

Avatar 651

Chapter 651: Samsara's Teamwork

Troubling Rain had disappeared!!

The first one to want to cry was the cameraman! The cameraman had the ability to focus on a single character, but from a bird's eye view, while the other four Team Blue Rain players could easily be seen amidst the grass blowing in the wind, only Huang Shaotian's Troubling Rain was nowhere to be found. When did he stray off from the rest of the team? No one had noticed it.

Fortunately, this sort of problem could easily be solved. The cameraman immediately switched to Troubling Rain's first person point of view. His location and movements could be discerned from his surroundings.

The camera zoomed out, zoomed out, zoomed out, and then Troubling Rain disappeared once again.

The commentator followed up with the prompt. He could only brace himself and say: "Everyone, look. Huang Shaotian's Troubling Rain is currently moving around, hidden in the grass. It isn't easy to see him. Instead, pay attention to the tracks left behind in the grass."

The commentator was just spouting nonsense. When the cameraman zoomed out, it was impossible to see where Troubling Rain was actually located. That was the only thing he could say.

Tracks left behind? The spectators looked at the screen to search for them. Those who couldn't see it would say "Oh, I see it! Over there, over there." If not, wouldn't it seem like they weren't good enough to notice?

Experienced players like Ye Xiu and Wei Chen were actually able to grasp Troubling Rain's movements from the minute traces left behind in the grass. However, these traces immediately disappeared from the screen because the cameraman was randomly moving it around. The two of them realized that the cameraman had no idea what he was doing and was just pretending that he did.

The cameraman obviously couldn't keep on pretending he couldn't find these tracks, so he began shifting to other points of views, from an overall perspective to different individual perspectives. It gave off the feeling that a decisive battle was approaching.

Finally, one side made the first offensive move!

"Great Gunner, I'm behind you!" A bunch of words suddenly appeared in all chat. The person speaking was Troubling Rain!

In Glory's eight season finals, the first attack had been Huang Shaotian's trash talk. For people, who loathed superfluous words, it was quite a disappointing opening.

The cameraman immediately switched to Huang Shaotian's target: Zhou Zekai's Great Gunner, Cloud Piercer.

Cloud Piercer didn't have any intentions on turning around. He simple flung a grenade behind him.

Whether Huang Shaotian was telling the truth or not, Zhou Zekai probably decided it would be best to defend himself just in case. The explosion from his grenade was the first sound of the entire match.

'Uh oh, I've been hit.'" Another string of words popped up in all chat.

"F*ck, just fight already! Why do you have to talk so much!!" The players hadn't even reacted yet, but the commentator was already starting to become impatient. Of course, the commentator could only say this in his head. Out loud, his only choice was to say: "Team Blue Rain's Huang Shaotian has already begun verbally harassing his opponents, but is it effective against Samsara? We'll have to wait and see."

This commentator clearly wasn't a fan of Huang Shaotian. He had to restrain himself from spewing out his true feelings and expressed a more neutral stance.

"Look at my sword!" Four words popped up on the screen.

Samsara's players remained unmoved. Suddenly, a sword light flew out from a patch of grass.

Troubling Rain had begun attacking. However, his target wasn't Cloud Piercer, but Fang Minghua's Cleric: Laughing Song.

But if this sort of ambush was enough to cause trouble for them, Samsara should not have chosen this map for the finals to begin with. Samsara's players had clearly been prepared for this kind of ambush. The instant the grass broke apart, Fang Minghua's Laughing Song moved. He quickly cast a Sacred Fire at his feet and leapt to the side. He put his cross in front of him and holy white light shot out like a flashlight. The green grass was lit up by the white light and a figure could be seen hiding inside. After that sword light missed, the figure hadn't rushed forward, but retreated instead.

Samsara's practiced players immediately focused their attacks towards that location to clear away the field. Zhou Zekai's Cloud Piercer leaped high into the sky and opened fired at the figure amidst the grass. Jiang Botao's Spellblade, Empty Waves, also rushed forward. Fiery flames surrounded his strangely shaped dagger as he slashed downwards. A wave of fire immediately swept the area. The surrounding grass was burnt away, but there was no sign of Troubling Rain.

The Assassin Wu Qi and the Grappler Lu Boyuan needed to be within melee range to attack and didn't have any mid or long-ranged moves. The two characters rushed out, executing a pincer attack.

