the grenade, he decreased his strength. To be able to do this meant his microing had reached an incomprehensible degree.

"This guy really has some skill....." Even Chen Guo had to respect his skill.

"What's up?" Tang Rou had been called over by Chen Guo to watch.

After Chen Guo gave her an explanation, Tang Rou asked: "Is that necessary?"

"Ha ha ha ha!" This time, Ye Xiu laughed out loud. His laugh wasn't as fake as Sun Xiang's. It was real laughter. Then, he continued: "You're right. It wasn't necessary at all. Too many excessive movements will leave too many openings."

"Really? You just seem to be watching these openings pass by then!" Sun Xiang replied.

"Sorry, I wasn't talking to you. However, I have to express my thanks. You're extremely valuable as teaching material! Keep up the good work!" Ye Xiu honestly admitted.

Sun Xiang was so furious that his face went green. Liu Hao couldn't do anything either. He really did want to tell Sun Xiang that he should just fight. For something like trash talking, a rook like him, with only two years under his belt, couldn't compare to an experienced veteran like Ye Qiu.

The grenade that Sun Xiang had sent flying exploded who knows where. Lord Grim finally stopped shooting from far away and charged forward to clash with Sun Xiang's Battle Mage.

Liu Hao and the others watched from the side, but didn't interfere. Loulan Slash's group didn't move either. They wouldn't interfere either, but hoped that Ye Xiu would win. After their brief exchange with

Excellent Era's pros, their momentum had been completely diminished. Seeing Sun Xiang's brilliant performance, their hearts turned heavier and heavier.

Collapsing Mountain!

Ye Xiu initiated with this skill. Lord Grim leaped into the air and swung downwards. Even though it didn't do much damage as a low-leveled skill, the effects were quite impressive. The momentum from the Collapsing Mountain wouldn't lose to anyone else's.

Sun Xiang stepped once diagonally. He was still being cautious.

Collapsing Mountain didn't have to attack along a straight path. Experts could use their mouse to cause their blade to turn in mid-air and force the path onto a diagonal path. Sun Xiang negated this option with his step forward. Afterwards, he leaped out and stabbed at Lord Grim.

The jump was to dodge Collapsing Mountain's shockwave. Collapsing Mountain could also be considered a small AoE attack. Normal players would usually jump out of its range, but experts would jump over the shockwave and counterattack.

Ye Xiu had predicted this would happen. He had started the Collapsing Mountain very low, so he landed quickly. Before the spear came at him, he had already landed and rolled to the side, while slashing out with a Sword Draw.

Sun Xiang immediately stabbed again with his spear. Two cold glints shot out ---- Double Stab.

"Dong!"

Sun Xiang had used Double Stab to block the Sword Draw. Sword Draw was an extremely quick skill. Blocking the attack in this way required exceptional judgement of the sword light's pathing. Sun Xiang had actually been able to hit it with a Double Stab. This wasn't something that could be done purely through quick decision-making or mechanics. It required an understanding of the opponent's attack speed too.

"You've done your research!" Ye Xiu grinned. Sun Xiang must have studied his recordings.

"Unfortunately, it's an unnecessary activity. You're still good teaching material!" Ye Xiu lamented. He wasn't in the pro scene anymore, so he had no competitive relationship with Sun Xiang. If Sun Xiang's efforts in research him weren't superfluous, then what were they?

"Shut up!" Sun Xiang continued with his arrogance and followed up with an attack. Ye Xiu had started with a Collapsing Mountain and then a Sword Draw. Sun Xiang's Double Stab attacked twice. The first stab blocked the Sword Draw. The second stab was still an attack and it instantly became a priority move.

"The ground!" At this moment, Liu Hao suddenly shouted.

Sun Xiang heard the warning and was just about to retreat, when he saw countless streams of water swarm around him. His retreat path had been cut off by the water streams too. He had unexpectedly been captured by the Ninja's Hundred Streams.

“DESPICABLE!!” Sun Xiang was furious. Even though the attack hadn’t hurt him, being sneak attacked like this wasn’t something he could bear.

“You aren’t the only one playing Glory! How many times have I told you guys this? It looks like you guys still don’t understand! It looks like I have no choice. Even though I’m no longer your captain, I’ll give you guys a lesson for free! You people over there, where’d your spirit go! This isn’t an arena competition. This is a team competition!” Ye Xiu shouted. The latter words were for Loulan Slash’s group to hear.

Chapter 494 - Sneak Attack Cover Up

As Loulan Slash listened to Ye Xiu, he couldn’t help but be doubtful. Even though he had heard the battle of words between Ye Xiu and Sun Xiang, he would soon be joining the pro scene, so he had a certain understanding of the meaning of these words. These words could be considered as a type of psychological battle. As a result, trash talk usually wasn’t treated as truth.

However, Ye Xiu’s tone of voice sounded as if it really was the truth. Did he really think they could beat an actual pro team with just themselves?

Even though Excellent Era didn’t have a good record this season, a lean camel was still bigger than a horse. No pro team dared to think that Excellent Era would be a free win. Now, a God and the previous captain of Excellent Era said these words.

“Ha ha ha ha, really.....”

Bang bang bang bang!

The sounds of repeated gunfire.

Liu Hao also wanted to say a few words, but how could he know Ye Xiu would just immediately start firing after speaking. Liu Hao couldn’t just stand there talking, while taking bullets. Ye Xiu didn’t stop there. Lord Grim held the Thousand Chance Umbrella in a straight line and continued to shoot. The Thousand Chance Umbrella’s gun form was a rifle. In Glory, rifles weren’t automatic and their firerate couldn’t even be compared to handguns. Every wave only consisted of two bullets, but each bullet had a more range and a stronger force than handguns.

Just like this, Lord Grim’s repeated firing forced Liu Hao to swallow what he was about to say. Everyone stared dumbly at the scene. A moment later, someone said: “So we’re starting?”

“Hurry up and get me out of here!” Sun Xiang impatiently shouted. No matter how much of a God he was, it wasn’t like he could break the game’s rules. The water prison created by Hundred Streams couldn’t be broken from the inside.

Excellent Era’s side responded. He Ming’s Elementalist lifted up his staff, when Lord Grim suddenly switched targets from Liu Hao’s Spellblade to him. He Ming was also a pro player, so he saw it and immediately dodged the bullet. However, his channeling had been interrupted. Liu Hao wasn’t a weakling either though. Seeing an opening appear, he raised his sword as fire began to swirl around his body ---- Spellblade skill: Firewave Sword.

There were four elements in Glory: Fire, Ice, Light, and Dark. Battle Mage chasers, Elementalist spells, Ghostblade formations, Spellblade wave swords, and wave formations were all elemental skills. Apart

from these, some skills were non-elemental. Elemental skills had an extra effect to them compared to non-elemental skills. By using equipment and other skills, the elemental damage could be increased. However, at the same time, there was also equipment with elemental resistance. Thus, elemental skills aren't necessarily better than non-elemental skills. It depended on the circumstance.

The four elements were also connected. Fire and ice were a pair. Light and dark were the other. Opposing elements did additional damage. Similar elements did decreased damage.

For example, fire versus ice or ice versus fire would do increased damage to each other. Fire versus fire or ice versus ice did less damage to each other. The actual numbers depends on the elemental buffs and resistances between the two opposing sides.

Liu Hao's Firewave Sword was a high damage skill. The fire spiralled towards the water prison. Even though the water prison was made of water, it was still categorized as an Ice elemental skill. As a result, the fire attack would do increased damage to it. This attack wouldn't be enough to instantly destroy the water prison, but Liu Hao followed the attack with another wave sword.

Excellent Era's other two players weren't just standing by idly. Shen Jian's Striker had no long ranged capabilities, so he charged forward towards Deception. As for Zhang Jiaxin, his Cleric was a support class. The battle had just begun though, so his team hadn't taken much damage yet. His opponents didn't have any buffs on them either, so there was no point trying to dispel them. He would be useless and alone for now.

As for Ye Xiu's side, as soon as their Cleric Falling Thousand Leaves saw the battle start, she also began to get busy despite being unconfident in herself. Her side had people with tons of injuries. Ye Xiu's Lord Grim had just eaten a full Rising Dragon Soars the Sky not long before and had lost a large chunk of his health.

"What are you all waiting for? When you begin a pro match and you see the enemy coming, you're not just going to stand there, are you?" Ye Xiu saw that his words didn't seem to have much of an effect on them and gave them a scolding.

This time, Loulan Slash and the others finally woke up and felt ashamed at how little confidence they had. They might not be able to compete with their opponents, but they couldn't lose their spirit because of this. How would they be able to survive in the pro scene with such weak mentality?

"Heavenly Lightning!" Ye Xiu began to lead the team.

