

Avatar 631

Chapter 631: Visiting Samsara

The city's temperature in May was neither high nor low, and the air was humid and comfortable.

However, Ye Xiu was the type who stayed indoors for long periods of time, so his reaction towards the difference in the climate was quite slow. He didn't realize that there was any change. After arriving from the plane, he called for a taxi and went straight to Club Samsara, not even stopping at the hotel beforehand.

The unsuccessful trade with Loulan Slash caused Ye Xiu to be much more careful with the upcoming discussion. After discussing the issue with Wei Chen and the others again and again, they came to the conclusion that Samsara had no reason to reject their offer. Their intentions on becoming the champion this season was very obvious. It could be seen from their marketing during the two week break before the playoffs.

It was impossible for them to reject this guide for skill points. The only possibility was that they might refuse to buy it out completely. As for this problem, Ye Xiu had been discussing it with the team these past few days. If they didn't buy it out, it meant they would be letting Ye Xiu go to another team to sell the guide. If that were the case, then Samsara wouldn't have any advantage over the other teams. After thinking about it over and over again, everyone felt that the possibility of Samsara buying it out was the highest out of all the teams.

Ye Xiu would arrive at Club Samsara soon. Of course, he wasn't planning on breaking through their front entrance. After all, he couldn't use his face as a pass. Wei Chen's worry wasn't for nothing. He had a high chance of being driven out by the security guards before even entering.

Ye Xiu made a call from a public telephone booth outside the Club and then paced back and forth in front of the entrance. Not long afterwards, a person jogged out from within the Club building and glanced around outside the gate. When Ye Xiu waved towards him, that person hurried over.

"Long time no see." The two greeted each other.

Tong Lin, an ex-pro gamer of Glory, was currently employed at the Club. He had retired three years ago and worked in Samsara Club's technology department.

The professional circle for Glory wasn't too big. There were around 200 people total. In the initial stages of the professional scene, the scale had been even smaller. There weren't even 20 teams and not all the teams had ten people, so at that time, there were even fewer people, so the pro gamers were much more familiar with each other. Ye Xiu had been in the scene from the very start until now, so it was evident that he knew everyone in it. It was just a matter of how deeply he knew everyone. Some people he only nodded his head at, while some he could chat well with.

Tong Lin belonged to the latter.

Although he wasn't a God, his love for Glory wasn't any less than any other pro. After retiring and joining the technology department, he continued to work diligently and tirelessly. Ye Xiu contacted his

old friend for his trip to bring in his message and enter the gate. Tong Lin was far from having the influence to make any decisions in the trade though.

As the two chatted, they walked through Samsara's entrance. With Tong Lin there, the security guards by the door didn't ask any questions. When Ye Xiu had previously been walking around the entrance, they had cautiously kept an eye on him. After all, the playoffs were coming up. They couldn't risk distracting the pro gamers, who were vigorously preparing and training for the upcoming competition. The Club's work requirements in various departments had become much more strict these past few days.

"What business do you have here? You were so secretive on the phone." Tong Lin asked as he guided Ye Xiu along.

"It's definitely something good for Samsara." Ye Xiu said.

"Ha ha, what good could you possibly bring to Samsara?" Tong Lin laughed.

"You'll know when I show it to you later." Ye Xiu said.

"Alright!" Tong Lin didn't ask any further. He directly brought Ye Xiu up to the Club's third level, which was where his office in the technology department was located.

"Tell me! What are you going to show me? I'm waiting!" After telling Ye Xiu to sit down, Tong Lin smiled.

"You have spare Glory account cards here, don't you?" Ye Xiu asked.

"Would you believe me if I said no?" Tong Lin spoke, "What class do you need?"

"The class doesn't matter, but the fewer quests completed, the better." Ye Xiu spoke.

"We haven't been keeping track of that." Tong Lin said.

"Then just give me any two!" Ye Xiu said.

Tong Lin opened the drawer and randomly grabbed two account cards.

"Is here okay? Or do you want to head for the lab?" Tong Lin asked.

"Lab?" Ye Xiu laughed.

"That's what everyone calls it. It's a force of habit now." Tong Lin explained.

"Here is fine!" Ye Xiu stood up and walked over. Tong Lin immediately stepped away from the computer and left the two cards there.

"These two accounts are yours or?" Ye Xiu casually picked one up and asked.

"Mine." Tong Lin said.

"Then how lucky of you." Ye Xiu smiled.

Tong Lin was still confused as Ye Xiu quickly logged onto the game. Ye Xiu didn't care about what Tong Lin's character was called, which server, which class, or what equipment he had. Ye Xiu only checked the

character's location and immediately looked up a direction to run towards while asking Tong Lin: "Do you still remember what sort of tasks this character has completed?"

"This..... I don't really remember." Tong Lin said.

"Then I'll just try a few!" Ye Xiu said.

"What on earth are you trying to do?" Tong Lin asked.

"Don't worry. You'll know soon enough." Ye Xiu kept him guessing without revealing anything. He controlled Tong Lin's character, while sprinting towards a place that he remembered that had one of the select quests.

After talking to the NPC with the quest, it seemed like Tong Lin hadn't completed this quest before.

After seeing Ye Xiu accept the quest, Tong Lin hurriedly moved closer to look: "Which quest is this?"

Ye Xiu opened the quest's panel for Tong Lin to see the quest's name.

Tong Lin looked at it and tried to recall this quest in his head, but he couldn't remember anything odd about this quest. He then watched Ye Xiu continue to play. He followed the quest chain and completed it step by step.

"You came here to help complete quests for my account?" Tong Lin laughed.

"Don't get so worked up yet. What's worth the excitement has yet to come." Ye Xiu said.

"What are you trying to do? Stop hinting and just tell me!" Tong Lin was getting anxious!

However, Ye Xiu didn't hurry. In actual fact, he was afraid of making mistakes. After all, this had to be done precisely according to the calculations that Concealed Light and his mentor had made, so he couldn't be careless.

"Pay attention!!!" At last, the quest had reached the last stage when Ye Xiu immediately called out to Tong Lin.

"I've been paying attention this whole time!" Tong Lin said from the side.

After clicking the character, the task was completed and a row of congratulatory words flashed by. Ye Xiu wasn't let down. The skill book was rewarded. The task he chose to show obviously had a high succeeding rate. For this particular quest, after being analyzed over and over by Concealed Light and his mentor, they had found that there was a 57.258% chance of a skill book being dropped upon completion.

For skill books, a percentage like that was high enough to scare a person to death.

"Skill book!!!" Tong Lin was patient and had been paying attention the entire time. The reward that flashed by didn't escape his eyes. He clearly saw these two words. He immediately realized that the skill book must have been what Ye Xiu had been hiding from him the entire time. Apart from this, there was nothing else to see.

“A skill book with 25 skill points, how about that? Aren’t you excited?” Ye Xiu started to open the inventory of Tong Lin’s character. A 25 skill point skill book was laying there.

“It wasn’t a coincidence?” Tong Lin’s mind started to churn.

“It was a coincidence, but the same time, it wasn’t.” Ye Xiu spoke.

“Stop with the suspense and mystery! Just tell it to me directly!” Tong Lin yelled.

“It’s a coincidence because the skill book isn’t guaranteed. It wasn’t a coincidence because I used a method for a skill book to have an increased chance at dropping. If not for me, I don’t know how many times you would have to complete this mission in order to receive this reward.” Ye Xiu said.

“Stand aside and let me see!” Tong Lin pushed Ye Xiu aside and controlled his character. He checked the inventory once again and confirmed that it was a skill book without a doubt. He scrolled through the records and confirmed that this skill book, was in fact, the reward from the previous task.

Soon afterwards, Tong Lin checked a website and found the quest. In the end, he couldn’t pick out any related information that connected the quest to a skill book.

“Don’t waste your time. We were only able to get this thanks to an old friend’s many years of research.” Ye Xiu said.

“Who?” Tong Lin hurriedly asked.

“Wei Chen.” Ye Xiu spoke.

“It’s that guy!” Tong Lin was also a pro gamer from the older generation. How could he not know the former captain of Team Blue Rain?

“What you’re saying is that he found a special way to complete certain quests that give a chance for a skill book to be rewarded?” Tong Lin was in the technology department, so he figured it out quite quickly.

“Correct.” Ye Xiu nodded.

“How high is the drop rate?” Tong Lin asked.

“Around 50%!” Ye Xiu said.

“How did you come up with this number?” Tong Lin asked.

“I might scare you to death by telling you the truth, so I shouldn’t tell you.” Ye Xiu said.

Tong Lin rolled his eyes: “If you don’t say it now, someone else will definitely ask about it later.”

Tong Lin was a senior figure in the industry. After figuring out how it worked, he immediately had a rough prediction of Ye Xiu’s intentions upon visiting Samsara.

“We have an outstanding student with us. He used his mathematical knowledge and whatever to calculate this. You know that we wouldn’t be able to understand that kind of stuff. In any case, we listened and did as we were told. We don’t have the ability to perform large scale tests to confirm the

drop rates. If you're interested, you can perform these tests at a later time. Don't you have a 'lab' or something?" Ye Xiu said.

"The drop rate isn't actually too important. What's important is its effectiveness. Do you know what I mean?" Tong Lin said.

"I understand." Ye Xiu smiled calmly: "I believe that it's effective."

"It only has a 50% chance of being rewarded. As long as it's not 100%, then it could prove to be ineffective." Tong Lin said.

"But this is only one quest, you wouldn't think that I would only take one task and excitedly run to Samsara to sell just this, did you?" Ye Xiu said.

"Then how many do you have?" Tong Lin asked.

"If you add all of the tasks together, it's worth an additional 1000 skill points!" Ye Xiu said.

"F*ck!" Tong Lin's eyes went wide. In the next second, he rushed over and grabbed Ye Xiu, fearing he would run away: "Go, go, go, let's go!"

"Go where?" Ye Xiu deliberately asked.

"Where do you think?" Tong Lin didn't answer the obvious.

After dragging Ye Xiu out of his office, he went down from the third floor to the second floor and walked to the end of the building.

Midway through, they passed the practice room. A Samsara pro player was holding a cup of water and was walking loitering near the entrance of the practice room. When he saw Tong Lin come over, he naturally recognized him and politely called out "senior". Tong Lin smiled and nodded, while he was grabbing onto a guy tightly as if he had caught a robber. That guy being grabbed was even walking in a weird way as a result. That guy also smiled and gave him a nod.

Who was this guy? Why did he answer me when I said "senior"? He seemed really familiar. Was he a waiter at a restaurant?

The pro player didn't say anything, but he made a lot of guesses. Suddenly, he remembered who that person was. The surprise caused his hand to tip. The boiling water in the cup spilled out and the burn immediately caused him to loosen his grip.

"Pa!" A crisp sound was made as the cup shattered. The pro player was at a loss. He was still gazing at the silhouette that was being dragged away by Tong Lin.

After hearing the sound, Ye Xiu and Tong Lin turned back to take a look. After seeing that it was just a broken cup, they continued to walk. On the other hand, when the other pro players inside the practice room heard the noise coming from outside the door, they all came out to see what had happened. In the end, they only saw a pro player standing stupidly outside the door.

When they realized that it was only a cup being broken, everyone was about to leave, but before leaving, they saw the pro player lift his right hand and point at the silhouette that had already turned around the corner: “Ye…… Ye Qiu!!”

“What?” The pro players didn’t hear clearly.