At this moment, Laughing Song's white light faded away and Troubling Rain's figure could no longer be seen, but Cloud Piercer was able to infer Troubling Rain's location from the white light and chased after him. With these attacks pointing towards their target, Wu Qi and Lu Boyuan coordinated with Jiang Botao's Fire Wave and instantly trapped Troubling Rain.

The audience cheered loudly.

Their teamwork had to be brilliant in order to catch that sly Huang Shaotian.

Even though Samsara was known as a one man team, this was only because of Zhou Zekai's outstanding performance. When other teams called Samsara a one man team, they were simply envious of them having such an incredible ace player. Every top team had fresh flowers and green leaves supporting one another. It was just that the flower known as Zhou Zekai stood out compared to the other players. Zhou

Zekai often decided the match on his own, but it didn't mean that Samsara didn't have any tactics or teamwork. At this very moment, they displayed their exceptional teamwork on stage.

"Troubling Rain has been caught! Things are not looking good for him right now. His teammates still need a bit of time before they will be able to reach him. Huang Shaotian's movements are a bit off from his team's. This was a bit of a rash move on his part. Let's how he manages to deal with this situation!" The commentator rejoiced at Huang Shaotian's misfortune as he continued to commentate.

"Wow, you actually managed to catch me!!"

Huang Shaotian actually took the time to type a few words. For people who liked to talk a lot, it was quite admirable of him.

Lu Boyuan's Grappler had extended his hands towards Troubling Rain. Grapplers relied on throws. Their damage wasn't amazing, but throws couldn't be blocked. Along with their displacement and knockdown effects, throws were extremely useful crowd control skills in team fights, especially for an offense-oriented team.

Huang Shaotian didn't only talk. Troubling Rain quickly leaped away from the two hands. At the same time, he put his sword up and activated Guard to block the Heart-Piercing Stab from Wu Qi's Assassin.

Using the momentum from the opponent's stab, Troubling Rain slid backwards, but Wu Qi's Assassin followed closely after him, his dagger never left Troubling Rain's blade as he hastily kept up.

How could a God like Huang Shaotian not be experienced? He immediately realized what Wu Qi was planning to do and rolled to the side. The dagger in the hands of Wu Qi's Assassin shot forward like a bullet, but if one looked closely, the dagger hadn't left his hands. Only a part of the dagger had shot out. The dagger was still in his character's hands and slashed along an arc along with the other part.

Assassin skill: Mother and Child Stab.

Wu Qi's execution wasn't slow. Unfortunately, Huang Shaotian had predicted it and had dodged. This sudden and insidious move failed to injure him.

Troubling Rain didn't complete the roll as he flew up. He used a Headwind Strike and swept the area in front of him with a storm of wind, not only was Wu Qi's Assassin unable to dodge it in time, it also stopped Lu Boyuan's Grappler from approaching.

After using Headwind Strike, Troubling Rain landed on the ground. The instant Headwind Strike ended, Zhou Zekai's Cloud Piercer slid past Wu Qi and Lu Boyuan. While Huang Shaotian had been defending against them, Zhou Zekai had found the perfect opportunity to attack him.

It looked as if Zhou Zekai's Slide Kick would hit Troubling Rain, but the instant before it hit, Huang Shaotian was able to complete a Falling Light Blade to meet the attack.

Troubling Rain's blade hit Cloud Piercer and Cloud Piercer's Slide Kick hit Troubling Rain. It was a clash between two skills of equal levels.

Troubling Rain was kicked away, but it was exactly what he wanted. The instant he landed, he swung his sword. Instead of attacking, he used a Triple Slash to run away. As his sword slashed, the grass around him was sliced apart before he disappeared from view again.

Because Zhou Zekai's Cloud Piercer had been hit by the Falling Light Blade, he was briefly stunned. This brief stun was enough to stop him from following up, allowing Troubling Rain and opportunity to escape. Huang Shaotian was a master at seizing opportunities, after all.

The first confrontation between the two sides had concluded. All sorts of minute movements had happened in that short instant. It felt like even a small breath of air could have changed the outcome. The spectators didn't dare to breathe and no matter how fast the commentator could speak, there was no way he could keep up with such a fast pace.

Everyone was still reflecting on the fight, when a string of words appeared in all chat.

"Ha ha ha, you can't catch me! You can't catch me! Just wait. You'll see me soon again."

How childish! Numerous people were thinking that it spoiled the beautiful scene. It had been such a high level confrontation, but this guy just had to end it with some trash talk. What an eye sore!