"Where?" Ocean Ahead was a bit slow. This was a common issue in new teams. If the leader's calls couldn't be understood quickly and had to be explained in detail, then the opportunity might be lost. When someone joined a team, people would talk about adjusting to the team. What did they mean by adjusting? Solving this issue.

Ye Xiu was currently an outsider in Loulan Slash's team, but his words held power. Right now, he was the team's shotcaller. It was easy to bully weaker opponents because the calls were simple and easy to understand. However, in a high level battle with skilled opponents who had more practiced tactics, Ocean Ahead clearly didn't know the purpose of using Heavenly Lightning Earthen Blaze. He had finished casting it, but he didn't know where to throw it towards.

“Wherever there’s people.....” Ye Xiu didn’t have time to say too much. It didn’t take much to say it, but the battle was constantly shifting. This wasn’t a single-player game where he could press pause and explain.

With these words, Ocean Ahead threw out his Heavenly Lightning towards a location with many enemies. At the same time, Ye Xiu reflected on his shotcalling. He couldn’t be too blunt and direct with them!

“If you were able to control your Heavenly Lightning Earthen Blaze, you would be able to maintain that water prison for a while longer.” Ye Xiu said and gave Ocean Ahead a pointer.

The Heavenly Lightning Earthen Blaze enveloped the water prison. Liu Hao had to dodge the attacks from the spell, so he couldn’t attack the water prison directly. However, the lightning and fire from the spell hit the water prison and assisted in breaking it. The water prison could be broken by anyone’s attacks, even those on the same team as the caster.

As soon as Sun Xiang broke free from the prison, his first thought was to find Deception, but under the cover of the Heavenly Lightning, he wasn’t able to see everything clearly. Sun Xiang decided to exit the range of the Heavenly Lightning first. He quickly reacted to the lightning and fire to dodge them. Right when he was about to break out of the area, a ray of light suddenly flashed in front of him. The light definitely wasn’t an effect of the Heavenly Lightning Earthen Blaze.

Loulan Slash’s Berserker was guarding this spot. This ray of light wasn’t actually a ray of light, but a bloody mist. It was the Berserker skill, Crimson Storm.

At this moment, the move had reached its peak. The huge blood blade was already just about to cut apart Sun Xiang’s Battle Mage. No matter how fast Sun Xiang was, he wouldn’t be able to break through it, so he hastily rolled back. Because of this, he wasn’t able to break out from the Heavenly Lightning and even took a few hits. However, the damage from it was much negligible compared to how much he would have taken if the Crimson Storm had hit him.

The blood blade crashed towards the ground and burst apart, mixing together with the Heavenly Lightning Earthen Blaze. Sun Xiang didn’t care about this though. He had just dodged the Blood Blade, when he saw a cold light fly towards him and felt a sense of imminent danger.

Sun Xiang was more than familiar with this effect.

This was the Battle Mage skill, Dragon Breaks the Ranks. The skill had actually been waiting for him to come.

Dragon Breaks the Ranks shot forward in a straight line. Battle Mages were a class with both physical and magic skills at their disposal. Although this skill didn’t do any magic damage, it had a magic effect. The shining light at the tip of the spear expanded into a wide circle, similar to how Falling Flower Palm hit opponents near the palm as well.

It was too late to dodge. Dragon Breaks the Ranks attacked all around and with this distance, there was nowhere to run to.

At this moment, Sun Xiang’s Battle Mage hastily raised up his spear too. Someone with good eyes could tell amidst the blurry surroundings from the Heavenly Lightning that the tip of his spear began to emit a

faint light. However, the light instantly disappeared because Little Bei's Dragon Breaks the Ranks had arrived and enveloped the area.

Boom! The sound of a huge explosion.

Little Bei thought his Dragon Breaks the Ranks had hit the opponent, but he discovered that he was the one flying backwards.

How was that possible!

Little Bei was astonished. For him to have been hit flying away, what had his opponent done?

Little Bei adjusted his view and soon saw that Sun Xiang's Battle Mage was also flying away in the other direction. Even his posture was the same as his.

This was.....

Little Bei instantly understood. In that instant, Sun Xiang had also completed a Dragon Breaks the Ranks. The two sides had both used the same skill, so the results were the same.

Incredible.....

Little Bei respected the play. He conceded that he didn't have the skill to complete such a move in that situation. With this, Sun Xiang still took damage, but he didn't let Little Bei get free damage off.

"How unfortunate." Ye Xiu said, "If your coordination had been slightly tighter, he wouldn't have had the opportunity to do that."

Not only was Sun Xiang unable to break out of the Heavenly Lightning Earthen Blaze, he had even taken damage and had been pushed back. These chains of attacks were a result of Ye Xiu's commands.

Heavenly Lightning Earthen Blaze wasn't a damage skill at this moment. It was a cover. By utilizing it to obstruct the opponent's view, they were able to successfully inflict heavy damage onto Sun Xiang. And the ones to do it were Loulan Slash and Little Bei, two players that Sun Xiang had considered weeds on the side of the road.

Chapter 495 - Ambush

The attacks from the Heavenly Lightning Earthen Blaze weren't endless and finally ended at this moment. In Glory, visual effects caused by skills hitting the terrain could be seen. The small street was filled with fresh holes. This was the third time the skill Heavenly Lightning Earthen Blaze had been used in this fight. The place looked similar to the aftermath of a war zone, especially since the third Heavenly Lightning had been activated where the second Heavenly Lightning had been.

Sun Xiang's Battle Mage was crouching down in this charred landscape.

Although his in-game character didn't show any expression, Sun Xiang was sitting in front of his computer pale-faced. Not only did his attempt to rush out of the Heavenly Lightning fail, he was also forced into a difficult situation by his opponents. In that previous confrontation, the only damage received by Little Bei was from his Dragon Breaks the Ranks and nothing else. Sun Xiang wasn't so fortunate. He was unable to avoid the damage from the Heavenly Lightning as he was sent flying. One

could tell that Sun Xiang's character had taken damage just by looking at the smoke emitting from his equipment.

Zhang Jiaying now had something to do as he quickly healed Sun Xiang. The Heavenly Lightning had crashed down right when Shen Jian's Striker went after Deception. He had to constantly dodge the attacks from the Heavenly Lightning. At the same time, his line of sight had been blocked. All he could see was a vague silhouette of Deception. Before he could get into range, a bolt of lightning cut through the silhouette, making him realize that something wasn't right. The effects from Heavenly Lightning stopped and Deception was still standing in his team's formation without harm. The silhouette struck by the Heavenly Lightning had been his shadow clone.

No decisive conclusion could be made from this exchange. However, from the looks of the situation, Ye Xiu's team held the upper hand.

The morale of Loulan Slash and Little Bei were especially high after forcing Sun Xiang to back off. In their eyes, if they chased after their opponents, they would take the victory, but before they could act, Lord Grim typed, "Retreat!"

"We're running?" Loulan Slash hesitated.

"We're not running, it's a tactical retreat!"

As he typed, Ye Xiu had Lord Grim retreat. The other six followed suit.

"Trying to run?" Sun Xiang was stomping his feet in impatience and wanted to chase after the group.

Liu Hao wanted to warn Sun Xiang, but he held himself back. Their young captain wasn't someone who listened to other's advices. If Sun Xiang made a decision, Liu Hao doubted he would be able to dissuade him and might even annoy him. Thus, Liu Hao refrained from restraining Sun Xiang.

"Everyone, be careful." Liu Hao chose not to address Sun Xiang directly, and used the more general term of "everyone" instead. Deep in his heart, he knew that Ye Xiu had not shown his true capabilities. If the others were from Heavenly Justice, then the hidden experts from the cyber cafe might be with them too. With their sudden retreat, Liu Hao was reminded of the possibility of an ambush ahead.

We have more people on our side!

Ye Xiu's words reverberated deep in Liu Hao's mind. He doubted that Ye Qiu would be dumb enough to think that just those seven would be enough of an advantage to beat them. Now that he was thinking about it, could there have been a hidden meaning in his words? What if the experts following Ye Qiu logged into the game undetected and came over as reinforcements?

Liu Hao didn't dare to irritate Sun Xiang, but he warned He Ming and Shen Jian in private. Those two were in the same boat as him. There weren't any secrets between them. They clearly remembered what happened before and understood the situation immediately. They surrounded Sun Xiang to protect him from any ambush aimed against him.

Sun Xiang didn't pay attention to any of this as he continued to chase at full speed. These little weeds had made him suffer losses time after time. He was going to turn each and every one of those weeds into ashes.

“Into the building!”

The seven of them rushed out from the streets. With the movement buff from the Neutral Chasers, Sun Xiang was rapidly closing the gap between them with incredible speed. Liu Hao was starting to get worried. They couldn't keep up with Sun Xiang. He would be the first to arrive at the intersection, which would be the perfect spot for an ambush.