“Ye Qiu. It’s Ye Qiu! I saw Senior Tong Lin dragging Ye Qiu away just a moment ago.”

“Senior Tong Lin, dragging Ye Qiu?” All the pro gamers were stupefied. As for Tong Lin, they obviously wouldn’t find anything strange with him, but Ye Qiu! Why would this guy appear at Samsara at this time? Their gossiping spirits had been kindled.

“Which way did they go?” Vice-Captain Jiang Botao asked.

“That way.” The pro player pointed.

“The manager’s office?” After turning that way in the hallway, there was nowhere else to go apart from the manager’s office.

“Let’s go have a look?” Jiang Botao turned his head and spoke to Zhou Zekai. They were the captain and vice-captain. At this age, only those with some status would be able to go and have a look.

Zhou Zekai didn’t say anything yet, when the practice room phone rang. A pro player hurriedly ran over to receive it. He said a few words before hanging up. He ran over to Zhou Zekai and Jiang Botao:

“Captain and vice-captain, the manager is asking for you two to head over.”

Jiang Botao and Zhou Zekai looked at each other in the eye. Everyone thought that it had to be related to Ye Qiu’s visit. The two were prepared to go, when the phone rang again. The same person ran over to receive it, he hurriedly dashed out again to face Zhou Zekai and Jiang Botao: “The manager says to bring your account cards with you.”

“Bring our account cards?” “What for?” Everyone made wild guesses. Zhou Zekai and Jiang Botao didn’t understand, but nevertheless, they returned to the practice room and grabbed their account cards with them.

“Please enter!”

After knocking on the manager’s door, they heard the manager’s voice and entered. The manager wasn’t sitting in his office chair. In the guest sofa, he and Tong Lin sat there with another person in the middle.

“I don’t need to introduce them to you, do I?” The manager laughed.

“It’s Little Zhou and Little Jiang! Haha, you two are doing pretty well this season!” Ye Xiu smiled as he greeted the two.

Chapter 632: One Man Team

“Hi God Ye.” Jiang Botao greeted back. Zhou Zekai simply smiled in a friendly manner. He looked as if he wanted to say something, but in the end, he remained silent.

“Little Zhou still doesn’t like to speak, ha ha!” Ye Xiu laughed.

Everyone looked towards him, but Zhou Zekai still didn’t say anything and just continued to smile.

Truthfully, someone who wasn’t good at expressing one’s thoughts like Zhou Zekai wasn’t suited to be the team captain. If he was even had a hard time greeting someone, giving words of encouragement to his team at crucial moments would be impossible, but even though he wasn’t a good speaker, he wouldn’t lose to anyone in terms of skill.

Zhou Zekai was currently considered the number one player in Glory right now by many. His skill and technique were the real deal. His performance on stage was filled with energy. It could be said that once he took control his character, the aura he gave off completely changed. No one would think that the person controlling such a stylish character would be so quiet in real life.

Whether or not he really was the best player in the Alliance was still up for debate, but if it was the difference between his playstyle and his real self, then no one would be able to contest with Zhou Zekai.

Through his performance on stage, Zhou Zekai was still someone who the team greatly relied on. They knew that even if their team captain didn’t like to speak, he would never disappointed them on stage. They just needed to match his pace and they would do well.

The tactics and strategies used by professional teams usually revolved around their team’s core player, but no other team relied on their core player as much as Samsara did. Their reliance on Zhou Zekai won their team the nickname “One Man Team” in the Alliance.

That had been true up until Jiang Botao became Samsara’s vice captain.

Samsara’s playstyle had completely revolved around Zhou Zekai, but because Zhou Zekai didn’t like to speak, his teammates would often have trouble understanding his actions, which affected their past records. However, Jiang Botao understood Zhou Zekai very well. He could accurately read the purpose of every single one of Zhou Zekai’s actions, so he became the bridge between Zhou Zekai and the rest of the team.

Samsara’s “One Man Team” style didn’t disappear. However, because of Jiang Botao, the synergy between Zhou Zekai and the rest of the team improved significantly. Samsara burst forth and many believed that they had the highest chance of becoming the champions in this season. Samsara restrained themselves the entire time. The nickname “One Man Team” was not a compliment, but through their success, they hoped to prove that “One Man Team” wasn’t impossible and erase the ridicule that was implied by the name.

Samsara thirsted to become the champions, so when Tong Lin brought Ye Xiu over to the manager and gave a brief introduction to what Ye Xiu had in his hands, the manager hastily called over the captain and vice-captain. He wanted their two strongest accounts to personally try it for themselves.

Ye Xiu saw the manager give them a call and tell them to bring their account cards. He figured out his intentions, but he didn’t stop him. When he saw Zhou Zekai and Jiang Botao enter the room, he greeted them and then smiled towards the manager: “Are you trying to take advantage of me! I don’t even know if you’re going to buy it or not, and you want me to give them skill points?”

“Ha ha ha.” Samsara’s manager: “If what you say is really true, then even if you wanted to leave, you wouldn’t be able to. I’ll make you spill the beans even if I have to murder you.”

This was obviously a joke, but everyone could feel his determination. Zhou Zekai and Jiang Botao were still puzzled as to what was going on. In the end, Jiang Botao asked: “What is it?”

“Skill books.” Ye Xiu answered.

“Skill books?” Jiang Botao still wasn’t sure what was going on.

“One thousand skill points worth of skill books. How many skill points does your ‘Empty Waves’ have?” Ye Xiu smiled.

Empty Waves was Jiang Botao’s character. It was the number one Spellblade in Glory and a character that Excellent Era’s Liu Hao envied the most. These characters had a difficult time getting any additional skill points, so it wasn’t any secret. Jiang Botao quickly answered: “4820.”

“If your luck is good, that number can potentially be 5000. Now do you know what I’ve brought with me?” Ye Xiu smiled.

Jiang Botao’s eyes went wide. Zhou Zekai also revealed an astonished expression. They obviously knew the importance of skill points, but at the same time, they knew even better how difficult it was to find skill books. These things couldn’t be traded.

“Shall we try it out with ‘Empty Waves’?” Ye Xiu suggested to the manager.

“Sure sure.” The manager hastily nodded his head. Tong Lin had explained it to him before. Even though he knew that Tong Lin wouldn’t come over and say such a thing as a joke, he still had a hard time believing it, so he wanted to see if it was true for himself.

Jiang Botao received the manager’s approval and handed over ‘Empty Waves’ to Ye Xiu. Ye Xiu used the manager’s computer and logged into the game. The manager, Tong Lin, Zhou Zekai, and Jiang Botao stood behind Ye Xiu.

He logged into the game and moved the character around. Ye Xiu asked Jiang Botao if he had finished the quest before. Jiang Botao naturally had no idea. No one could remember every single quest that their characters had completed, even more so for pro characters. The person using the account might not have been the one to level up the account themselves.

“We’ll see then!” Ye Xiu also gave it a try like he did with Tong Lin’s character.

“So you’re saying that if this quest has been completed before, there’s no way of getting the skill book?” The manager quickly found the key point.

“Of course.” Ye Xiu said.

“If that really is the case.....”

“Then you can only blame your bad luck.” Ye Xiu sighed.

Empty Waves was an All Star level character. It wasn’t Tong Lin’s private account. Once he logged into the game, he walked through the streets and the news quickly spread in the global chat. Countless

players reported his whereabouts and the guild Samsara was chattering nonstop about Empty Waves as well. His friends, as well as strangers, repeatedly sent him messages. They gave him words of encouragement, expectations, etc. for this character, who would soon be participating in the playoffs.

“Wow, you’re very popular, huh.” Ye Xiu continued to move towards the quest location as he gazed at the chat.

The people behind him didn’t care about all this. It wasn’t anything new that a scene like this would occur whenever a pro character logged into the game, let alone an All Star level one like Empty Waves. So when Ye Xiu gave this remark, the others gave a laugh absentmindedly, but didn’t say anything further.

Soon afterwards, Ye Xiu reached the NPC giving the quest, but when he spoke to the NPC, the NPC didn’t give any response. Ye Xiu turned his head in regret: “Too bad. You’ll never get the chance to get this 25 skill point book.”

Jiang Botao had pretty much figured out what was going on. When he heard Ye Xiu say these words, he felt very sad too. However, Ye Xiu’s first few words gave him hope: “Didn’t you say there were 1000 skill points?”

“I pray that your character hasn’t done all of the quests!” Ye Xiu said.

“All of them are quest rewards?” The manager asked a second question.

“Yes.” Ye Xiu nodded his head.

Everyone fell silent and continued to watch Ye Xiu move Empty Waves to the second location. The NPC still didn’t reply back.

Ye Xiu turned around and looked at Jiang Botao: “20 more points gone.”

“45 points!” Jiang Botao began calculating. There were originally 1000 points total, but 45 points were gone. He calculated how many points he had left and felt reassured. He only needed 180 points. There were 955 points left! No problem!

Jiang Botao thought like this. Ye Xiu already found the third NPC. This time, the quest prompt popped up. Ye Xiu accepted the quest. Jiang Botao immediately knew this time was good and became extremely excited.

Ye Xiu followed the steps according to the guide. The four people behind him didn’t take their gaze off the screen. They didn’t dare to breathe loudly. Finally, the final part of the quest chain came. Tong Lin had already seen this happen before and felt excited. He tapped the manager’s shoulder, telling him to watch carefully, but when he handed in the quest, the words that Tong Lin had anticipated didn’t come. The manager was somewhat puzzled. He looked questioningly at Tong Lin, but then he saw Ye Xiu say to Jiang Botao: “You’re really unlucky! This quest should have had a 63% chance of getting a 20 point skill book, but you actually didn’t get one!!”

“So..... that’s how it works?” Jiang Botao was depressed.

“So from the sounds of it, even if you finish the quest, it isn’t guaranteed that you’ll get the skill book?” The manager found the key point again.

“Then what’s the probability of getting skill points out of these thousand points worth of skill books?” The manager asked.

“Around 50%. In other words, if the quests haven’t been done. With the foundation that your accounts have, getting the max 5000 skill points shouldn’t be too big of a problem.” Ye Xiu said.

“How did you get the number 50%?” The manager asked.

“It was calculated, but don’t ask me how it was calculated in detail. I can’t tell you. Even if I could, I doubt you’d be able to understand. This was a number that a specialist came up with.” Ye Xiu said.

“Then how can we believe that this number is reliable?” The manager asked.

“Take Empty Wave’s account and see if you can get to 5000 skill points?” Ye Xiu said.

“Sure!” The manager nodded his head.

“You wish.” Ye Xiu objected. He took out an account card from his pocket and waved it at them: “Let me open your eyes!”

He logged into the game and without doing anything else, Ye Xiu clicked open the skill tree and pointed at the right corner of the screen.

They obviously knew what was in this position. They saw that the number of skill points on this character was an impressive 4920!

Chapter 633: Deadlock

4920!

Even though it wasn’t the maximum 5000 points, it was shocking enough already. This random account in Ye Xiu’s hands had already broken the 4900 point zone that had never been broken through before.

“As for your characters? True gold never fears fire. These quests will certainly improve the skill points on your characters, but my one fear is that your characters will have already done most of the quests. If that’s the case, there’s nothing I can do for you. From the looks of it, Little Jiang’s Empty Waves isn’t the case! Little Zhou, has your Great Gunner cleared any of these quests?” Ye Xiu said.

“No.” Zhou Zekai shook his head.