Chapter 652: Team Blue Rain's Tactics

Even though Huang Shaotian's childish trash talk spoiled the beautiful scene, the brilliant escape he had made couldn't be erased from their memories. The audience had been hoping for a slow-motion playback so they could revisit that brilliant escape once more. Instead, the camera zoomed out to let the audience see that the other four members of Team Blue Rain had quietly circled around behind Team Samsara while Huang Shaotian's Troubling Rain had been distracting them.

"Ah!!" Many fans of Samsara cried out in alarm, dying to go up and warn the players. Unfortunately, this was something they couldn't do no matter how hard they tried, even for the audience members present at the match. No matter how loud they shouted, they wouldn't be able to penetrate the soundproof booths surrounding the players.

The players were completely focused on the surroundings of Grass Blowing in the Wind. However, even though Samsara was about to be ambushed by Team Blue Rain, it seemed as if they still had plans for Troubling Rain as they advanced in the direction that Troubling Rain had escaped towards.

Close!

The four players from Team Blue Rain had already drawn near.

The hearts of the home team's fans leapt into their throats. The away team's fans were also sweating nervously.

Attack!

The other four members of Team Blue Rain had finally reached a satisfactory position. Their characters were hiding among the grass, getting ready to attack using all sorts of offensive skills.

Different skills required different activations. The players also had different hand speeds, so every skill required a different amount of preparation time. However, Team Blue Rain released their offensive skills at the same time.

Crimson Storm!

Among the attacks, the one with the greatest surge of momentum, came from Yu Feng's Brilliant Edge. He went straight for one of the level 70 Berserker skills as his opening move. Rushing Thunder Sword, the silver weapon of Glory's number one Berserker, possessed a passive ability that imbued his attacks with the light element. In the midst of Crimson Storm's pervading valor, a blue and white light traveled up and down the blade, causing its power to appear very great. As the sword sliced downwards, the sky and earth was covered in a vast expanse of green that swallowed everything up.

Swoksaar's Silver weapon, Curse of Destruction, had long since filled the air with black gas. At this moment, the black gas converged overhead towards a single point. When Brilliant Edge attacked with his Crimson Storm, a black, whirling door that seemed to connect to another dimension solidified. The whirling door revolved gently. The black gas that permeated the air, mixed with wisps of blood, and converged into threatening tentacles that grabbed at different targets.

Warlock skill: Death's Door. Compared to the damage it dealt, its crowd control effect was more valued in team battles. After the skill was released, the tentacles from the door would automatically pursue and attack targets within the range of 18 units. Once it grabbed a target, it would quickly drag them into the door and deal a high amount of damage.

Just from these two high-leveled moves alone, their momentum was already astonishing enough, but there was still a third player who still airborne.

The moment this character dashed rapidly from the grass, he formed a sphere with his two hands on the right side of his bottom. Boundless energy seemed to be condensing between his palms. Every audience present, including the commentator and even experienced pro players like Ye Xiu or Wei Chen found out to their surprise that the character who had dashed out from the grass was Receding Tides.

Receding Tides was a Qi Master character played by Song Xiao from Team Blue Rain. He was the sixth person in the list of names who would appear on stage from Team Blue Rain before the match. The list could not be falsified, so the only possibility was that he had been switched in sometime during the match. It was a great mistake by the cameraman to not notice anything this entire time. In this case, no one would have been able to notice it in front of the television without a special angle of the scene.

"Team Blue Rain's Song Xiao unexpectedly makes a move! When was he switched in? We didn't notice it at all!!" The commentator voiced out everyone's thoughts. At the same time, Receding Tides launched his attack. He pushed out both his hands in midair where a blast of strong energy shot down from the sky.

Qi Master skill: Sky Piercing Strike!

Although the skill was named as Sky Piercing Strike, it wasn't actually necessary to release it towards the sky. Whether it was towards the flat ground or at various other angles or positions, as long as you could successfully complete the required actions, then the move could be used.

Crimson Storm, Death's Door, Sky Piercing Strike.

All the opening moves launched by Team Blue Rain were all high-leveled moves that covered a wide area. Evidently, they planned on inflicting serious damage to Samsara in one blow. No one would have

thought that Team Blue Rain would take the initiative in their away-game. Huang Shaotian's harassment drew Samsara's attention, while the other members of the team took this chance to close in and unleash powerful attacks. In contrast, it was Team Blue Rain who took advantage of Grass Blowing in the Wind's feature and gave Team Samsara a wave of surprises.

Accompanying those waves of attacks were fans of Team Blue Rain cheering, while the fans of Samsara clenched their fists with handfuls of sweat. How would the home team defuse these offensive attacks?