“Watch out for any ambushes!” shouted Liu Hao. At this point, he didn't care about annoying Sun Xiang.

“Hmph!” Sun Xiang responded coldly. As Liu Hao expected, Sun Xiang paid no heed to him at all.

“He Ming.” Desperate, Liu Hao turned to He Ming for help.

“Got it.” He Ming nodded his head and used the Elementalist's Teleportation to catch up. Teleportation was an Elementalist's life saver, but at this moment, he was using it to protect Sun Xiang's life.

Ice Wall!

He Ming rushed forward and threw a spell at the intersection to his right just in case of an ambush. The spell would serve as a buffer against potential enemies to buy time for Sun Xiang to react.

“What are you doing?” Sun Xiang was puzzled by He Ming's action.

“Be careful. They may have set up an ambush.” He Ming didn't dare to be careless. He focused his attention on the street to the left, ready to release spells at any time.

“What ambush?” Sun Xiang's Battle Mage had already moved past the intersection. There hadn't been anyone around. Their seven opponents hadn't made any turns either and headed straight for a building at the intersection.

“The ambush is in that room!” Liu Hao felt uneasy. He didn't care about anything else and shouted, “Wait!”

But Sun Xiang totally ignored his warning and made a beeline for the entrance. Sun Xiang was prepared though when he entered the room and swung his spear around.

He Ming's Elementalist turned around and shrugged at his three teammates as he entered the building.

Liu Hao was filled with anger at this point. In Sun Xiang's eyes, Loulan Slash and his team weren't the only weeds. Liu Hao and the other pros were also included in this group of weeds. The pain of having to babysit somebody as proud and arrogant as Sun Xiang gnawed at Liu Hao. He even secretly hoped that Sun Xiang would be burnt to ashes.

In the end, nothing happened. Sun Xiang's Battle Mage swung his battle lance freely and entered the room. They watched from the outside, but didn't see any battles taking place.

“They've all run away...what the f*ck are you guys waiting for!” Sun Xiang shouted with rage, extremely dissatisfied about the fact that Liu Hao told him to “wait” earlier on.

Liu Hao responded absent-mindedly: “They ran away?”

At this moment, He Ming entered the building and noticed a window on the wall. The house was already empty. Sun Xiang had jumped straight out through the window.

“He Ming, follow him!” Liu Hao felt puzzled at the situation. He didn’t know whether or not their opponents had actually run off and he wasn’t yet in position to confirm it. However, with Sun Xiang focused on chasing after the enemies, the distance between him and their team was growing farther apart. Even if the enemies hadn’t actually run off, if this continued, it would be the same as if they had. Alone, Sun Xiang could easily be picked off by Ye Qiu and his team. After all, those guys weren’t bad players. They really weren’t like those weeds that could be found all over the game.

At this moment, He Ming was crouching beside the window. He spotted Sun Xiang’s Battle Mage chasing after a person and then disappearing after making a turn. He Ming, of course, shared the same dissatisfaction and worries as Liu Hao. Just as he was about to follow after him out the window, he saw the earth beneath the window rise and a silhouette burst out.

“Sh*t!” He Ming cursed. A mage in mid-air could only do so much. He couldn’t avoid it. The only possible skill that could be used in this situation, Teleportation, had been cast moments before and was still on cooldown.

The silhouette that appeared, of course, was Deception. He broke through the ground with the Underground Tunneling Technique. He Ming, with half of his body outside the window, was pushed into the window frame. Deception landed, strapped a noose around the neck of He Ming’s Elementalist, and dragged him out with a Body Bind Technique.

He Ming, knowing that he had been tricked, knew that the enemy’s attack would not stop there. He requested for help immediately. At the same time, he saw several silhouettes descend from the rooftop and attack him. An Earth-Shattering Slash from the Berserker sent him up into the air. Right when he was about to use a Quick Recover, the Grappler wrapped his legs around his neck, and dropped onto the ground after spinning in mid-air, slamming He Ming into the ground.

Three shots followed right after, along with a pillar of flame. All of these attacks were directed at He Ming who was on the ground. He Ming immediately understood. After going through the window, only one of the opposing members ran towards the intersection while the Ninja dug into the ground under the window with his Underground Tunneling Technique and the rest jumped onto the rooftop.

Sun Xiang would be the first to arrive. The opposition could tell judging by how fast he was moving compared to the rest. He Ming would be the second because he had cast Teleportation to catch up.

The enemy drew Sun Xiang away and then acted against the second target...

He Ming was an Elementalist, so he didn’t have much health. Add to the fact that he was using an open account, his equipment was no different than the ones used by common guild members. Ye Xiu and his team could defeat guild members within moments. His Elementalist would be killed quickly as well.

He Ming attempted to struggle, but as Ye Xiu’s Lord Grim landed blow after blow on him, He Ming knew that he would die here. Lord Grim’s level wasn’t high, but in this situation, damage wasn’t necessary. It was already enough just by attacking him. A surrounded Elementalist trying to escape without Teleportation didn’t abide to the rules of Glory.

With his Teleportation on cooldown, He Ming could only wait for reinforcements. The moment he heard Liu Hao's voice, his heart was filled with joy. He still had some hit points left, and if his teammates got there in time...

"Heavenly Lightning."

At the same time, he heard another voice.

Heavenly Lightning Earthen Blaze, the most popular spell in today's battle, was cast for the fourth time, and it was placed in the room through the window.

With the lightning and flames, the interior of the house erupted in chaos, the position of the window could no longer be found. Heading to the window would probably be slower than going over the rooftop.

At this moment, He Ming knew, that he was beyond rescue.

Chapter 496 - Bullying

Liu Hao and the others saw He Ming's Elementalist's health rapidly drop. They didn't need He Ming to shout for help in order to know that the situation wasn't looking good. Even though their team had a Cleric, He Ming's Elementalist wasn't in spell range, so the Cleric couldn't do anything.

In order to cast the spell, not only did the Cleric need to be close enough to the target, the target also had to be in the Cleric's line of sight. Right now, He Ming's Elementalist were separated by the wall and couldn't be seen by them. Zhang Jiabin stared with wide eyes, but couldn't think of a possible solution. Listening to Liu Hao's orders, the three exited the building as quickly as they could. Just as they reached the roof, Liu Hao's icon turned gray, indicated his character's death.

"F*CK!!" Liu Hao cursed. The dead He Ming quickly reported what had happened. The three pro players didn't dare to make any rash movements. If they leaped down from the roof back onto the streets, they would be vulnerable as they fell, which would give the enemies a good opportunity to attack them.

Liu Hao could only shout fiercely at Sun Xiang in the team chat, but didn't receive a response.

He Ming's Elementalist had already died. Sun Xiang should have been able to see it too. However, Liu Hao reckoned that not only would Sun Xiang not be worried, he might even be thinking of how trash He Ming was to actually die in the hands of these weeds.

"What now?" Shen Jian asked Liu Hao.

Meanwhile, Zhang Jiabin's Cleric cautiously climbed towards the eaves of the roof to see if there was anything below. As soon as his head poked out, he heard a bang! Zhang Jiabin immediately shrunk back. The eaves of the roof shattered into bits in front of his face.

"Let me!" Liu Hao had his Spellblade move carefully to the eaves of the roof. He raised his sword and cast a spell. An electric ball formed below. He was going to use an Electric Wave Formation to clear out a safe space for them to land.

However, as soon as he began to cast the Electric Wave Formation, the skill's visual effects appeared, exposing his plan. This was one big weakness of using this sort of skill. When the electric ball appeared, Ye Xiu's Lord Grim suddenly jumped up.

"Ha ha, too late." Liu Hao laughed. He obviously knew about the huge weakness of the Electric Wave Formation. However, neither side knew where the other was located. By the time Lord Grim located him and shot at him, even if the bullet landed, he would have finished casting the spell. Liu Hao had calculated all of this before carrying out his plan.

Who would have thought that when Lord Grim jumped up, he didn't shoot at him. Instead, Lord Grim had his back facing them and shot at the ground. He was going to use an Aerial Fire to fly up onto the roof!

Liu Hao was puzzled, but at this moment, a leg suddenly appeared beneath him. It was the Ninja skill, Annihilation.....

Liu Hao had been so focused on the Lord Grim in the air that he hadn't thought someone would be hiding beneath the eaves of the roof. Only now did he realize that their opponents had a Ninja. By using the Disappearing Body Technique, setting up and ambushing from below the eaves of the roof was completely possible.

Unfortunately, in the time it took for him to figure this out, Liu Hao's Spellblade had already been thrown into the air. Deception flipped onto the roof. He lifted up two shurikens and threw them at Xiao Jian and Zhang Jiaxin.

As for Lord Grim, after Aerial Firing his way onto the roof, he lobbed a grenade towards Liu Hao's Spellblade.

The grenade exploded. Deception was also here, but he wouldn't take any damage from it. However, Liu Hao was sent crashing towards the streets from the shockwave.