“What do you think?” Ye Xiu asked, “Don’t count on me trying out these quests on all of your accounts. If I do that, the skill points on your characters will probably go up. When that time comes, wouldn’t that be a huge loss in profits for me?” Ye Xiu said as he looked sympathetically at Jiang Botao: “Your luck is really bad. Even if this deal didn’t go through, your character could have gotten a 20 point skill book for free. Unfortunately, only Old Tong benefited.”

“God Ye, you’re being too suspicious! If it really works, how could we not want it?” Samsara’s manager kindly said.

Ye Xiu heard the implication in his words and smiled: “So right now you’re hoping for some concrete proof, right? After all, you heard me say 60%, but that number doesn’t seem too reliable. It looks like this 4920 character still isn’t enough proof in your eyes!”

“Ha ha ha……” Samsara’s manager laughed without explaining himself. This had clearly been what he meant. Ye Xiu never said how he managed to get the skill points and only showed the results. It wasn’t very convincing at all. The 4920 point character was astonishing, but Glory had such a large player base and it had been so many years. Who could say whether there was a character with such high skill points out there? Samsara’s manager had seen the account card. It was a second edition card, which meant that it had been issued when Glory’s second server opened. If an old account like this account had extraordinary luck, it wasn’t impossible for it to have an incredible amount of skill points.

But just like he said, if this method truly worked, Samsara would absolutely buy it, but because they would definitely buy it, the value of this method would not be low. He had to be careful before closing a large business deal such as this one.

“If that’s the case, you can keep on thinking about it. I’ll be leaving.” Ye Xiu logged out, grabbed his account card, and got up. Samsara’s manager looked at him in alarm. He was actually just going to leave? Did he not have any intentions on marketing his product? But after thinking about it again, he quickly understood that Ye Xiu didn’t need Samsara to buy it. If he brought this method to any other Club, who wouldn’t want to buy it? Thus, Samsara’s manager thought up another issue: how many Clubs had this guy already talked to? Did the other Clubs already have a team of 5000 skill point characters by now, while they were hesitating?

If that really was the case, then they had to buy it no matter what! Thinking about this issue, there was no way Samsara’s manager could sit still. Ye Xiu hadn’t even taken two steps yet, when the manager stopped him. Seeing the manager move, Tong Lin and Jiang Botao naturally helped him persuade Ye Xiu. Zhou Zekai also wanted to help, but this sort of situation was even more challenging for him than participating in the playoffs. He walked around the other four in circles, but he couldn’t find an opportunity to say anything.

“God Ye, there’s something that I have to know.” Samsara’s manager said.

“What?”

“Have any of the other Clubs bought this method yet?” Samsara’s manager asked.

“How can I answer that?” Ye Xiu answered back.

“See…… the price is very different depending on whether or not this method has already been bought by other Clubs, don’t you think?” Samsara’s manager explained.

“Ha ha ha, if you say it like that, of course no one else has bought it yet.” Ye Xiu happily replied.

This reply made Samsara’s manager want to cry: “Are you telling the truth or not?”

“I didn’t say anything, but you had to ask. When I gave you an answer, you didn’t believe me. What am I supposed to say? Why don’t you just act like it has already been bought by others and give a starting price from there?” Ye Xiu said.

“So no one else has bought it?” Samsara’s manager was very careful.

“I’m going!” Ye Xiu threatened.

“Don’t be in such a hurry! Let’s take some time to talk about it! It must have been a long trip here. Have you eaten yet? How about we get some food?” Samsara’s manager started firing sugar-coated bullets.

“Ha ha.” Ye Xiu chuckled, “Sure, I’d be willing to stay and eat. I’m not in a hurry, but you guys should be! If you get more skill points, wouldn’t you need to do some research on how to distribute these new skill points? Wouldn’t you need to try out the newly leveled skills and get used to them? Do you even have the time to eat with me? How many days is it until the playoff match?” Ye Xiu said.

Samsara’s manager listened and thought it was reasonable. Even though he wasn’t an expert in Glory, he was the manager of the Club, so he still understood this sort of general knowledge.

Thus, Samsara’s manager grit his teeth: “Okay, let’s sit down and talk.” He had wanted to carefully probe the situation, but they were on the passive side from beginning to end. There was nothing he could have done about that! The bargaining chip in Ye Xiu’s hands was something that couldn’t be refused!

Buy out!

Once they started talking about the deal, Samsara’s manager wanted to head in this direction, but the bargaining chip in Ye Xiu’s hands was too valuable. The price for buying it out certainly wouldn’t be low. Even worse, what could they measure the price against?

If a character didn’t have a solid base like their pro characters, 1000 skill points worth of quests wasn’t enough to max out the skill points, but even if the character didn’t have a solid base, a character that surpassed any of the pro characters could still be created through this method. What the price should be was something Samsara’s manager wasn’t sure about either.

As a result, he didn’t give a price for now and instead tried to feel out Ye Xiu’s intentions. At the same time, he would tell the boss about this deal. The buyout price would be very high, but it was completely necessary, so he needed to let the boss know about it.

After negotiations officially began, Zhou Zekai and Jiang Botao left. Tong Lin didn’t participate either. This sort of deal required a certain amount of secrecy.

Because the seller absolutely needed to buy it, Ye Xiu held the advantage in this negotiation. As a former pro player, he had a strong mental fortitude. He was calm and unhurried, making it difficult for Samsara’s manager to handle. Take advantage of Ye Xiu? Samsara’s manager didn’t have any thoughts about doing so. Right now, the other side was currently showing reluctance towards his plan to buy out the guide.

“I suddenly feel like I made a mistake.” Ye Xiu suddenly said.

“What is it?” Samsara’s manager was a complete mess. Ye Xiu’s sudden comment confused him.

“I should have gathered all the Clubs together and auctioned it off!” Ye Xiu’s words were terrifying.

“Ah!” Samsara’s manager was frightened. Even though this wasn’t an easy negotiation, they at least had the advantage over the other Clubs! If it really had been auctioned, Samsara’s resources weren’t any better than any of the other powerhouses. It was hard to say whether they would be able to get it or not if that were the case. What’s worse was that for an auction, the winner wasn’t necessarily the richest, but who had the courage to stake thousands of pieces of gold in one throw. Samsara’s manager couldn’t help but think of a powerful opponent.

Tyranny!

Correct, Tyranny. Club Tyranny was currently the Club, which was the most willing to spend money. If this guide was auctioned off, it was likely that Tyranny would rely on their great courage and take the guide for themselves.

“God Ye, how about you give me a price! We can negotiate from there!!” Samsara’s manager wanted to cry.

In truth, Ye Xiu felt the same as the manager! He didn’t know how much this guide should sell for either. After all, he was just a former pro player. This deal with Samsara would very likely help Samsara win this year’s championships. It could also affect their future momentum in the pro scene as well. There were many ways to measure the worth of a character. It wasn’t something that could be measured with just a few words. Ye Xiu wasn’t sure how high of a price he could sell it for.

If he had created this guide all on his own, Ye Xiu wouldn’t care too much about selling it for the highest price possible, but the problem was that this guide had been created through the many years of effort of Wei Chen and then completed through Concealed Light’s help. From the start to finish, Ye Xiu hadn’t made a single contribution to the guide itself. If he had to split the money, he would only take a very small percentage of it for closing the deal. However, as the person responsible for closing the deal, wasn’t it his duty to sell it at the highest price possible? As a result, even though both sides had confirmed their intentions, they still hadn’t reached a conclusion. The two of them kept on probing each other for a price all the way until it became dark, but nothing came out of it.

Chapter 634: Final Test

“God Ye, would you like something to eat?” Samsara’s manager was exhausted as he lay down on the sofa. After hearing his stomach growl a few times, he thought of getting dinner.

“Oh, sure!” Ye Xiu replied indifferently. At the same time, sounds of tapping could be heard.

Hm?! What’s this?

Samsara’s manager suddenly realized something. This was clearly his office. Why am I sitting on the guest sofa, while the guest is sitting in my chair and using my computer?

He’s using my computer?

He’s using my computer!!!!

Samsara's manager suddenly leapt up. How could his computer be randomly used by an outsider? There were Club secrets stored inside! He strode over and went to his computer. When he looked, he almost fainted.

The other side wasn't searching for Samsara's secrets. He was using his computer to play Glory! How long has he been playing?

"Lord Grim..... oh..... you've been famous ever since the tenth server opened!" Samsara's manager saw the name and made a comment.

"Ha ha, thanks." Ye Xiu said.

"Level 66, tsk tsk. Leveling truly isn't easy, huh." Samsara's manager said. Lord Grim was an unspecialized character. He couldn't level past 50 unless it was done in the Heavenly Domain. As the Club's manager, he didn't need to be concerned about these bits of information about the game, but the people in his social circle often talked about things like this.

"Yeah, it truly isn't easy." Ye Xiu sighed.

"It looks like another God-level character is about to be born." Samsara's manager remarked.

"Ha ha." Ye Xiu laughed, but didn't deny it.

"How many skill points does your character have?" Samsara's manager suddenly asked.

"That's a secret. I can't let you know so easily." Ye Xiu replied.

"Haha, you're already treating us as your opponents?" Samsara's manager said.

"Already? Haven't I always?" Ye Xiu asked.

"Alright..... I guess so....." Samsara's manager said and then suddenly shifted topics: "It looks like you and Excellent Era aren't on good terms anymore! For something as important as this, the first thing you did was contact us instead of contacting Excellent Era."

"That's not hard to understand, is it?" Ye Xiu said.

"It isn't." Samsara's manager nodded his head. He knew exactly why Ye Xiu would think of Samsara first.

"If we just keep sitting like this, I feel like we won't ever get anywhere." Samsara's manager said.

"Be more decisive! Give me a price!" Ye Xiu said.

"Why don't you be more decisive?" Samsara's manager was gloomy.

"Because I'm not worried....." Ye Xiu said.

"Fine!" Samsara's manager was helpless. Ye Xiu didn't have any other tricks. He was fully utilizing the few advantages that he had. It truly was the mark of a pro God.

"How about this! It's quite late. You're probably tired too, so go take rest! I'll give you a definite answer tomorrow." Samsara's manager replied.

"Like that, ah....."

“Do you have a place to stay? If you don’t, we can arrange one for you.” Samsara’s manager said.

“No need. I’ll come over again tomorrow then.” Ye Xiu said as he got up. The two had been in a deadlock for the entire day, but no conclusion had been reached.

When Ye Xiu left, Samsara’s manager immediately contacted his boss and gave a report about the situation. After receiving the boss’s approval, he immediately contacted the various department heads in the Club and held a meeting that night.

They never set up a meeting time, so once Ye Xiu had gotten enough sleep, he tidied himself up and walked over to the Club once more. Chen Guo had arranged the hotel ahead of time and since she knew that Ye Xiu would be going to Samsara, she obviously picked a hotel close to it.

Samsara’s manager had been waiting for Ye Xiu to arrive, but he looked quite tired. It seemed like he hadn’t slept well the previous night.

“How are things going?” Ye Xiu smiled. He had guessed why the manager had told him he would have a definite answer the next day. The manager must have held a meeting right after he left and thoroughly measured the value of what Ye Xiu had brought.

“Two things. First, quest list. It shouldn’t be a big issue if you only provide us the quest names, right? Second, how you got that drop rate. We still hope that we can see some concrete proof.” Sure enough, the manager’s efforts yesterday night weren’t for naught. Samsara had found a reasonable price for it, but they needed to clarify some things first.