They didn't defuse them!

By the time Team Samsara's players noticed what happened, the attacks made by the three Team Blue Rain players rained down on them, covering the entire area. Because of the the existence of Death's Door, a skill that had prominent crowd control, the players of Team Samsara wanted to avoid being grabbed by the tentacles from Death's Door while trying to fleeing from its range, so it was inevitable that they would receive damage from the other two attacks. After being restricted by the two attacks, dodging the tentacles from Death's Door became an issue once again.

Under such coordination, dodging was most definitely not the best method.

Even though the damage from Crimson Storm and Sky Piercing Strike was fearful, at this moment, the core of the opponent's waves of attacks was definitely the Warlocks' Death's Door. It was Death's Door that caused Samsara's players to feel trapped with no way out.

The key was to break through the control of Death's Door!

Samsara's Cloud Piercer rolled and escaped from the tentacles coming out of Death's Door. His two hands glowed as he activated Sharpshooter's Rapid Firing. The bullets spat out from his guns at a high speed and flew directly towards Swoksaar.

Team Blue Rain's attacks had already cleared all of the grass neatly from this place. At this moment, they could no longer use the grass to hide themselves. As for Zhou Zekai, he was letting Cloud Piercer receive damage from the attacks in order to interrupt Swoksaar's spell. With Death's Door's crowd control and high damage output, it was definitely not something the user could just cast and then do something else. It required the player to continue controlling it. If they received an attack at that moment, then Death's Door would be interrupted very easily.

Zhou Zekai made a decisive action, but Team Blue Rain seemed to have anticipated this would happen. Soul Speaker, Xu Jingxi's Paladin, had appeared at this moment and encased himself in a golden light cover. He cast a Holy Shield, which could resist any damage. He stood right in front of Swoksaar.

When the bullets flew towards the golden light cover, they were swallowed up without even a trace remaining. Xu Jingxi's Soul Speaker didn't receive any kind of damage. The Holy Shield's light only dimmed a little after receiving such attacks.

Immediately after Cloud Piercer had shot his bullets, the Wave Formation from Jiang Botao's Spellblade passed. Holy Shield's light cover flickered for a bit, but Soul Speaker was still unharmed.

And after that? After that, the other two offensive type players of Samsara weren't able to exert any of their power. The other two characters were respectively, an Assassin and a Grappler. Neither of them

had any long-ranged attacks. By the time they rushed over to attack, they would already have escaped beyond Death's Door's boundaries. What would be the point of interrupting?

Team Blue Rain's tactical arrangement had thoroughly thought over all factors of Samsara's classes. A combination of mid-ranged attacks had directly disarmed the two Team Samsara players.

Their decision to interrupt Swoksaar's spell at this time was relatively prompt, but had they considered all of the possibilities to cover? Did they consider if they could break through the opponent's cover with their own attacking methods in the required time?

Doubt had already risen within numerous people, but they didn't have time to discuss because the match continued to progress and many events would happen in a blink of an eye. Just when everyone doubted them and started to think about how Samsara's style of having Zhou Zekai shoulder everything alone couldn't deal with Team Blue Rain's exquisite teamwork, Zhou Zekai's Cloud Piercer continued to attack.

Under Rapid Firing, Cloud Piercer swung out a Gatling Gun. The cartridge cases of the bullets that flew out from the gun's muzzle flew out crazily and scattered around his feet. The bullets from the rapid firing shot out in a straight line like a laser beam as it pierced through the light cover on Soul Speaker. The light cover continued to swallow up the bullets as it flickered, but it still showed no sign of being shattered. However, these attacks caused Xu Jingxi to feel a little nervous. He had already noticed Jiang Botao's Empty Waves using Wave Formation attacks one after another. It was only when he had to dodge the tentacles from Death's Door's that his attacks would be displaced. The Wave Formation scraped past Holy Shield's light cover as it passed over, so it didn't inflict its full damage. At this moment, the firing from Cloud Piercer's Gatling Gun had ended, but the Holy Shield was still there.

At this moment, because of Crimson Storm and Sky Piercing Strike, a few Team Samsara players were captured by the tentacles from Death's Door. They were quickly dragged towards the door. As for Team Blue Rain, Yu Feng and Song Xiao had already finished their attacks and were prepared to follow up with another wave of attacks.

"I managed to withstand it....." Xu Jiangxi was extremely astonished. He managed to fulfill the task of protecting Swoksaar with his Holy Shield.