Zhang Jiaxin was a Cleric and didn't have much combat ability. Their current situation was the same as the previous one. No one had lost much health, so there wasn't much for him to do. This time, Zhang Jiaxin didn't stand idly. He lifted his staff and cast a Sacred Fire at Lord Grim.

Ye Xiu used a Shadow Clone Technique to dodge it before pouncing towards Zhang Jiaxin's Cleric.

A Cleric in close range needed protection. Xiao Jian's Striker rushed over almost instinctively. At the same time, they heard several thumps. Behind them, Loulan Slash, Ocean Ahead, Night Tide, and Thousand Falling Leaves had jumped onto the roof.

Thousand Falling Leaves waved her staff and also used a Sacred Fire to force Xiao Jian's Striker to retreat. Xiao Jian hastily leapt back to dodge it. Lord Grim had unexpectedly swapped off the Cleric and rushed towards him instead. Lord Grim stabbed forward with his umbrella spear. Xiao Jian was still in the air and couldn't dodge, so he attempted to use an Empty-handed Blade Block. However, his hand failed to grab anything. Lord Grim's spear stopped midway and didn't follow all the way through with the stab. When his hand missed, the spear suddenly shot forward again.

Xiao Jian's Striker landed on the ground, but the attack was now too close and too quick for him to dodge in time. The spear pierced into his body.

“You’re looking down on me too much. You should know just how much experience I have against Strikers!” Ye Xiu grinned and then swung his spear in a circle, slamming Xiao Jian’s Striker into the ground once more.

Xiao Jian was depressed! He obviously knew what Ye Xiu had meant by this. Ye Xiu had been rivals with God Han Wenqing for so many years, so, of course, he had tons of experience against Strikers. His little technical skills couldn’t compare to a fraction of Han Wenqing’s. However, in that instant, how could he have thought about all of that? He had done this out of instinct. Even if he had considered this point, he couldn’t have done much else.

Circle Swing forcefully knocked him down, so Xiao Jian couldn’t do anything in return. When he turned his camera around, he saw Deception swing his blade. Countless water streams headed towards him.

Xiao Jian suddenly paled in alarm. What could he do? The Circle Swing had thrown him right into the water prison’s path.

Sure enough, the water prison formed the moment Xiao Jian’s Striker hit the ground. Xiao Jian couldn’t do anything, but watch as the prison formed around him. He turned his camera to look to the side and saw the Berserker, Grappler, and Elementalist beating down Zhang Jiaxin’s Cleric.

No matter how good Zhang Jiaxin was, there was only so much a Cleric could do. No matter how amazing his mechanics were, they couldn’t be used to attack. At this moment, he could only dodge about and try to hang on. Fight back? Zhang Jiaxin only had a few skills that he could use to attack, but with the enemy’s Cleric still standing, attacking back would be a waste of mana. Furthermore, Loulan Slash and the others weren’t so weak that they couldn’t even take down a Cleric by themselves.

Meanwhile, after imprisoning Xiao Jian’s Striker, Lord Grim and Deception also rushed forward. With five players attacking together, Zhang Jiaxin’s situation became similar to He Ming’s.

Xiao Jian couldn’t do anything to help. Zhang Jiaxin wanted to cry, but no tears came out. Liu Hao’s Spellblade had finally made his way back onto the roof, but before he could even land on the roof, Lord Grim tossed another grenade at him.

Liu Hao was still a pro player. He swung his sword and knocked the grenade aside. However, he wasn’t as flashy as Sun Xiang and didn’t send the grenade back. Using the grenade’s explosion as a cover, three Anti-Tank Missiles sped away. Xiao Jian and Zhang Jiaxin saw what was happening, but it was too late to warn Liu Hao. Liu Hao’s Spellblade made his way out of the smoke, but ate three Anti-Tank Missiles instead. The missiles exploded and sent him flying from the roof.

They were all pro players, so they had the ability to judge the situation. The battle was over. Among their team of five, He Ming was already a corpse. Sun Xiang had disappeared to who knows where after chasing after one of the enemies. Liu Hao was unable to come up. Xiao Jian had been CC’d in a water prison and couldn’t break out. Zhang Jiaxin was being surrounded and beat down.....

“It’s over.....” Xiao Jian closed his eyes. Zhang Jiaxin wouldn’t be able to hang on for much longer. When Ye Xiu’s Lord Grim joined the bullying, he pushed him into Falling Thousand Leaves Sacred Fire. Sacred Fire silence enemies that it struck, making it impossible to use skills for three seconds. During these three seconds, the five enemies barraged him with attacks. After the three second silence had ended, he used an instant heal on himself, but it would only allow him to survive for a fraction longer.

Liu Hao didn't dare to get onto the roof directly anymore, so he hastily took a roundabout way. However, by the time he arrived, Zhang Jiaxin's Cleric had already fallen and Xiao Jian's Striker was still stuck in prison.

Liu Hao could obviously tell how terrible the situation was. After eliminating Zhang Jiaxin's Cleric, they smashed open the water prison surrounding Xiao Jian's Striker and went to bully him next.

Xiao Jian struggled and resisted, but his opponents had a huge numbers advantage..... In addition, the enemy Cleric still standing, so they wouldn't care about his pathetic struggles to fight back.

This was a perfect example of safety in numbers. They didn't even need skill! They just attacked him with whatever they had until he died. Xiao Jian had planned on running away as soon as the water prison broke, but the enemies had surrounded him too tightly. Plus, with Ye Xiu controlling the situation, he had no way of escaping the encirclement and could only watch as his health fell to zero.

And Liu Hao? Liu Hao quietly watched the scene, but didn't dare to move.

He felt like their loss was already guaranteed. Even if he went out and helped Xiao Jian escape, with just the two of them, how were they going to beat six players including a Cleric?

A loss! Another loss!

He had called Sun Xiang over. Excellent Era's main team had come out to enter the fray, but they actually lost! Moreover, the amount of time it took..... was probably shorter than a normal pro match! Could these guys actually be better than a pro team?

Liu Hao was embarrassed and at a complete loss.

He wasn't afraid of dying. As a pro player, how could he care about the equipment and experience loss of an open account? What made him the most depressed and hurt was their defeat. It should have been an easy victory. Why had he lost again? Why?

"Is there something you want to say?" Ye Xiu had Lord Grim turn around and look at the frozen Liu Hao.

"Where did you all run off to?! COME OUT!" At this moment, Sun Xiang suddenly shouted in frustration.

Chapter 497 - Many Bullying the Few

"What took you so long?" Ye Xiu's Lord Grim stood atop the roof. Loulan Slash, Deception, and the others lined up beside him, looking down below.

As for Liu Hao? Hearing Sun Xiang's voice, he didn't feel happy at all. When he saw the six players standing together, especially with Lord Grim in the middle, Liu Hao could only feel a sense of loss.

Whoosh!

A shadow flew out. Deception threw a shuriken towards Sun Xiang's Battle Mage.

"Little bug." Sun Xiang didn't feel any fear facing these six players. After sneering, he didn't even attempt to dodge the shuriken. His Battle Mage pulled his spear back and swung through the air. A cold light flashed. Battle Mages added magic to their martial skills, so even though many of their skills were close ranged, they had an extraordinarily long range for melee attacks.

For example, the assault from Dragon Breaks the Ranks extended past the tip of the spear.

Furious Dragon Strikes the Heart had an attack range of up to five body units.

This attack knocked away the shuriken and continued forward without losing any speed. Deception was still in the air and couldn't dodge it. The cold light struck through his chest, sending him crashing down. The other five followed Deception down. After all, Sun Xiang had just used a high level skill, which had a long ending lag, so he wouldn't be able to throw out any other moves against them. The five players landed on the ground safely. Deception had taken some damage, but a white healing light quickly brought him back to a healthy state.

"Hmph....." Sun Xiang had thought of something just now. Loulan Slash moved his hands and unsheathed his sword with a Sword Draw. Before the sword light had even dissipated, he immediately followed up with a Collapsing Mountain. Both skills were low-leveled skills and had little lag. These two moves alone covered the spaces above, below, left, right, in front of, and behind his character.

However, Sun Xiang wasn't any ordinary player. His character dashed diagonally and brushed past the Sword Draw. He raised his spear in an attempt to knock Loulan Slash out of the air. His decision was brimming with self-confidence. If he failed to knock down Loulan Slash, the Collapsing Mountain's aftershock would definitely hit his target.

Sun Xiang's arrogance wasn't just for show. Sure enough, he successfully knocked Loulan Slash out of the air. He stabbed through Loulan Slash and tossed him into the ground, but before Loulan Slash hit the ground, a ring of fire rose from beneath Sun Xiang's Battle Mage. However, Sun Xiang noticed it in time. He cancelled his Circle Swing and leapt backwards.