The manager’s talk with Ye Xiu yesterday afternoon wasn’t a waste of time. Samsara’s manager understood how he got these 1000 points of skill books. It was through a manipulation of small details in the quests. Just a list of names shouldn’t be an issue. And as long as Samsara knew the names of the quest, they could check their characters to see which quests they had already completed. Then, by knowing the drop rate, they could approximate how many skill points they could obtain. Of course, they would also need some concrete proof of Ye Xiu’s supposed drop rates before doing so.

“Alright!” Ye Xiu had expected this. Soon afterwards, he took over the manager’s computer and opened two files from his email.

The first file was how Concealed Light had calculated the drop rate. Ye Xiu didn’t understand it, but someone in Samsara probably had the ability to do so and check if it was real or fake.

The second file was a list of quest names.

After finding these two files, Ye Xiu also gave a requirement: “Since you’re going to test it, I want to be able to watch them do it. Will that be a problem?”

“Not at all.” Samsara’s manager didn’t object.

He printed out the two files. Samsara’s manager looked at the data and felt his head hurt. He and Ye Xiu went over to the technology department and handed it over to one of their experts. As for the quests list, he printed out another 11 copies and wrote the name of a Samsara character onto each of them. The eleven pro account cards had already been prepared for testing.

Samsara’s employees began checking the quests for each of the characters.

This caused a huge commotion in Glory. The message soon reached the ears of the other teams, who heard that Team Samsara had all of their characters wandering around in-game that morning. Their footprints included places in the normal server and Heavenly Domain. All of the characters stayed on for around the same amount of time too.

The playoffs were about to begin. Samsara wasn't busy practicing and instead running to the game to wander around? And it was the entire pro team too. What was going on?

The players in-game were talking fervently about it. The pro teams were also at a loss. Team Samsara had a good chance of winning the championships and were naturally formidable opponents. No one dared to underestimate them. What was going on?

Because these characters were just wandering around, they didn't follow the same steps. It was hard to see if a character was talking to an NPC, so no one could figure out what they were doing, but their movements couldn't be without any meaning, especially right before the playoffs. Thus, the only possibility was that Samsara's characters were being strengthened.

This was a unique aspect of an eSports based around an MMO.

If a character wanted to be strengthened, they had to do it under the same skies as everyone else. Since Team Samsara's characters had run to the game in such a critical time period, what else could they be doing?

However, they couldn't figure out why.

These eleven characters didn't even do any quests. The data for the drop rate had been analyzed already. There weren't any problems with it.

After verifying which quests had been completed, as well as the drop rate, Samsara could calculate how many skill points they could potentially obtain.

Without considering luck and only based on the data, of Samsara's eleven characters, five of them could reach 5000 skill points, while the remaining six would be around 4960 points. With good luck, it was obviously possible that all of them or none of them would be able to reach 5000 skill points.

Ye Xiu saw these results, but didn't say anything. This was a very good result. Besides not having enough money, Ye Xiu couldn't think of any reason for why Samsara wouldn't buy it.

Was it possible for them to figure out how to do the quests through the data for calculating drop rate? Ye Xiu had asked Concealed Light about this and found out that it wasn't possible. Concealed Light had only been able to come up with this data after going through Wei Chen's experimental data. Without Wei Chen's experimental data, with just this data and the quest names, it wasn't possible to figure out the method for it. If not, Ye Xiu wouldn't dare to hand over this data to them. Wouldn't that be the same thing as handing over the guide?

Once the results came out, Samsara's manager and Ye Xiu left the technology department and returned to his office.

“15 million RMB.” Samsara’s manager gave the starting price. The previous test was a double-edged sword. If the results weren’t good, Samsara could lower the price, but after confirming everything, Samsara was now at ease. They would get what they paid for.

15 million was without a doubt a buyout price. If it wasn’t a buyout, it wouldn’t be so expensive. The competitive scene in Glory had developed for several years. Business deals for transferring a character or a player from one team to another were done in the millions. A business deal over ten million was a first in Glory’s history. However, this deal would not be made public.

Chapter 635: 20 Million

(TL: Money amounts are in RMB: 1 RMB = 0.14 USD)

15 million!

Ye Xiu had a mini-heart attack when he heard this number, but he didn’t let his eyebrow twitch even the slightest bit. As a person who was familiar with the professional scene, he obviously knew what this price meant in the Glory circle.

As a matter of fact, the development of Glory’s professional scene had still been relatively short. When negotiating player transfers from one team to another, they seldom used money. The Clubs tended to prefer trades.

A pro player for a pro player.

A character for a character.

Or a pro player for a character.

A pro player with their character for a powerful character.

There were all sorts of ways to deal with such matters. As long as both sides felt that they would not lose out, they traded however they liked. Monetary exchange for a player or character only started to appear in more recent years, once the Clubs started to flourish. This was because many people had come to realize the potential of these Clubs in the market, whether it was as an investment or for signing contracts for sponsorships. These gave Clubs an increasing amount of profits. This was when Clubs began buying and selling with money.

So far, the player with the highest transfer price in Glory was Sun Xiang. He had joined Excellent Era for seven million this season. Character transfers were on a much smaller scale. God characters were all passed down starting from when the Club first formed and had never moved from their nests before, so they usually weren’t up for trade. There were a few that had been traded in the initial stages of the Glory professional scene, but that was because when the early Clubs could no longer continue operating, they had no choice but to sell one of their characters to stay afloat. It was still during the early stages of the scene and the prices were much lower, so it was insignificant to bring up the prices.

Now that the professional scene had stabilized, teams that possessed god-leveled characters wouldn’t be weak, let alone nearing the point where they could no longer continue operating, even for a disaster like Excellent Era, who had relegated.

Although no one had ever traded God characters, it didn't stop people from discussing their value.

As of now, many people saw the glorious Battle God One Autumn Leaf as the number one character in Glory. It was generally believed that, if you didn't put up at least 10 million, then the offer wouldn't even be looked at.

Apart from this, those who had titles such as the King of Fighting, Sword Saint, or Great Gunner were all top tier characters of Glory, so it was reckoned that they were also worth around 10 million.

However, their estimated value remained an estimate. If it really came to the time to trade, everyone would negotiate. In the end, their transferring price might not match up with their market price. Everyone was clear about this point. In any way, everyone only estimated for fun, but those prices also, to a certain point, reflected the character's status in every player's heart.

15 million! It was generally acknowledged in Glory that if one offered this amount for any God character, the other side would need to give back change.

Was Ye Xiu's skill points for Samsara really worth more than a God level character?

Samsara had been discussing how much these skill points were truly worth all last night. 15 million, was what the manager concluded from last night's discussion.

He had given the opening price, what would followed next was Ye Xiu's response.

As for Ye Xiu? His expression remained unmoving. He was also weighing this number in his mind.

He had nothing to measure against for this trade, but with his identity as a God, he had a rough estimate of the price too.

If all the characters in the team had an increase in skill points, which skills would they strengthen? What sort of advantages would they gain in the upcoming competition?

If there was one more God-level character on the team, what sort of change would that produce? What sort of improvement would it create?

The profits made from winning the championships and the attention that God-level characters brought to the team had to be considered! Ye Xiu wasn't sure about how the price of such things were measured, but in terms of an increase in competitive strength, Ye Xiu was an absolute expert.

If it was only these few, Ye Xiu felt that 15 million was a good price.

So Ye Xiu nodded, just when the manager let out a breath, Ye Xiu spoke: "15 million, you're not buying it out, right?"

The manager of Samsara was just about to relax and take a sip of tea, but ended up spitting it back into his cup. He nearly spat two mouthfuls of blood into the cup as well.

"Are you kidding me?" Samsara's manager was getting anxious.

You could negotiate nicely if you wanted to raise the price! How could you say that this price isn't worth buying it out? That was simply robbery.

"I think that it's still too little for a complete buy it out." Ye Xiu spoke unhurriedly.

The manager of Samsara realized that he lost his composure just then, so he calmed down and placed away the tea cup and said: "Then what is your price?"

"30 million!" Ye Xiu said.

If they weren't familiar with each other, Samsara's manager would have kicked him out of the place.

Last night, they had conducted an all night meeting and carried out a complete check on how they could benefit from this trade. After considering the benefits and risks, 30 million would only be considered if it were absolutely guaranteed.

What was an absolute guarantee?

If they bought it with a 100% chance of winning the championships, then 30 million was definitely an acceptable price.

That kind of guarantee wasn't possible, so 30 million was also impossible.

"Come on, God Ye. Let's go over this together." Samsara's manager said. He was determined to clearly reveal to Ye Xiu what 30 million stood for, so this bluffing guy would feel ashamed.

However, Ye Xiu didn't intend to hear his explanation. He only sighed with regret: "What? Is that no good?"

"Of course not!" Samsara's manager spoke without needing to think, "This thing won't guarantee that we will win the championships! And even though the data is real, it still depends on luck! What if we have really bad luck and fail to receive any skill books even after clearing all the tasks? Even 15 thousand would be a loss, let alone 15 million!!"

"How could you say such unlucky words? Are you a spy?" Ye Xiu said.

"I was just giving an example....." Samsara's manager didn't know whether to cry or laugh, "Fine, that was a bit too extreme. Then, let's say that our skill points go up similar to what you showed us previously. I'm sure you're very clear as to how much that would improve the team's strength. If we take that improvement and convert it to what would be required in character trades, what would that amount be? If you're not too sure about the current market, I can show you, for example....."

"Alright, alright, you don't have to tell me. I have to admit, 30 million was a joke." Ye Xiu said. Samsara's manager was just about to let out a sigh of relief, when Ye Xiu continued on with his sentence: "But you also have to admit, 15 million is also a joke."

"How can 15 million be a joke!" The manager for Samsara was anxious, "I'll show you the calculations."

"Why are you always trying to calculate? Did you spend all of last night calculating this?" Ye Xiu said.

Samsara's manager was startled. He hadn't needed to say it out loud, but they actually did spend the whole of last night calculating this.....

"We're professionals in this industry, no? If we really were to figure out who's right and wrong, do you really think 15 million is actually reasonable?"

“How is it not reasonable?” Samsara’s manager said worriedly.

“22 million!” Ye Xiu said.

“What?” Samsara’s manager was startled.

“If both 30 million and 15 million are considered as a joke, then take the middle, which would be 22.5 million, but since I’m a generous person, I’ll let you keep 0.5 million, which makes it 22 million!” Ye Xiu said.

“You’re saying that 22 million is more reasonable?” The manager asked.

“You don’t think it’s reasonable?” Ye Xiu asked.

“Not at all!” The manager said.

“Why don’t we find someone else to evaluate this for us?” Ye Xiu suggested.

“Find someone else to evaluate this?”

“For example, Tyranny, Blue Rain, or Tiny Herb.” Ye Xiu said.

“.....” The manager was starting to panic. He was very annoyed at Ye Xiu’s pressure and needed to dispute a bit more: “Each team has their own situation. They might have cleared all the tasks for their characters in the team, so if you take that to them, it might not be worth a penny at all!”

“Worth less than a penny? Are you kidding me? Keeping the other teams from using this couldn’t be worth less than a penny. Anyone would buy it out. No matter what, buying this out would only bring you benefit and no harm. Take you guys as an example. Do you guys need the skill points? No, what you guys need is an advantage. Buying this out would automatically give you an advantage. For this, you would naturally need to give more.” Ye Xiu said.

“22 million is too much.” The manager said.

“Then what do you think?” Ye Xiu asked.

“18 million.” The manager was finally letting go of the price for 15 million.

“21 million!” Ye Xiu said.

“Do you have any point in doing this?” The manager didn’t know whether to cry or laugh. This was a big trade we’re talking about. Could we not bargain bit by bit like how you would at a flea market? Every little bit was in the millions. If you wanted to change the price you have to give a reason. If there wasn’t a solid reason, who would be willing to give away a few million?

“Fine, fine, 20 million. I know this is an acceptable price for you.” Ye Xiu said.

“20 million.....” The manager was a little gloomy.

In actual fact, 20 million was a sum that matched their calculations, but no one would reveal their upper limit right at the start. They had to start with a lower price, so they decided on 15 million. In terms of the negotiation, the manager originally had quite a lot of confidence. This was because he thought that Ye Xiu would only be clear about how much the skill points could improve their team’s strength. In terms of

the other benefits produced by the result of the upgrade, even a manager like him couldn't simply weigh it all out, let alone a former pro player like Ye Xiu.

He thought that if he explained it to Ye Xiu, he would easily convince the latter into thinking that 15 million was a reasonable price. Even if it didn't work, he could handle with an addition of one or two million.

Who would have thought that Ye Xiu would refuse to listen to his explanation and only argue about 15 million being too little? Ye Xiu had even threatened him with 30 million and the other teams. The manager wasn't useless. He could tell that Ye Xiu himself wasn't too sure what the amount should be and how to measure it either. He must have realized instinctively that 15 million must have been lower than their bottom line, so he found reasons to lift the price up. He was daring and wasn't afraid of making a fool of himself. He rose the price violently, treating the 15 million like 15 yuan and just multiplied it by two.

The manager's face was filled with tears! He felt like he had lost in terms of being too reserved and lenient.....Why didn't he just shamelessly offer 5 million in the beginning?

"20 million..... then let's make it 20 million....." The manager nodded helplessly.

Chapter 636: Final Resolution

Samsara agreed on twenty million. However, Samsara's manager had a request. The twenty million wouldn't be paid all at once. Five million would be paid in advance, while the other fifteen million would be paid monthly over 24 months.

The total number seemed to be fixed, but there could still be ways around it. Ye Xiu had to try and fight for it. With the number already agreed upon, the two sides were much more relaxed. You give in a little bit, I give in a little bit and so on. In the end, Ye Xiu was able to get eight million in advance and twelve million paid monthly over the next 12 months.

After the negotiation finished, Ye Xiu suddenly had an idea. He asked if he could use a portion of the money to be paid in materials from the game. Samsara's manager brightened up at this proposal, but when Ye Xiu listed his requirements, the manager shook his head.

No way. If it were normal materials, perhaps they could discuss it, but nearly all of the materials that Ye Xiu had asked for were only dropped from wild bosses. If these materials could be bought, Samsara's manager would have easily spent that twenty million to buy what they could. The only reason that they would sell their materials would be if Samsara lost their ambition to win the championships, but with Samsara's current momentum and resolve, how was that a possibility?

So when he heard Ye Xiu's proposal, the manager immediately rejected it. When the manager proposed enormous amounts of materials that could be found in dungeons, Ye Xiu also refused. He shook his head just like what Samsara's manager had done towards his proposal.

One was a manager, one was a pro player. Neither of them were stupid. Both of them knew that the value of dungeon materials and wild boss materials were on a completely different scale. Dungeon materials could be easily bought if one had money, but wild boss materials were difficult to buy even if

one had the money for it. This negotiation was different from before. Previously, Ye Xiu had something that Samsara needed, so he had the advantage. With the overall deal finished, small arguments over minor details wouldn't stop the deal from being renegotiated, so most parties would slowly discuss the following matters. Samsara didn't have the time though. After buying the method, they needed to immediately use it and upgrade their characters. They didn't have much time left until the playoffs, so the manager didn't dare delay any longer over small details.

From his observations, when Ye Xiu had rejected the dungeon materials, Ye Xiu had shook his head, but he hadn't been too resolute. So after talking about it for awhile, the two sides began figuring out how to trade the materials for money. They obviously wouldn't be going according to market price. Ye Xiu tried to lower the price, while Samsara's manager naturally wanted to raise the price. The manager talked about all sorts of troubles that Samsara was going through. He sounded as if they would be out on the streets if they went with Ye Xiu's prices.

Ye Xiu obviously wouldn't trust him. He hard-heartedly fought back, occasionally reminding the manager that Samsara was busy and didn't have time. If not, he would threaten the manager by asking about the storages for Tyranny, Blue Rain, Tiny Herb, etc and ask whether or not they might take the offer.

Samsara's manager listened to him. Ye Xiu was being so shameless! The two sides had already agreed on the deal, but they hadn't officially signed anything yet, so he was playing the back out card! Ye Xiu was saying it to his face too! Shouldn't he feel embarrassed!

However, Samsara's manager had a certain amount of confidence in this deal for materials. Don't look at how Ye Xiu was constantly telling them that they needed to hurry. The manager also knew that Ye Xiu was in a hurry too. Since he planned on building a team from scratch, he needed materials very badly. They wouldn't be able to enter the pro scene with a bunch of Purple and Orange equipment. Wild boss materials couldn't be bought, but researching self-made equipment also required lots of dungeon materials. Even though dungeon materials could be readily bought with money, Samsara's manager was certain that as long as they gave a price lower than the usual market price, Ye Xiu would be tempted.

The manager's analysis was correct. After going back and forth for awhile, Ye Xiu didn't continue to persist. He also knew that if he traded dungeon materials in this deal, he would be saving a lot of money in the future. As for whether or not these materials would have a lower value in the future, Ye Xiu didn't care. His job wasn't to invest in the material market. After taking these materials, he would be using them and he needed to use them immediately. There was no time to wait for the prices to rise or fall.

In the end, Ye Xiu and Samsara's manager agreed upon a trade of two million RMB for dungeon materials. Ye Xiu gave a call and had Wei Chen send them a copy of their needs, whether it was for his Death Hand or other self-made equipment requirements.

The copy that Wei Chen sent over also had wild boss materials, but Samsara wouldn't budge on this point. Ye Xiu could only erase them.

Because it was just for dungeon materials, the amount of materials traded for two million RMB wouldn't be a small amount. After talking about it for awhile, they finally reached a deal. The exact amount of money wasn't definite yet, but Ye Xiu had gathered together his requirements. After giving the list of materials over to Samsara's manager, the manager handed it over to the specialists, who gave an

estimate for the materials according to the manager's prices. After doing some rounding, they finalized the amount that they would receive for two million.

When Ye Xiu saw these huge quantities of materials being traded without Samsara even blinking an eye, Ye Xiu was inwardly surprised at Samsara's resources. Their explosive growth this season wasn't without reason.

The other details took another half day to finalize. That night, the two sides drew up a contract and signed their names. Once Samsara arranged to transfer over the advance, Ye Xiu finally relaxed. He downloaded the guide from his e-mail and handed it to Samsara.

"Tsk tsk tsk....." Samsara's manager personally inspected the goods to make sure that the quest list Ye Xiu had given them was the same as in this document. When he saw that they had spent twenty million for this document, the manager sighed repeatedly.

After inspecting the list, he had the specialists verify the content with the drop rate data that Ye Xiu had provided beforehand. This wasn't an easy task, but it was necessary. The contract had a stipulation, meaning that if the guide didn't match the drop rate data provided, Samsara had the right to adjust the price accordingly.

Because of this clause, Ye Xiu couldn't help but feel nervous, waiting for the confirmation. If Concealed Light had made a silly mistake and somehow messed up a digit or two, it could be troublesome, but when he thought of Concealed Light's diligence, he managed to calm himself down a bit.

This examination took place all night. Samsara's manager deserved to be in the gaming industry. He didn't have any problems staying up all night with Ye Xiu to watch over it.

Finally, at 4:37 AM, the data verification was completed. There were no mistakes. Samsara's manager shook Ye Xiu's hand. The largest deal in the history of Glory had officially concluded. It was only a pity that this deal wouldn't be announced to the public. From here on out, Samsara had full authority to do what they wanted with the guide. If Ye Xiu wanted to use it, he would need Samsara's permission too. Of course, Ye Xiu had guaranteed that it wouldn't restrict their team's strength. He had stressed this and Samsara also understood, so they didn't have any overly excessive demands. They just made sure that Ye Xiu would not be able to sell this method to anyone else.

"It's been a long day. Let's get some rest. Come over tomorrow afternoon. We should host a feast for you!" All of the issues had been resolved. Samsara's manager naturally loosened up. He didn't immediately kick Ye Xiu and instead maintained his cordiality.

"There's no need for that! I've got to hurry and return as well. I will have to come back anyways sooner or later." Ye Xiu said.

"Ha ha, that's true. I hope that time comes soon." Samsara's manager said.

"I'll see you then."

"You don't want to stay for dinner?"

"No need!" Ye Xiu waved his hands and left Samsara.

When he walked out of the elevator and turned around to look back. There were quite a few rooms still lit. Ye Xiu reckoned that Samsara would be staying up all night to upgrade their characters. When Samsara's players woke up, they would have characters with skill points unrivaled in the Alliance.

Seeing how Samsara was spending the night working, he guessed that knowledge of the guide wouldn't be passed down to the pro players. After all, pro players moved teams. Even if they signed a non-disclosure agreement, it was still another potential source of uncertainty. It would be better to simply keep the knowledge from spreading to as little people as possible. As for what Samsara was planning on doing with this in the future, Ye Xiu didn't know either, but he was certain that Samsara was well aware of the issues with this guide. The reason that they bought it out was for their goal of becoming champions. Ye Xiu didn't think that Samsara would use this guide as a money-making tool.

Only studios would think of using it for profit. The Clubs were at the top in terms of making money. Those below them were making far less too.

A player or character transfer easily went into the millions and with how fast the scene was growing, it wouldn't be long until it broke into the tens of millions. The characters in the Alliance relied on the existence of the game, but because of the Alliance, the value of these characters far surpassed those of normal game accounts. The Glory Alliance was a brand name even higher than the game itself.

When Ye Xiu returned to the hotel, he bought a plane ticket home. That night, Ye Xiu returned to Happy Internet Cafe. He went to the practice room and saw everyone gathered there. Seeing Ye Xiu return, everyone quieted down.

"How much money did we get!" Wei Chen's voice was dry and rough. Ye Xiu had been in touch with them these past two days. They obviously wanted to know the results, but Ye Xiu wouldn't tell them. This was because the deal hadn't been completely closed yet, so Ye Xiu didn't want to get their hopes up. In order to prevent them from having their worlds turn from heaven to hell, Ye Xiu had kept it a secret. He would finally reveal the price to them now.

Chapter 637: A Large Sum of Money

(TL: Money is in RMB. 6.9 RMB : 1 USD)

The practice room was silent. No one ever thought that they could ever have too much money, even someone like Steamed Bun.

Everyone looked nervously at Ye Xiu in anticipation. Ye Xiu slowly poured himself a cup of water to drink, took a sip, then grabbed a cigarette from his pocket and slowly lit it.....

"If you don't spit out the answer, I'm going to kill you!" Wei Chen had been anxious all day. When Ye Xiu finally returned, he kept on stalling. How could Wei Chen not be furious?

"2 million worth in materials." Ye Xiu calmly answered.