The column of Raging Flames had just barely been dodged, but before he could do anything else, two legs pincered him while in the air.

Sun Xiang's Battle Mage swung his spear in an attempt to land another Sky Strike behind him without looking. Sun Xiang always completed these difficult and flashy moves perfectly though. Night Tide's Aerial Twist failed to follow through on the target and his character was hit by the Sky Strike. Right when Sun Xiang's Battle Mage was about to land on the ground, the earth shook and a person flew out.

Deception! Underground Tunneling Technique!

This time, Sun Xiang had no way of dodging this move. Deception broke through the earth and slashed his blade across the neck of Sun Xiang's Battle Mage. A streak of blood blossomed out. Deception didn't stop there and followed up with an Annihilation.

Both attacks had been extremely quick. Sun Xiang had almost been able to react to the second attack, but he was still a bit too late and was kicked flying.

Sun Xiang was extremely furious. This little weed had somehow given him so much trouble. While flying backwards through the air, he calculated how he would kill off Deception. Then, he suddenly heard a gunshot. Lord Grim's gun was pointed at him.

It was extremely difficult to dodge in the air. Apart from a few classes which could move through in the air using their skills, it wasn't possible to make any large movements. Twisting the body was the best one could do, but it wouldn't help too much. Hearing the gunshot, Sun Xiang slashed with his spear and

was able to hit two out of three Anti-Tank Missiles. The third missiles avoided his attack and the explosion consumed his body.

The explosion blasted Sun Xiang in another direction. At this moment, Sun Xiang wanted to hurry and land on the ground, but Loulan Slash had prepared for him. He slashed out with a Gore Cross in the air, which hit Sun Xiang's body and kept him suspended in the air. Night Tide's Grappler followed up and slammed Sun Xiang into the ground, creating a small crater.

Grab skills couldn't be teched out of, so Sun Xiang was stuck in the ground and could only curse furiously in his heart as his opponents continued to attack. Ocean Ahead's Elementalist cast a Thunder Apocalypse. Thunder roared and lightning descended towards Sun Xiang's Battle Mage. How was he supposed to dodge?

After the lightning passed, his Battle Mage's hair stood erect, like a porcupine's quills. He immediately rolled and got into a crouched position.

"Very good. Nice coordination. Continue!" Ye Xiu said and had Lord Grim make a clapping motion.

Sun Xiang swept his surroundings to look at the situation. However, as soon as he turned a little bit, he saw some movement behind him. These guys were too evil! They were always moving around behind him outside of his line of sight. It was true that Sun Xiang was quite good at fighting against enemies behind him, but attacking behind him relied completely on judgement. In any case, the probability of missing when attacking behind oneself blindly would be much greater than the probability of missing when attacking an enemy in front. Fighting an entire battle in this way wouldn't work.

Hearing the movement from behind him, Sun Xiang hastily turned around just in time to see a Berserker's Earth-Shattering Slash striking his face.

If Sun Xiang wanted to dodge, he still had enough time. He knew that as long as there was an attack towards him, there would be others attacking from behind as well. His opponents clearly wanted to keep chaining attacks one after the other.

As a result, he chose to dodge and hastily hopped to the side, finding a location outside of Earth-Shattering Slash's range. At the same time, he closed in on Ocean Ahead's Elementalist and prepared to attack him. Before he could make a move, Deception suddenly appeared in front of him with a Shadow Clone Technique and attacked.

"YOU AGAIN!!!" Sun Xiang roared. He was about to explode in anger at having this little weed thwart his plans again and again. Using enough force to break a keyboard, he slammed a button on his keyboard and slashed at Deception. Deception didn't move slowly. In reality, if he had fought Sun Xiang directly, he would have ended up losing, but it wouldn't have been without any resistance. Making a few exchanges was still possible for him. Deception didn't dodge Sun Xiang's attack. He actually held his ground and attacked back. Sun Xiang saw this and became even angrier. This weed actually dared to fight him face to face? Just when he was about to go all out and let this weed know his place in the dirt, his body was suddenly pulled back and lifted into the air.

Elemental Power!

Sun Xiang immediately recognized the move.

This was the Elementalist's knock-up skill! Every class had at least one type of low-leveled and basic skill, each with their own unique aspects. Elemental Power was the slowest knock-up skill. It had quite a lengthy cast time to it.

However, Elemental Power also had the greatest range. It could even be considered an AoE move. Under Deception's distraction, Ocean Ahead had secretly cast an Elemental Power. Sun Xiang had been tunneled in on teaching Deception a lesson and hadn't noticed it. Of course, by the time Elemental Power had begun sucking him into the air, it was already too late.

Behind him, an ethereal ball of energy gathered in the air. It didn't look as domineering as the Spellblade's electric ball visual effect from an Electric Wave Formation though. Just like this, Sun Xiang's Battle Mage was lifted into the air and then the Elemental Power disappeared into nothingness.

How would Deception miss this obvious of an opening??

Of course he wouldn't! He directly used a high-leveled skill: Shadow Dance!

Shadows flew across the sky. All of them pounced towards Sun Xiang's Battle Mage, who was only able to block a few of the attacks. However, Deception wasn't the only one who seized this opening. Ocean Ahead prepared to cast another spell. Loulan Slash's Berserker charged forward. Night Tide's Grappler predicted where Sun Xiang would land and prepared to grab him. As for Ye Xiu's Lord Grim? He waved the Thousand Chance Umbrella in his hands and healed them with Cleric skills. The actual Cleric, Thousand Falling Leaves, went to who knows where.

Sun Xiang was raging. These trivial weeds were about to beat him into submission?

Sun Xiang turned his camera around and happened to catch Liu Hao's Spellblade staring stupidly at the fight from the roof.

"Liu Hao, what are you doing?" Sun Xiang roared.

"Oh? You need help?" Ye Xiu responded for Liu Hao.

Sun Xiang's face turned ashen and suddenly went silent. Asking for help was something he felt too ashamed to say.

"Don't worry so much! Just ask for help! We're bullying you few with so many, so you don't need to feel bad calling for assistance." Ye Xiu said.

Sun Xiang grinded his teeth, but didn't say a thing. He didn't even look at Liu Hao and focused on defending against their attacks.

Liu Hao was also very conflicted. He could have helped him long before this point, but he wasn't conflicted about this!

From the looks of it, today's assault was already a failure. Even Sun Xiang was being bullied into a mess by them. Would his additional help even be able to turn the tides? Impossible! If he went down there, he would just be throwing himself into the fire too!

He had come in order to step on Ye Qiu and see him in a sorry state. He hadn't thought he would be the one to be stepped on in the end. They had clearly lost this battle. Why would he set himself up to be stepped on even further?

However, if he didn't go up, Sun Xiang would see that he wasn't helping him. Sun Xiang would certainly be very unhappy with him and that wouldn't be good either.

Liu Hao hadn't thought that calling for Sun Xiang would put him into such an impossible scenario.

Chapter 498 - Useless Skill

If I go up and fight, I'll be stepped on by Ye Qiu.

If I don't go up and fight, I'll probably be stepped on by Sun Xiang in the future.

Who would I rather get stepped on by? That was the question at hand.

Could there be a better option? Liu Hao watched the situation unfolding below as he racked his brain. Below, Sun Xiang's Battle Mage was surrounded by several enemies. The enemies didn't attack together as one, but rather separately one after the other. As a pro player, Liu Hao knew that this was the only way to pull off a true unbreakable combo.

He was very familiar with this method.

Liu Hao couldn't help but have this thought. However, he immediately ground his teeth after thinking about it. How could he not be familiar with this method? When Ye Qiu was still Excellent Era's captain, he had often said these words to them. Now, Sun Xiang was truly helpless against the team's combo. Fortunately, the enemy team wasn't well coordinated and Sun Xiang sometimes found small openings in their attacks and managed to survive for a bit longer. However, if Sun Xiang didn't have such incredible mechanics, a normal player would have died several times already. Moreover, the best Sun Xiang could do was survive for a bit longer. He couldn't find any opportunities to counterattack.

If I go down there, I might not be able to reverse the tides of the battle, but maybe I can work together with Sun Xiang and break out of the encirclement?

Liu Hao thought to himself, but he also couldn't help but worry. With Sun Xiang's pride, would he be willing to stoop so low as to run away? Especially to these people, who he considered weeds.

Running away was shameful, but dying was even more so. He should know that shouldn't he?

Liu Hao favored one choice over the other. He attached importance to his relationship with his captain. After all, this relationship would still exist in the future. In reality, after causing his team to lose due to his poor mental state from failing to set the dungeon record, he had already made up his mind. Dealing with Ye Qiu would be something he did in his spare time. His work time couldn't be spent on Ye Qiu. It was just that with the possibility of Ye Qiu turning into their future competitor, taking down Ye Qiu became a public-private joint ventureship. This was why he began interfering with in-game affairs again. If not, he could have simply tossed the task to Chen Yehui to deal with like he had done so in the tenth server.