"2 million..... materials?" Wei Chen's face twisted in disgust. To put it plainly, did Ye Xiu even have the right to split the earnings? Of course not. This was considered Wei Chen's goods. Concealed Light would have a much greater split of the earnings than Ye Xiu. All Ye Xiu did was run errands. It would be nice of

Wei Chen to even give him a share. Wei Chen obviously wasn't planning on keeping the money for himself. However, it seemed like Ye Xiu only cared about himself and traded his years of effort for a bunch of materials. It was clearly for the team to use, but Wei Chen still didn't feel comfortable.

Even though Ye Xiu had contacted him asking about what materials he needed, he had expected something like this, but he didn't think Ye Xiu would be so aggressive. 2 million! In materials.....

Even Chen Guo felt Ye Xiu had been too excessive, when she heard Ye Xiu's response. This guy seemed to take Wei Chen's things as his own and only thought about his own interests! If it was just a small amount, it didn't matter, but this was 2 million they were talking about!

But things had already gotten to this point. Wei Chen was a grand person. Two million? In the end, he laughed: "Ha, that much materials should be more than enough for us to use."

"Enough my ass. They're all dungeon materials. They refused to give us any wild boss materials." Ye Xiu said.

"F*ck! Just because they won't give any, doesn't mean they won't sell any. What the f*ck were you doing!!" Wei Chen heard this, he had a hard time enduring it any longer. They spent two million, but didn't even get any of the materials he urgently needed. Ye Xiu had done a real sh*t job this time.

"You you you..... sigh....." What could he do though? Wei Chen could only sigh. He had given Ye Xiu full authority to settle this deal and he was very unhappy with the results, but he felt bad saying anything. In the end, he could only sigh with regret.

Chen Guo couldn't stand it any longer and was ready to ask a few questions. Was he planning on selling these materials for money? He wasn't going to use all of the materials, right? Even though, Chen Guo didn't call Ye Xiu out for being so despicable, she didn't feel happy either at only getting materials.

"Apart from materials, they're also paying us six million in advance." Ye Xiu said indifferently.

"What?" Wei Chen had been shaken up by the results, but after hearing this piece of news, he suddenly became excited again.

Chen Guo, who had also been about to say something, froze. She heard it clearly and didn't need Ye Xiu to repeat it. She suddenly felt gratified. Ye Xiu hadn't just gotten materials. Six million!

"You really are quite capable!!!" Wei Chen grinned widely and gave Ye Xiu a strong slap on the back.

At this moment, Tang Rou noticed the words that Ye Xiu had specifically used: "Six million is just the advance?"

Wei Chen stared blankly. Six million was already enough to make his head spin. There was still more to it? Wei Chen stumbled backwards and held himself up using the table. He was afraid he would faint.

"Yeah. There's also another 12 million that will be paid monthly over the next year. That's it." Ye Xiu finally took out the contract. Wei Chen grabbed it and flipped through it madly. He didn't care about all the clauses and what not. He just kept on flipping it, while mumbling: "Where where? Where does it talk about the money?"

Wei Chen wanted to verify that this number was correct.

Ye Xiu had drawn up the contract line by line with Samsara, so he was obviously very familiar with it. He went over and found the line talking about the payment. Wei Chen's eyes sparkled, when he saw the startling number. He yelled out: "Oh my god. F*ck me." and went back to collapse in his seat.

Chen Guo, Tang Rou, and even Steamed Bun were shocked.

Two million in materials, six million down payment, and another twelve million paid over the coming year. The total value was twenty million! They knew that that the guide would be bought for a considerable amount of money, but who would have thought that it would be such a large amount? Chen Guo kept up with the competitive scene and had previously been an Excellent Era fan. Sun Xiang's transfer for seven million had been the highest ever seen in Glory, but now, this guide was worth almost three times as much as a God. Chen Guo couldn't help but raise her eyebrows. In any case, as long as it was better than Excellent Era, Chen Guo would be happy. A bigger number making her happy was a mark of her mentality as a fan. As a team manager, whether it was spending or earning money, it was all a business strategy. There was nothing to be so excited about.

"In two days, the down payment should arrive. Starting from next month, they'll be paying us one million every month. The money will be transferred directly to your bank account. Okay, have you got any more questions?" Ye Xiu said.

"Ha ha ha ha ha ha ha ha!" Wei Chen laughed wildly as he continually patted Ye Xiu's shoulder.

"This guy's already gone crazy." Ye Xiu hastily ran away.

Chen Guo felt gratified too. Such an insane deal was definitely something to be satisfied with. As for how Wei Chen was planning on splitting the money, no one had the right to ask. If he wanted to invest in the team, that would be obviously be great. If he didn't want to, they didn't have any right to say anything. Chen Guo could only remind him that he shouldn't forget about Concealed Light! If Concealed Light hadn't helped, would they have been able to get this deal?

Ye Xiu also agreed. If they didn't have Concealed Light's precise drop rate data, even selling it would have been an issue in and of itself. After all, Wei Chen's previous data had been a complete mess. If they had given it to Samsara to look at, Samsara would ask what the drop rate was and he wouldn't even be able to give a definite answer. When Samsara had inspected the goods for their exact value, if it was Wei Chen's original data, it wouldn't even be possible to test it.

If Samsara couldn't verify the value, it meant that there was an unknown risk and the price would certainly be much much lower.

"Of course." Wei Chen showed his spirit of loyalty. Even though he acted shameless, he would never act in such a way for important business.

Twenty million! Concealed Light wasn't an internationally-renowned mathematician, why would he refuse? Wei Chen messaged Concealed Light in the group chat. At this moment, Steamed Bun came over, sized up Wei Chen, and commented: "Who would have thought Old Wei was so smart! To think you could casually earn so much money."

"Ha ha ha ha, ha ha ha ha." Wei Chen laughed madly.

"In the future, I won't fight over who will pay the bill." Steamed Bun expressed.

“Who’s going to fight for it. I’ll pay!” Wei Chen replied magnanimously.

At this moment, Concealed Light replied. He saw that it wasn’t Ye Xiu, but another team member. Concealed Light was surprised and carefully greeted Wei Chen.

“Scientist! Thank you very much! That guide sold for 20 million! Tell me! How much do you want?” Wei Chen said.

“Oh? That much! Amazing!” Concealed Light replied. Because they were talking online, they couldn’t tell if he was excited or not from his words.

“Without you, we wouldn’t have gotten so much.” Wei Chen said.

“No way. I didn’t do anything. I just organized everything.” Concealed Light said.

The two talked for awhile, but it seemed like Concealed Light didn’t care about the twenty million and insisted that he didn’t contribute anything to the guide, so he didn’t have the right to any of the money.

After talking back and forth, Concealed Light refused to budge. Wei Chen couldn’t do anything about it. He wanted to give Concealed Light money, shouldn’t that be an easy thing to do? It was a huge number like twenty million too. Even if it was just one percent, two hundred thousand was still a good amount of money.

“This scientist is so enlightened……” Wei Chen couldn’t persuade Concealed Light. Later, Concealed Light explained that he should tell his professor about it and see what his professor said.

No one had any objections, of course. Soon afterwards, Concealed Light went offline.

That night, Wei Chen didn’t go back to the apartments to rest. He stayed up all night in the practice room. He was too excited to sleep.

The next day, Concealed Light came back. He had asked Professor Zhang, who said he didn’t need any money. He didn’t seem to care that he had helped them earn such a huge sum of money. He just hoped that Wei Chen would use this money appropriately.

“Use it appropriately……” Wei Chen studied Professor Zhang’s words and asked everyone: “Is he telling me to use it to help run the team?”

F*ck! There was no saving him. Professor Zhang clearly wasn’t talking about funding a professional gaming team, when he said to use it appropriately.

“Innovation!”

“The advancement of mankind!”

Everyone reminded him that this was what Professor Zhang meant.

Wei Chen heard their responses and froze. He never imagined that he would ever do anything related to “innovation” or “the advancement of mankind”. How was he supposed to do that? Wei Chen felt vexed. It seemed like he was about to have another night of insomnia. Ye Xiu sighed: “Don’t think about it from a scholar’s perspective. Just do what you think is appropriate! He just hopes that you don’t waste your money on worthless things.”

Chapter 638: Guarding Against the Unexpected

Wei Chen glanced at Ye Xiu. Wasn't Ye Xiu basically telling him to use the money to finance the team? How shameless, but then again, he would just be making a fool of himself if he attempted to get into things like "innovation" or "the advancement of humanity". Helping the team had been his original intention all along. This time, he would be financing his dream, so Wei Chen would happily do so.

"Ahem, we need to hurry and improve the strength of our characters right now." Wei Chen cleared his throat and spoke. With the money in his pockets, his tone of voice became much brighter. He acted like he was some great sage, completely different from his usual hoodlum self.

"Oh, how do you say we improve them?" Ye Xiu asked.

"Equipment. What else?" Wei Chen said.

"Doesn't that require materials? Two million worth of materials isn't enough for you?" Ye Xiu asked. Such a large amount of dungeon materials was more than enough for their team to use. They hadn't received these materials yet though because they were still individual players in the Heavenly Domain. They didn't even have the ability to receive these materials. The materials in Samsara were stored in their guild storage, not carried by individual characters. All of these dungeon materials were more than enough to use for improving their current equipment.

"You didn't get any wild boss materials. What's the point?" Wei Chen hadn't slept last night. He had carefully looked over the contract. There wasn't anything rare in those two million worth of materials. For self-made equipment, the higher the level, the more stringent the requirement for the materials would be. Even if one could find dungeon materials to replace the rarer materials, the creator wouldn't be happy to do so. Different materials might be able to form a self-made equipment, but how much would it affect its stats?

The shape of the equipment was crucial, but the stats were the most important. It's similar to building a PC. The PC will have a CPU, RAM, hard disk, video graphics card, but there were differences in quality. A PC made with higher-end components would certainly perform better than one with lower-end components. Self-made equipment strived for the best stats. If one used low-grade materials to create a piece of equipment with the stats of an Orange equipment, what was the point?

Using these materials to replace higher-end material was just a way to save on costs, but some things just couldn't be replaced. And this was just based on the upgrade process alone. When the equipment needed to be upgraded to Level 70, if the conditions permitted it, it was best to completely use uncommon materials to create the equipment. Only then would the stats be at the peak.

If one didn't use uncommon materials, the equipment created wouldn't be considered truly self-made equipment.

"Can you get uncommon materials even if you have money?" Ye Xiu asked in return.

Wei Chen couldn't answer him. There were very very few uncommon materials amongst the normal player base. Even studios couldn't compete with the Clubs. Uncommon materials were completely monopolized by Clubs, and as a core component of self-made equipment, as long as the Club wasn't

about to go bankrupt, no Club would ever sell them. Even if they weren't going to use the material, they could still use it to trade for other uncommon materials.

When a team dissolved, their storage would be thoroughly cleaned out. However, these sort of dissolved guilds wouldn't have many materials to begin with anyways. In addition, the other Clubs would have swarmed over to buy the materials first. Ye Xiu and the others would never even get the chance to buy them.

They had money, but this money couldn't be used to buy uncommon materials. Of course, if you put up a high enough price like ten million for material, no Club would refuse, but who would be so wasteful?

Their need for dungeon materials had been met, but the crucial uncommon material still had to be obtained through the game.

"Little Tang, Steamed Bun, try and enter the Heavenly Domain as soon as you can. Once you do that, finish the rest of those quests." Ye Xiu said.

"What? Are you afraid Samsara is going to pull some sort of trick?" Wei Chen noticed.

"Just in case!" Ye Xiu said.

"Didn't you say that, with a foundation like Samsara's, the game company won't be able to figure out the reason?" Chen Guo said.

"But what if they intentionally revealed it to the game company to establish their advantage?" Ye Xiu said.

Everyone was startled.

"For Samsara, the most important thing is to maintain their advantage over all the other teams. They aren't going to use the guide to make money, so once they use it, they'll throw it away. That would be the safest way to ensure they maintain their advantage. From then on, no one else will have this guide to improve their skill points and they would keep their advantage in skill points until who knows how long." Ye Xiu said.

"Even though they have restrictions set in the contract, this sort of thing isn't too easy to control, so just in case, we should hurry and get as many of those skill points as we can." Ye Xiu said.

"Why didn't you say so earlier!" Chen Guo panicked and hastily urged Tang Rou and Steamed Bun to step it up.

Tang Rou and Steamed Bun weren't max leveled yet, but with their skill, they shouldn't have any difficulty finishing the Heavenly Domain Challenge. After all, their skill far surpassed normal players. Even if they somehow weren't able to complete it, wasn't Ye Xiu there? He could finish it at Level 50 and he wouldn't have any problems finishing it for them if they were incapable.

When the two heard Ye Xiu's words, they also began to hurry.

Tang Rou had taken the quest chain at Level 50, but she had trouble completing it at that time, so she decided to put it on hold. Afterwards, as she leveled up, she went back to the quest chain and had finished the majority of it already. Steamed Bun hadn't received the quest originally, but when she saw

that Tang Rou was already doing it before she was Level 70, he also learned from her and occasionally completed parts of the quest chain. However, Steamed Bun's progress wasn't as smooth as Tang Rou's. In a few places that required precision, it wasn't that Steamed Bun couldn't do it, but rather, he always wanted to try to succeed in some sort of weird way, which always resulted in failure.

As a result, Ye Xiu supervised and urged Steamed Bun to hurry and finish the quest chain.

Tang Rou focused and finished the quest chain that day. Following after Ye Xiu's Lord Grim and Qiao Yifan's One Inch Ash, there were now three characters from the tenth server in the Heavenly Domain.

Afterwards, she went to do the skill point quests that she hadn't done yet in the Heavenly Domain. After receiving a quest, she completed it and received a skill book, which meant that Samsara hadn't pulled a dirty trick just yet. It had only been a day or two. No matter how fast Samsara was, they couldn't be that fast.

The game company might not decide to change the quests, even after knowing about this skill point farming method. Let alone Samsara, even the Alliance could only communicate with the game company. They didn't have any way of forcing them to do anything if they didn't want to do it. More often than not, the Alliance had to adapt to whatever changes the game made.

That night, another 5000 skill point character was birthed from Happy Internet Cafe. According to Concealed Light's data, of the 1650 skill points possible, a character would get around 965 skill points on average.

From this number, Ye Xiu's and Tang Rou's luck were already extremely good. They hadn't even finished all of the quests yet and they already received 1000 skill points.

Wei Chen didn't stay idle. His Windward Formation had finished all of those quests, but didn't he still have a Warlock account on hand?

However, this account had been obtained along with Unrivaled Super Hottie when Ye Xiu won the wager. The skill points were very average, 4210 points. Wei Chen had run quests all night. Quests already completed couldn't be done again. In the end, he ended up with a total of 4480 skill points.....

This was pretty good for normal players, but for them, Wei Chen's efforts were for nothing.

"What do I do? Do I buy a hundred Warlock accounts?" Wei Chen was starting to panic. Windward Formation had 4920 skill points, but it wasn't good enough! Now that he was rich, he started with an estimate of a hundred accounts.

"A hundred? A thousand wouldn't even be enough. These are normal accounts. Do you think all of them have the same base stats as a pro characters?" Ye Xiu said.

"It looks like I'll have to specially order a few, but what if the accounts come out and the quests are wasted?" Wei Chen was worried.

"4920 skill points isn't bad. Even Samsara won't have all of their characters maxed with 5000 skill points." Ye Xiu said.

"No, I refuse. Let me think." Wei Chen hadn't slept the previous night and had been focusing hard the entire day, but he was still full of energy!

Tang Rou was done and it was just a matter of time before Steamed Bun finished as well, but there was also Concealed Light and Little Cold Hands.

Concealed Light's issue lay in his mechanics. He wouldn't be able to reach the Heavenly Domain in a short amount of time either. There were also a few places in the guide, which required a certain level of mechanics too. It would be a waste if Concealed Light didn't get the same treatment. With no other choice, Ye Xiu took Concealed Light's account card and completed it for him.

As for Little Cold Hands, they had only been in touch with him for a short amount of time. The trust between them was still extremely limited, so he didn't feel confident in giving showing the guide over to Little Cold Hands. Even more so, Little Cold Hands was an old account. If he had finished all of the quests before, he wouldn't be able to get receive any skill points. Would his account be like Wei Chen's or Chen Guo's accounts and only be able to get around max out at 4500 skill points? That was far from being good enough to compete with the pros.

Just thinking about it wouldn't get anything done. Ye Xiu contacted Little Cold Hands on QQ.

Little Cold Hands had 4170 skill points. As expected, it was only a normal account. As for which quests he had done before, Little Cold Hands was an account that had been gifted to him, so he didn't know either. With no other choice, Ye Xiu gave the handed over a list of quests to him to and have him check which quests he had done before. If he hadn't, then he shouldn't touch them for now.

"It's very important. Please hurry and check." Ye Xiu said.

"What's so special about these quests?" Little Cold Hands wasn't like Steamed Bun, who wouldn't think to ask before doing something.

"It has to do with improving your character's strength, but it requires a special method, so I need to make sure your character hasn't done all of these quests already." Ye Xiu explained.

Chapter 639: Playoffs

"By improving strength, are you referring to skill books?" As expected, Little Cold Hands wasn't Steamed Bun. It wasn't hard to arrive at this answer. He was a max leveled character. If he wanted to strengthen his character, there were only two ways: skill points and equipment. Ye Xiu had just asked him about his character's skill points and now, he wanted him to do some seemingly random quests. It was only to be expected that he would put two and two together.

"Yes. First, verify which quests you've already completed." Ye Xiu didn't hide it. Even though they weren't too familiar with one another, Little Cold Hands would still be a member of their future team. It wouldn't be good to treat him like a complete outsider.

"Sure, give me a moment to check." Little Cold Hands replied.

As a result, the team began to hurry and improve their skill points as if they were participating in the upcoming playoffs as well. After Little Cold Hands circled around the Heavenly Domain and the normal server, he reported the results to Ye Xiu. His luck was quite good. Little Cold Hands hadn't done many of the quests yet. Of the total 1650 skill points possible, he still had 1220 skill points that he could

potentially obtain. His character only needed 830 skill points to max out, so if his luck was good, he just might be able to do it.

This type of normal account made Chen Guo very envious. Her Chasing Haze had completed most of these quests already, so she hadn't gained much from the guide. However, Chen Guo had created a new account in the new server earlier and made sure to leave all of these quests open, but with the quest guide being bought out by Samsara, by the time her new Chasing Haze reached the Heavenly Domain, it was hard to say if she would still be able to utilize the guide.

Chen Guo was upset. She only regretted that she hadn't spent enough time on the new server account to level this account faster.

"That's pretty good. You have a lot of quests still available. If it's okay with you, could you leave this account with me? I'll help you finish these quests." Ye Xiu said.

"I can't do them myself?"

"It requires a special method." Ye Xiu said.

Little Cold Hands didn't ask any further questions. Ye Xiu had expected this to happen because the other side was an astute person, who had certainly realized that this method couldn't easily be given away. Little Cold Hands wasn't just astute either. He was also smart. Ye Xiu trusted that Little Cold Hands wouldn't blame him for not giving him the guide to see. The question was whether or not Little Cold Hands was willing to entrust him with his own account. It had to be known that this guy had initially suspected Ye Xiu of trying to swindle him. Ye Xiu hadn't asked him for anything like a cash deposit, but the first thing he asked him to do was send over his account card. It seemed very much like a scam.

"Are you in a hurry?" Sure enough, Little Cold Hands was a bit hesitant.

"The faster the better." Ye Xiu replied.

"Uh....." Little Cold Hands left this message and then became silent.

The conversation had been conducted in the group chat, so everyone else saw it too. Apart from Steamed Bun, everyone could tell Little Cold Hand's misgivings. Thus, Wei Chen suddenly spoke impatiently: "Stop wasting time! How much could your account possibly be worth? I'll give you a down payment."

Wei Chen's wealth was considerable right now, and he had no qualms using it.

"Oh, if that's the case, how about 2000!" Little Cold Hands actually gave a number. His account was very average, but it was still a member of Tyrannical Ambition. Amidst the normal playerbase, it wouldn't be considered too bad.

"F*ck, you actually dared!" Wei Chen was surprised.

"What?" Little Cold Hands asked in doubt.

Wei Chen was speechless. When he said he would give a down payment, according to Wei Chen's understanding, the other side would usually be too embarrassed to ask for the money and would just

happily send over the account card. It turns out he had met someone on a completely different wavelength than himself. The other side immediately answered back and actually gave a price.

But since things had already reached such a stage, Wei Chen felt awkward, but he couldn't back out, could he? Plus, after having received 20 million, 2000 was nothing to him.

"Alright, send me your bank account info." Wei Chen didn't say anything more.

Little Cold Hands didn't hesitate and sent over his bank account info.

"Check your account tomorrow." Wei Chen coldly said and turned his head towards Ye Xiu: "I don't like this guy."

Not many people would like what Little Cold Hands had just done. Even Chen Guo wasn't happy. Although they didn't trust Little Cold Hands and didn't send him a copy of the guide, the difference between their exchanges were completely different. Chen Guo was certain that if it were anyone else in Little Cold Hand's position, they wouldn't have done the same thing that Little Cold Hands had done.

Thinking about it in this way, Chen Guo felt more comfortable looking at Little Cold Hands with disdain and began expressing her discontent with Wei Chen.

In any case, they were now busy attending to improving these characters. As the days passed, the start of the playoffs finally arrived.

Blue Rain, Samsara, Tiny Herb, Tyranny, Misty Rain, Void, Thunderclap, 301. These were their final placings in the regular season. The seedings for the playoffs were decided by these placings: 1st vs 8th, 2nd vs 7th, 3rd vs 6th, 4th vs 5th.

This was also the order of the matches. Blue Rain versus 301. Samsara versus Thunderclap. Tiny Herb versus Void. Tyranny versus Misty Rain.

Four matches would be conducted across the span of four days. To make it easier to stream the matches, the matches would take place separate from one another. The matches would cycle between the home arenas of the the two teams to give equal opportunities for each team to share the profit for the revenue generated by playoff tickets.

Thus, the first round of the playoffs would take eight days total. In the second round, the four teams that won would move on and finish another four matches in four days. The finals would be two matches over four days as well. Because the matches would take place at different arenas, the players had to move around, so they didn't want them to become too tired.

The competition format was the same as before: an individual competition, group competition, and a team competition. The total points in the home and away matches would be added up. Because there had to be a winner, when totaling up the points, there would be a few subtle differences than they had in calculations during the regular season.

The start of the playoffs received a large amount of attention from Glory players, so it usually started on a Saturday, but because many watched the matches, many of them would hold off on playing the game during that time, which affected the number of people playing the game.