After quickly weighing the pros and cons of his choices, Liu Hao decided he would have to take the risk. Even if he were stepped on, he would be stepped on together with Sun Xiang. Both of them would share

the bitterness and form companionship through this hardship. Being stepped on also had its value. If he had to sacrifice himself in order to break through the encirclement, then that could be another valuable option!

The more Liu Hao thought about it, the calmer he became. Slowly, he saw the benefits of being stepped on.

There was no need to hesitate anymore. Liu Hao immediately began to move. He brandished his sword and started to cast a wave formation. However, a gunshot came out almost the moment he drew his sword. His cast was instantly interrupted. Below, smoke drifted from the tip of Lord Grim's Thousand Chance Umbrella.

Sun Xiang was used as a training dummy for the others to practice on, so Ye Xiu hadn't participated in this team-building activity. He directed their tempo, healed them from time to time, and also paid attention to Liu Hao's movement. As soon as he saw him move, he immediately shot at him.

Liu Hao knew he wouldn't get any further trying the same move again, so he ran to the other side of the roof and jumped down. He rushed into the empty building and planned on letting out a wave formation from the window, but when he ran to the window side, he couldn't attack anyone from this angle. The other side seemed to have predicted this might happen and pulled the battle to the side. Attacking from the window wasn't possible.

Helpless, Liu Hao jumped through the window. Sure enough, as soon as he came out, he could see the battle!

Liu Hao hastily had his Spellblade rush forward and cast an Ice Wave Slash. Ice crystals formed on the surface of the ground. Not long afterwards, the ice crystals began to creep up Loulan Slash's back.

Liu Hao didn't think too much about who he would attack. In any case, if he disrupted up one of the enemy's tempo, there would be an opportunity to break out of the encirclement.

Sure enough, when the Ice Wave Slash flew out, Loulan Slash had to dodge. Because of this sudden movement, their formation was interrupted. Sun Xiang saw the opportunity and immediately swung out a Sky Strike.

"Retreat!"

Ye Xiu's warning came out faster than the attack. Deception and Night Tide had already leapt out of the way. As for Ocean Ahead, Elementals wouldn't attack be in range in the first place.

The amount of space to maneuver around had widened. Sun Xiang's Battle Mage dashed out. He chased after Deception and stabbed with a Dragon Tooth.

Liu Hao saw this and it had panned out as he expected. Sun Xiang had no plan on running away. Pro players didn't care about experience or equipment, only victory. Running away or dying was the same as losing.

Liu Hao already had a plan in mind to resolve this issue. He bravely entered the battle and pushed Loulan Slash's Berserker away with an Earthquake Sword, while saying: "We were careless this time. Let's retreat for now. Regroup and then return!"

These words didn't seem like anything special, but they held subtle implications.

First, it pointed out their carelessness, giving Sun Xiang a proper excuse to leave.

Secondly, retreat, regroup, and return indicated that this fight hadn't ended yet. The winner had yet to be decided yet.

However, Sun Xiang coldly humphed in response. He took the opportunity Liu Hao had created and pursued Deception incessantly.

"Let's hurry up and run! I'll protect you!" Liu Hao knew Sun Xiang would back off, so he continued with his plan by showing off his righteousness.

"Hmph, no need!" Sun Xiang refused and attacked even more ferociously. His attacks were no longer just aimed at Deception, but also Loulan Slash and Night Tide. Ocean Ahead's Elementalist was somewhat far away. Liu Hao wouldn't just stand there, so he ran over to block Ocean Ahead's attacks.

Sun Xiang had previously been surrounded and most of his inputs had been for dodging and defending. The magic chasers surrounding his bodies had faded away long ago. After seizing the opportunity Liu Hao had created, his following waves of attacks replenished the chasers on his body. At the same time, a faint golden aura emanated from his body. His attacks suddenly became faster and more ferocious.

"This is....." Liu Hao saw this and was startled.

"Ha ha ha, you guys probably didn't think about this, did you?" Sun Xiang was delighted. His incessant attacks struck Deception, Night Tide, and Loulan Slash, continuing to rack up combos. Ye Xiu's Lord Grim was busy healing them.

"Battle Spirit!" Liu Hao shouted.

Deception was puzzled though. Battle Spirit was the Battle Mage's Awakening skill. Every Battle Mage had it. What was there to be so surprised for?

Deception's confusion was because of his unfamiliarity with the pro scene.

The instant Battle Spirit appeared, Ye Xiu and Liu Hao immediately understood why Sun Xiang was suddenly so confident and delighted. As for Loulan Slash's group, even though they weren't yet pro players, because they planned on becoming pros, they obviously had a wealth of knowledge when it came to the pro scene, especially with Little Bei maining Battle Mage. Their reactions had been somewhat slower, but they also realized why Sun Xiang suddenly became excited.

This was because Battle Spirit was considered a useless skill in the pro scene nowadays.

This was because Battle Spirit required a certain number of consecutive hits in a combo to activate. The seventh stage for Battle Spirit may be terrifyingly strong, but it required 120 consecutive hits in a combo to fully activate. In the pro scene, let alone 120 consecutive hits, just 10 consecutive hits for the lowest tier wasn't easy to achieve.

In a one vs one duel, it might be easier. In a team competition, it was near impossible.

In a high paced competitive match, getting Battle Spirit to activate in order to win used to be a viable strategy in the early days, but now, this strategy was way too inflexible and too easy to break. As a result, in the pro scene, Battle Spirit was considered a completely useless. The vast majority of pro Battle Mages only had one point in the skill, which was automatically added by the system after awakening. Afterwards, they didn't even glance at it.

It was different in the game though. The game had PvE. Against a mob of monsters, it was very easy to reach the max stage of Battle Spirit. By relying on this skill, Battle Mages were easily one of the strongest DPS classes in PvE. As a result, for in-game players, maxing Battle Spirit was a must.

The open accounts raised by guilds were for multiple uses. They weren't like pro characters, who only focused on PvP, so Battle Spirit was often maxed on open accounts. Thus, the Battle Mage that Sun Xiang was using had a max skilled Battle Spirit.

This is what Sun Xiang had meant when he said "you guys probably didn't think about this did you?"

His skill was clearly superior to Loulan Slash's group, so getting to a higher stage Battle Spirit was completely possible.

After the faint golden aura of Battle Spirit appeared on his body, he quickly used the three nearby targets to push Battle Spirit to the second stage.

His attacks didn't stop and he continued to rack up combos. Attacking three less skilled targets wasn't too difficult for him.

Stage three!

The golden aura from Battle Spirit grew brighter and brighter. Sun Xiang's attack speed, movement speed, and attack power continued to increase. Deception, Loulan Slash, and Night Tide began having a harder and harder time keeping up. Ye Xiu only had low leveled Cleric skills, so he couldn't nullify the damage with his healing.

"Ha ha ha ha, Battle Spirit is still a very nice skill! It's too bad it's too difficult to use in real battles. Luckily, I've met you weeds." Sun Xiang shouted in glee. Battle Spirit was now in the fourth tier. He was no longer at a disadvantage in this 1v3 situation and the damage racked up from his combos wasn't light. Ocean Ahead was struggling against Liu Hao. If it wasn't for Ye Xiu's support, they would have probably been defeated already.

Liu Hao was overjoyed. From the looks of it, could they actually turn the tides and obtain victory.

Chapter 499 - Opportunity Knocks But Once

"Be careful of your consumption." Liu Hao shouted.

Sun Xiang and Liu Hao were fighting against many with just two players, so their mana consumption would naturally be higher. Of course, for pro players, endurance was a fundamental skill. Moreover, in game, there was no limit to the amount of potions that could be carried, so they didn't need to be worried about running out.

When Liu Hao saw how fiercely Sun Xiang was fighting, he became worried about him getting over his head and forgetting something basic like this.

“Who needs you to remind me?”

Sun Xiang replied in disdain. Liu Hao wasn't happy, but he endured because he had foreseen this might happen. If Sun Xiang had really forgotten, he probably wouldn't reply back. If he hadn't forgotten, he would obviously look down on Liu Hao. As a pro player, this type of reminder was very childish.

“Should we back off for a bit?” Loulan Slash finally couldn't bear it anymore and made a suggestion.

Battle Spirit. If the combo stopped, it would stop at that stage. Afterwards, if another attack came out, it would start over from there. As a result, Battle Spirit was also a very troublesome skill for the user because it was very easy to lose your stacks. This was the reason why the pro scene considered it a useless skill.

Loulan Slash, Night Tide, and Deception had become combo fodder. Every time they tried to surround him, Sun Xiang would always find someone he could attack. If they backed off for a bit and dodged attacks, they would be able to stop Battle Spirit's stacks from rising any further. Battle Spirit was an easy move to break out of. It was just that their shotcaller, Ye Xiu, hadn't said anything, so they just continued to persist. By now, Sun Xiang had pushed Battle Spirit into the fifth stage. He now had an additional 2 Attack Speed, a 10% increase in movement speed, and 110 additional Strength. On paper, it doesn't seem that incredible, but Sun Xiang was far more skilled than any of them in the first place.

The three didn't even need to look at the density of the gold aura around him because when Battle Spirit reached such a stage, they could clearly feel their opponent getting stronger. Even the slightest advantage became magnified under a pro player's hands.

“Back off? Ha ha ha, do you think I'll allow you to back off? Do you know why you three are still alive? It's because you haven't backed off yet. If you backed off, I can just choose one of you as my target and instantly kill you.” Sun Xiang said with glee.

Loulan Slash shivered and understood that what Sun Xiang had said was the truth. Battle Mages had Neutral Chasers, which buffed their movement speed. Along with Battle Spirit, no matter how the three went about retreating, one of them would easily get caught. In a one on one, not only would his combo not break, he could also focus his attacks onto a single target. If they went to rescue him, wouldn't it just turn back into a 1v3 like before? What was the difference?

“Oh? It looks like you actually have a bit of a brain for strategy.” Ye Xiu replied.

Loulan Slash immediately knew that God Ye Qiu had understood this, which was why he hadn't told them to retreat. He clearly knew that for the three of them, retreating was not the solution to their problem. Right now, he was trying to limit the advantage the other side could gain from this situation. Even though Loulan Slash didn't know when the turning point would occur, he could only continue to believe in God's judgement and shotcalling.

Loulan Slash thought as he stole a glance at Ocean Ahead's side.

Elementalists only had a slight advantage in terms of attack range over Spellblades. If the two sides were of unequal skill, Elementalists could kite Spellblades simply through the Teleport skill. However, in this case, Ocean Ahead was far less skilled than Liu Hao. Kiting wasn't an option. If it wasn't for Ye Xiu's Lord Grim supporting him by attacking from time to time, Ocean Ahead would probably have died long ago.

Loulan Slash's slight loss of focus actually became an opening for Sun Xiang. Sun Xiang's attack suddenly fell onto his head.

"Hmph....."

Loulan Slash heard his humph and reckoned it was a response to Ye Xiu's words.

"However, it really is just a bit!" Ye Xiu emphasized "a bit", "If not, someone should have attacked by now! Could no one have noticed that I'm the backbone of this team?"

"There's no need. I can break your formation just like this. You don't need to be so impatient to die." Sun Xiang said.

"Tsk tsk tsk, young people! Opportunity knocks but once!" Ye Xiu said

"Do you really think there'll be any more opportunities?" Sun Xiang asked.

"We have more people. That's our advantage. Our opportunity will come from this." Ye Xiu said.

"Really? How come I can't see it yet?" Sun Xiang said.

"Because you only have a bit of a brain and that's about it." Ye Xiu emphasized "a bit" again and didn't even put in the "for strategy" part.

Liu Hao was getting worried! He really wanted to tell Sun Xiang not to talk with him, but this young guy loved showing off and liked to provoke others, but if you keep on provoking others, are you sure you're going to come out victorious? Did the fight with Han Wenqing at the All Star Competition not teach you well enough?

Sun Xiang couldn't care less about Ye Xiu's words. On the other hand, Liu Hao couldn't help but carefully ponder over it.

The advantage in numbers.....

Liu Hao looked around and suddenly realized: the other side was missing a person. Where's the Cleric? Where'd the Cleric go? There's a Cleric on the other team!

"Okay, if you want to die sooner, then I'll give it my all for you!" Sun Xiang didn't leave any room for discussion and used his actions to express his words.

At this moment, the golden aura around his body looked dazzling to the eye. Battle Spirit had reached the sixth stage. The seventh stage would multiply the buffs, but also required Sun Xiang to reach a much higher combo. Sun Xiang lost his patience. Against these weeds, current stage was more than enough.

Falling Flower Palm!

Sky Strike!

Two skills in a row. In order to continue the combo, Sun Xiang used low leveled skills more often. Low leveled skills had short cooldowns, so they would be used the most often in combos.

Falling Flower Palm shot out. Loulan Slash and Night Tide both dodged it, but the following Sky Strike landed on Night Tide and launched him into the air.

Dragon Tooth

Night Tide ate another attack. Sun Xiang's Battle Mage stepped out from the encirclement and charged towards Lord Grim. He planned on keeping Night Tide in the air, attacking him as he advanced towards Lord Grim.

Lord Grim was a Level 52 character. A Level 70 Battle Mage buffed with every chasers, as well as a sixth stage Battle Spirit, wasn't something he could take a hit from.

Loulan Slash and Deception hastily tried to rescue him. However, the sixth stage Battle Spirit seemed to have opened up a completely new realm for Sun Xiang. The strength Sun Xiang displayed leapt by a huge step. If before, every time Battle Spirit went up a stage, their pressure increased, then this was the point where the straw broke the camel's back. They had no way of resisting anymore.

Strong beyond belief.

Fast movement speed, fast attack speed, along with Sun Xiang's mechanics, trying to rescue Lord Grim from this situation was impossible for Deception and Loulan Slash. By the time they saw him move, they would be sent flying away before they could even try to defend.

Night Tide was still Sun Xiang's combo fodder. He attacked Night Tide, while heading towards Lord Grim.

Dragon Breaks the Ranks!

The final attack would hit both Night Tide, as well as Lord Grim. Sun Xiang had calculated it very precisely. Lord Grim might be able to dodge the attack, but Night Tide die regardless. Lord Grim's low-level Cleric heals wouldn't be enough to save Night Tide. This last attack would be a fatal blow!

"Bang!"

A sound of metal colliding, but also the sounds of magic colliding rang out. Sun Xiang only knew that his character had shot back out of his control.

What happened?

This was something completely outside of Sun Xiang's expectations. He immediately turned his camera to look around. He saw a character flying backwards in the same posture as him. Why did this scene seem familiar?

"IT'S YOU!" Sun Xiang saw the name of the character flying backwards. At the same time, he saw a white light envelop the Grappler's body. The warm, overflowing white light was completely different from Lord Grim's faint white healing. These were true Holy Words from a Cleric.

"Yeah, it's him?" Ye Xiu lazily said, "Clerics can revive players! Don't tell me you didn't know that!"

"F*ck, too despicable!!!"

Liu Hao stamped his feet in anger.

Where did the other side's Cleric go? He finally knew. Their Cleric went to revive the other dead player. The Battle Mage had been the one of lure Sun Xian away. In the end, he had easily been caught and

killed. However, by luring away Sun Xiang, his team had been able to kill three of the five players from Sun Xiang's side. At this moment, they sent their Cleric out to revive the dead Battle Mage.

Liu Hao wasn't grieved over the fact that their enemies had one less casualty now. He was grieved that the other side had gain reinforcements quickly and shifted the tides of the battle.

Four players was clearly the limit of weeds that Sun Xiang could handle simultaneously.

He could make a combo out of three players and rack up stacks of Battle Spirit. However, four players became a situation like before where he was unable to fight back.

Sure enough, opportunity knocks but once!

Liu Hao was upset and regretful. He should have attacked Lord Grim. Why did he have to follow Sun Xiang's intent and attack the Elementalist? They wasted such a good opportunity because of it.

Sun Xiang failed to tech out of the fall. Loulan Slash and Deception caught him. Little Bei's Battle Mage and Night Tide's Grappler went up to attack him as well. Four versus one. Another four versus one.

Liu Hao wanted to go over and assist him, but a figure suddenly moved in front of him. Lord Grim was blocking his path.

"Opportunity knocks but once. Didn't I already say this?" Ye Xiu calmly said.

Chapter 500 - Glory Doesn't Suit You

With the Cleric arriving on the scene and with Sun Xiang in a situation where he was facing four enemies at once, protecting himself was hard enough already, let alone attacking back. Thousand Falling Leaves was clearly enough to do this. Ye Xiu seized this opportunity to personally intercept Liu Hao.

"Ocean, you take care of the other side." Ye Xiu said to Ocean Ahead. He didn't know Ocean Ahead's real name, so he used his ID instead.

"You want to fight me alone!" Liu Hao's expression became serious. If he couldn't defeat Ye Xiu with an 18 level advantage, it would tarnish the name of pro-players, but because the opponent was an unspecialised character that knew him well, Liu Hao didn't dare to let his guard down.

"Have Little Bei come over." Ye Xiu had more to say before replying to Liu Hao, "I'm racing against time, so I don't have the time to fight you one on one."