For the match on the first day, Blue Rain versus 301, everything went as expected. Blue Rain had a huge lead. With such a huge gap in skill and placing, it was unrealistic for 301 to catch up to Blue Rain in their own home arena. Blue Rain's performance immediately drew comments such as "killed the competition". Such a quick victory made it seem like the playoffs would not be suspenseful, making people looking for a profit not as happy, but for the team, having such a large lead early on was a good thing.

For the match on the second day, Samsara versus Thunderclap, a lot of people were looking for an upset. Samsara had gained more and more momentum as the season went on. When the playoffs arrived, Samsara was believed to have the greatest chances of winning. Naturally, a lot of people didn't want this to happen and were waiting to see them fail. Despite not having an incredible ace player, but one of the Master Tacticians, Xiao Shiqin, leading them instead, Team Thunderclap was often a team that gave powerhouses a lot of trouble.

But the results made them disappointed. Samsara maintained their usual dominance after the All Star Weekend and crushed Team Thunderclap in their home arena. This result made many surprised. Even if Thunderclap lost, with Xiao Shiqin's tactics, they shouldn't have lost so badly.

Everyone in Happy Internet Cafe paid more attention to this match than the first match. They naturally wanted to see how much of a difference the skill points would make and the results didn't disappoint them.

"What a pity. If they didn't have those skill points, Thunderclap wouldn't have lost so badly." Ye Xiu hit the nail on the head. Team Thunderclap often lacked the strength to dominate opponents, so they usually won through meticulously studying their opponents and finding a strategy to win. As a result, no one ever underestimated Thunderclap. However this time, Samsara had sudden improvement in skill points. This type of change significantly impacted Thunderclap's plans. As expected, Thunderclap appeared to be underprepared and their tactics didn't seem to be on point. In reality, it was impossible for their tactics to be on point because the data and information used by Xiao Shiqin to form the strategy were all wrong.

No one but insiders would realize this point.

After this match, the only person who would realize this point would be Xiao Shiqin himself. In the press conference afterwards, he talked about how the other side had some unexpected improvements. As for what these improvements were, Xiao Shiqin probably had a few rough estimates, but he didn't say anything. For the next match, Xiao Shiqin said a few words that could be regarded as half-hearted.

For the match on the third day, the match between Tiny Herb and Void was actually very intense. The synergy between the Ghostblade duo of Team Void was immaculate. When Ye Qiu retired this season, the two had received the Best Partner reward in the regular season. In the end, Team Void and the previous champions Team Tiny Herb fought an even match, but despite Team Void having the home field advantage, Team Void was still on the losing side.

However, the most intense match would be between Tyranny and Misty Rain. The two teams fought for the longest. In the end, Misty Rain relied on their home field advantage to gather more points. Their second match would only be more intense. After Ye Xiu watched this match, he was quite baffled.

“Han Wenqing isn’t performing too well.....” His long-time rival unexpectedly made him feel like he was a stranger.

Chapter 640: You Can See That Too!

“Really?” Wei Chen heard Ye Xiu’s remark and asked.

Han Wenqing had been playing since the beginning of the professional scene, so Wei Chen obviously knew him. They had fought against each other many a time before, but it had been many years since then and no matter how deep of an impression he had of him, there was no way it could compare to the deep rivalry that existed between Ye Xiu and Han Wenqing. Ye Xiu had noticed a problem, but he hadn’t noticed anything wrong at all. In his eyes, the two sides had fought intensely. It was a very high skill match and he hadn’t seen any issues with Tyranny’s ace player, Han Wenqing.

“Uh, I guess he’s not playing badly, but something doesn’t feel right!” Ye Xiu said.

“What doesn’t feel right?” Wei Chen immediately asked. He wasn’t nervous for no reason. As a retired pro player, his reaction speed and hand speed was declining, but he was certainly still at a pro level in terms of experience, knowledge, and perceptiveness.

“I can’t say exactly right now.....” Ye Xiu furrowed his brow and shook his head.

Happy Internet Cafe would, without question, stream the playoffs, but they were currently watching it in the practice room. Because of their differences in skill levels, their discussions were at a different level. Ye Xiu and Wei Chen gave their opinions on the matches. Chen Guo knew a bit more about the game, so she could understand some of what they were saying. As for Tang Rou and Steamed Bun, they had only played for several months already, but weren’t complete noobs anymore. However, if they had to discuss the very fine details of the match, the two probably wouldn’t be able to keep up.

The two were at a complete loss when Ye Xiu said that something was wrong with Han Wenqing. Both of them looked at Ye Xiu, waiting for him to continue.

Ye Xiu didn’t say anything further though. The stream was already showing the post-match interview. Tyranny and Misty Rain hadn’t made any major mistakes. Both teams had gone all out that match and neither team would feel too regretful if they lost. The interviewed players practically said the same thing. They expressed their confidence in their respective teams, praised their opponents, and spoke of their faith in being able to win the next match, etc.

Tyranny’s captain Han Wenqing naturally participated in the interview. Because Ye Xiu had specially called him out, everyone else paid close attention to what he said and also stared at his facial expressions. However, everything seemed to be normal. It didn’t look like there was anything abnormal with Han Wenqing’s condition. When the interview ended and the stream went offline, everyone turned to look at Ye Xiu, waiting for him to say something.

Ye Xiu only shook his head and returned to his computer.

Everyone else returned to their seats too. Wei Chen went back to his seat and saw that Ye Xiu still seemed to be thinking hard. He didn’t bother him and handed him a cigarette instead.

Ye Xiu received it and quietly lit it. He still didn't say anything. He opened up a web browser and typed in a few words.

Wei Chen watched from over his shoulder and saw that it was a site for downloading VODs. It seemed like Ye Xiu was planning on studying the match. However, since the match just ended, it would take some time before it would be uploaded. Seeing that it couldn't be downloaded yet, Ye Xiu opened up a folder and began looking through Tyranny's previous matches.

He watched match after match, closely spectating Han Wenqing's Desert Smoke. Ye Xiu gradually began to relax. Soon afterwards, he went back to the site and downloaded the most recent match.

Wei Chen had been paying attention to Ye Xiu's actions the entire time, so when he saw the change in expression, he asked: "Did you figure it out?"

"Pretty much!" Ye Xiu replied.

Chen Guo went over and asked: "What's the situation?"

"He's changing." Ye Xiu said.

"Changing?"

"Yeah, he's changing his habits and Striker movements. He's researching a new style of playing his class." Ye Xiu said.

"He really refuses to give up!" Wei Chen sighed.

Creating a new style wasn't an easy task. Even though every few levels brought new skills or new equipment, there was always a certain amount of variance, but the change from these new skills or equipment could only be considered adjustments. They wouldn't cause a player to significantly change his or her playstyle. The classes in Glory were very balanced, so updates didn't bring much change to a class' core.

If Ye Xiu said someone of Han Wenqing's caliber was researching a new playstyle, it wasn't going to be just a simple numbers adjustment. A slight adjustment like that wasn't anything difficult for a pro player to adapt to. It wouldn't be something that Ye Xiu would be so surprised about either.

Han Wenqing was clearly trying to do something completely different.

Soon afterwards, Ye Xiu finished downloading the VOD. Ye Xiu immediately replayed it. Wei Chen also watched. Even though Tang Rou and Steamed Bun were interested, it wasn't something they would be able to comprehend.

To put it plainly, pro players specialized in PvP. The biggest difference between PvP and PvE was how deep one's understanding of all the classes were, whether it was your class or any other class. What skills, combos, playstyles, strategy, etc. were all something that pro players needed to know very thoroughly. Tang Rou and Steamed Bun were quite familiar with their respective classes, but their understanding of other classes was still limited. Let alone someone trying to create a new playstyle, let alone them, even Chen Guo wouldn't be able to say much.

Sure enough, Chen Guo was also at a complete loss when Ye Xiu paused and commented on a segment, but this time, she felt gratified that even Wei Chen was at a loss too.

“See, here.” After watching several of Desert Smoke’s matches, Ye Xiu had grasped the general line of thinking and pointed out the changes in his playstyle: “If this had happened in the past, he would have most likely stepped forward and began pushing forward using Reinforced Iron Bones or jumped backwards and sent a Whirlwind Kick back. Instead, he stepped sideways and used a Collapsing Fist. It seems like he plans on initiating with an Empty-Handed Block. I’ve never seen him do something like that before.”

“Really?” Wei Chen was really at a loss because Ye Xiu’s comment had been too detailed and random. Every player would react differently depending on each situation. How could Ye Xiu guess all of that?

“Over here too.” Not waiting for Wei Chen to understand, Ye Xiu pointed at another place: “Here. Don’t you think this Dual Tiger Fists is too sudden?”

“Really? I feel like it’s a good choice.....” Wei Chen continued to be at a loss.

The screen was currently playing the most recent match between Misty Rain and Tyranny. Two melee characters closed in under the protection of the bombardment by Chu Yunxiu’s Windy Rain. However, Desert Smoke closed in on them faster and sent the two flying away with a Dual Tiger Fists.

“Cloud Body Dual Tiger Fists. Isn’t that a common combo?” Wei Chen said. Cloud Body was a movement skill for Strikers. Cloud Body followed by Dual Tiger Fists was called Cloud Body Dual Tiger Fists. It was one of the most commonly used Striker combos.

“Cloud Body was used a bit later, but Dual Tiger Fists was used a bit earlier.” Ye Xiu said.

“.....” Wei Chen rewatched the segment twice and then gave up :”Okay, who else here actually sees that?”

Wei Chen looked towards Chen Guo, who shook her head too. Cloud Body Dual Tiger Fists was a common combo that she also knew about, but everyone used it slightly differently. Han Wenqing’s usage of the combo seemed to have a good effect, but she couldn’t see anything weird about it.

“If it was before, he would have never played like this.” Ye Xiu said.

“How did he do it before?” Wei Chen asked.

“Is it better or worse now?” Chen Guo asked.

Ye Xiu only shook his head: “I can’t say. It seems like he’s still figuring it out too.”

Ye Xiu continued to watch and found several other segments to talk about, but Wei Chen and Chen Guo were completely at a loss. They listened and listened and got a general understanding of the changes. Han Wenqing’s changes were in the small details. Some of the places were just his intentions, but Ye Xiu could actually see through these intentions and analyze them.

“He’s a bit late here.....”

“That’s not something he would have done in the past.....”

“He’s probably thinking of.....”

In the end, Chen Guo couldn’t help but feel moved after hearing Ye Xiu come to these conclusions: “The person who understands you the best is your enemy. This saying really isn’t wrong.”

“Not wrong at all.” Wei Chen nodded his head. He wasn’t nervous anymore. Not being able to see what Ye Xiu was seeing wasn’t an issue with his skill level, but rather his understanding of Han Wenqing himself. Ye Xiu was also nicknamed Glory’s Encyclopedia and he probably had a better understanding of the various classes, apart from Warlocks, than Wei Chen.

And from the sounds of it, Han Wenqing’s new playstyle wasn’t something at a fundamental level. If not, a new skill combo would have easily been noticed by any experienced player, let alone a pro, but for these minute changes, there were very few people besides Ye Xiu who would notice them. At the post-match interview, Misty Rain’s players never mentioned this change. It meant that Han Wenqing was still in the midst of changing it!

Once he figured this out, Wei Chen didn’t want to watch any further. He patted Ye Xiu and said: “You should have Little Tang and Steamed Bun listen to your chatter. It’ll definitely increase their understanding of Strikers.”

“Mm, those two need to improve in this area.” Ye Xiu heard his advice and nodded his head.