Liu Hao nearly coughed up blood.... Two against one. One of them was Ye Qiu, who he already had no confidence in defeating in a one on one. Now, there was also a Cleric on the enemy team. Liu Hao stood no chance.

Liu Hao had steeled himself for this, but Sun Xiang's sudden activation of Battle Spirit had rekindled his hope. He had even fantasized how tantalizing it would be to step on Ye Qiu, but life is full of uncertainties, and his moment of happiness barely lasted for a short while before the tables were turned once again.

Liu Hao no longer had any expectations of his teammates coming back to reverse the tides of battle. The other side's Battle Mage had died nearby, so he had been able to return to battle immediately.

However, their side had died and respawned in the city. There was no way to know how long it would take for them to rejoin the battle.

As for seeking help from Chen Yehui, it was meaningless to Liu Hao. What he wanted was to reverse the situation, not to be rescued. Even if Chen Yehui sent an entire army to their aid, it would be completely meaningless. It only meant that Liu Hao would lose face in front of even more people, despite them not knowing his real identity.

Ye Xiu didn't even talk much and sprang into the action right away. After battling him for a few seconds, he had even adjusted his character's view, observing the battle raging on the other side while fighting against Liu Hao, while directing his four companions in a loud voice, a classic example of multi-tasking.

Liu Hao was so angry that he almost coughed up blood, but he was helpless. He wished that he could kill Lord Grim instantly with one hit, but the problem was that he couldn't!

Let alone defeating Lord Grim, he wasn't faring any better than Sun Xiang. Ever since the opponent's Battle Mage had shifted his attention towards him and joined forces with Lord Grim, Liu Hao was completely at the mercy of his opponents.

He had no experience in fighting an unspecialized character. Although he was familiar with the Battle Mage class, the fear in his heart was quite large as he had been brought up being thrashed by this class. If the Battle Mage's ID had been One Autumn Leaf, with such an advantage on the opponent's side, Liu Hao would already have ran away long ago.

In a situation where both of them were beaten badly by the enemy, Liu Hao could not find an excuse even if he wanted to.

Sun Xiang, however, excelled in provoking the enemy instead, but in his current situation, what could he do? Besides, his provocations never bore any good result.

"Watch your positioning. Loulan, don't give him an opening!"

"If you want to use Fling, face the wall!"

"Ocean go further to the front, there's no danger!"

"Deception your damage output is weak...."

Ye Xiu was constantly giving instructions to the other four while fighting against Liu Hao, and he didn't forget about Little Bei who was beside him once he was done, "Don't only think about using your high-level skills! He's not so bad that he'd give you a chance to do that so fight properly!"

"You can even notice that!" Little Bei was surprised.

"Don't you know? The technique you're using was created by me." Ye Xiu said.

"What technique?" asked Little Bei.

"You've made some changes, but the principle is still the same....." Ye Xiu gave Little Bei a lesson about Battle Mage technique.

"Look at this, Sky Strike can be used like this." Ye Xiu even gave him a demonstration.

“He dodged it.” Little Bei pointed out.

“Bro, I’m level 52.” replied Ye Xiu.

“Not bad. Why haven’t you taught me that yet?” Tang Rou, who was watching, interjected.

“Really? I could’ve sworn I told you about it before?”

“No!”

“I definitely did, you must’ve forgotten about it.” Ye Xiu replied.

“Nope!”

“If that’s the case, then do you want me to show it to you right now?” Ye Xiu replied.

“Sure!”

“Watch closely!” Ye Xiu replied, and made the same move with a sudden strike.

“It landed!” Little Bei was surprised, “Why did he not dodge it?” and he imitated Ye Xiu’s movements.

“Hey, I landed a hit too!!” Little Bei grew more excited.

“Huh?” Ye Xiu felt that something was off. He didn’t follow up on the knocked up Spellblade. On the other hand, Little Bei kept attacking hit after hit on his opponent.

“Hey, when did I turn so amazing?” Little Bei was extremely surprised. Had his skill level reached another realm after being instructed by God Ye Xiu? The person in front of him was the vice captain of Excellent Era, as well as a famous pro-player, but he still managed to land a lot of combos on him in the air.

“Hold it, stop attacking.” said Ye Xiu.

“Huh?” Despite being puzzled, Little Bei stopped his attack. Liu Hao’s Spellblade landed on the ground.

“Pro player?” asked Tang Rou. A pro-player that fell without using a Quick Recover, what kind of nonsense was that?

Ye Xiu’s Lord Grim walked up to him without attacking, and stepped on his character while shouting, “Are you there? Are you there?”

There was no reply.

“Are you serious? He disconnected?” Little Bei finally found out that something wasn’t right.

Disconnection was a thing from the past, but there were still valid reasons that could cause it, such as a power outage, or maybe the cable got chewed of by rats. It could also be that the computer itself exploded. These were reasons that were severe enough to cause a disconnection.

“He can’t be faking it right?” Ye Xiu was more acquainted to Liu Hao’s craftiness, and Lord Grim poked the Spellblade on the ground again.

But he was wrong about Liu Hao this time. Liu Hao had actually disconnected from the game. Angry that he was being used as a punching bag, he accidentally kicked the power source of the computer. Such a technical error was not his first time.

“What do we do?” Little Bei asked.

“Keep it up! The system will force logout if he was disconnected from the game! Hurry up and kill him.” Ye Xiu increased the strength of Lord Grim’s attacks.

A character that was disconnected in battle was more helpless than a character that was weak. Ye Xiu, being a God of the game, bullied him effortlessly and with Little Bei’s help, reduced Liu Hao’s Spellblade to a corpse in an instant.

As he turned around, Sun Xiang was still holding his ground.

“It not over!” Ye Xiu’s Lord Grim walked over.

“Almost there, almost there.” replied the other four.

“Ye Qiu, fight with me one on one if you have the balls!” Sun Xiang was still hanging on to dear life!

“Are you not embarrassed? I’m only level 52.” Ye Xiu responded with confidence.

Distracted, Sun Xiang took a hit from Loulan Slash. After such a long time of combat, their Cleric was already dead, and the only reason he survived thus far was by drinking potions nonstop. Sun Xiang didn’t want to give up, so he had been counting the potions that he consumed, sustaining his hitpoints and mana to the maximum.

“Sigh, I feel sorry for him.” Ye Xiu said, “Come Little Bei, pick up the pace and take him out!”

With Ye Xiu entering the fight, the situation instantly changed. He was playing more of a support role than a comboer. If a hit didn’t strike at the right time, he would immediately make up for it. With this, the hits landing on Sun Xiang intensified and with fewer openings to defend himself, his health rapidly fell.

Noticing that he had little health left, Sun Xiang became increasingly tenacious, ignoring the damage he received and going all out towards Ye Xiu’s Lord Grim.

Ye Xiu was too lazy to dodge the attacks though. He had Lord Grim open up the Thousand Chance Umbrella, turning it into a shield and resisting the attacks.

“Let me be frank with you,” Ye Xiu said, “With your poor attitude, don’t play Glory, Super Mario or Galaxian might suit you better.”

“You...” Sun Xiang felt insulted. He watched on as Lord Grim’s Thousand Chance Umbrella transformed into a rifle and fired right into his chest. Sun Xiang’s Battle Mage flew backwards and slammed against the wall. He didn’t stand up again. He didn’t revive his character either.

“Dead?” Night Tide could not believe it He walked up to Sun Xiang, hovered his cursor over his HP bar. It really had hit zero.

“They’re all dead?” Loulan Slash’s tone was the same, he adjusted his vision, stopping at all the spots where their enemies lay slain.

“We’re..... Too awesome.” Ocean Ahead said. He didn’t shout out in celebration after winning the battle. He let out a sigh of relief too.

Little Bei and Thousand Falling leaves were silent, but their emotions were similar to their companions. They had annihilated the main force of Excellent Era, which was an unbelievable feat even if they hadn’t been using their professional accounts.

Deception kept quiet as well and after confirming that Sun Xiang’s Battle Mage and Liu Hao’s Spellblade did not revive. He circled their corpses and silently picked up the equipments dropped by those two.

“Hahaha... Why are you so mean? Super Mario? Sun Xiang will be furious.” Chen Guo was more excited than anybody else.

“I was speaking the truth.” mused Ye Xiu, “even Contra wouldn’t be suitable for him. That game even comes with a 2-player mode!”

“You....” Chen Guo noticed that Ye Xiu’s expression was odd even after achieving victory. Happiness? None at all. He even seemed a little sad.....

Sad? Chen Guo shook her head. She must be seeing things, how could he be sad? As she was about to say something, Ye Xiu stood up abruptly, “I’m going out for a smoke.”

“Your account is still online!” Chen Guo didn’t forget that the three guilds were still going after them and the appearance of Excellent Era was just an interlude.

“Just help me log out!” replied Ye Xiu.

“Not going to kill them anymore?”

“No more.” Ye Xiu replied.