"Right?" But at this moment, amidst the bloody light and black tentacles, Cloud Piercer swung his gun as he was pulled towards the door. He lifted his gun and aimed towards a reflection.....

Bang!

Thunder Snipe, a level 70 Sharpshooter skill.

The bullets exited the muzzle. Xu Jingxi saw a black dot enlarge at a rapid pace before his eyes, then he clearly saw the single bullet pause on his Holy Shield. Immediately after that, it wasn't swallowed up because the Holy Shield had been broken.

Pu!

A spurt of blood sprayed out from in between Soul Speaker's eyes.

“It’s enough to only break through my Holy Shield! You still have to get through me!” Xu Jingxi thought, when he heard a similar sound coming from behind him.

Pu!!!

Chapter 653: The Limit of Limits

Pu pu!!

These two sounds rang out at practically the same time. Xu Jingxi didn’t need to turn around to know what had happened. Cloud Piercer’s Snipe had elicited a Penetrate effect.

A bloody hole appeared in between the eyes of both Soul Speaker and Swoksaar. This just in the game though. If a real person got hit like that, how could he not die? Of course, if this were real life, it wouldn’t just be a hole. A powerful shot like Thunder Snipe would directly cause the head to explode.....

To think this would happen!

Xu Jingxi was surprised. He saw Death’s Door end. The black tentacles, which had grabbed Samsara’s characters, quickly released their grip and retreated into the door. The rotating door soon disappeared back into the void.

The characters released by the black tentacles were flung away according to their original trajectory. From this, it could be seen that the black tentacles had been swinging about wildly, but even under these circumstances, Zhou Zekai had used Thunder Snipe to hit his target accurately and produced the desired effects.

This was an ace player. Samsara’s ace player. The current number one player in all of Glory: Zhou Zekai.

The five Samsara players teched onto the ground and immediately stood up. This wasn’t anything difficult for pro players. Following afterwards, Team Samsara began their fierce counterattack. Zhou Zekai’s Cloud Piercer took the lead. He opened fire as he ran, sending grass fluttering away. The four members of Team Blue Rain were surrounded on all sides. Jiang Botao’s Empty Waves pointed his sword and cast an Electric Wave Formation.

The bright ball of electricity caused the surrounding fifteen units of grass to shiver. Even though Electric Wave Formation wasn’t as terrifying as Death’s Door, the lightning generated by this skill was much faster than the tentacles. Unless you were outside of the fifteen unit radius, it would be nearly impossible to escape.

Under the suppression of Zhou Zekai’s Cloud Piercer, how would it be so easy to walk out of range? Even normal attacks had a brief hit stun. Under Zhou Zekai’s control, his suppression was displayed to the limit. Team Blue Rain’s characters had difficulty moving. In the end, none of them were able to escape from the range of Electric Wave Formation and were struck by the lightning coming from the ball of electricity.

The most miserable of them was Yu Wenzhou’s Swoksaar. Zhou Zekai clearly placed more importance on Team Blue Rain’s captain and gave him special treatment. The majority of his bullets were aimed at

Swoksaar. The other three players escaped from the Electric Wave Formation after being struck by lightning once. However, Swoksaar was hit two, three times.....

Team Blue Rain's players couldn't just stand still and watch their captain get struck by lightning. Yu Feng's and Song Xiao's characters rushed forward together, but they were blocked by Samsara's Wu Qi and Lu Boyuan.

The tides had turned. After Team Blue Rain's surprise attack on Samsara, Samsara countered fiercely. Yu Wenzhou's Swoksaar was struggling inside the Electric Wave Formation. Even if he didn't die, he would still be severely injured.

The spectators watched nervously. Their minds were completely focused on the characters fighting. At this moment, there was always something that had been neglected, such as the suddenly silent Huang Shaotian!

If he had really disappeared, Troubling Rain wouldn't be called the Sword Saint.

Amidst the intense battle, a shadow suddenly appeared from behind Team Samsara. A blue light arced through the sky. Troubling Rain's Silver weapon Ice Rain headed straight for Samsara's Cleric: Laughing Song.

Fang Minghua noticed the attack. Laughing Song leapt away from the blade, but Troubling Rain's attacks wouldn't just stop there. Sword light suddenly blossomed from the blade.

Even though Huang Shaotian's playstyle was like an Assassin's, his character was still a Blade Master.

Blade Masters didn't have the same dirty or insidious sneak attack skills like Assassins did. Every sword move, whether it was fast or slow, light or heavy, all of them were upright and fair.

Clerics had some ability to attack, but they definitely couldn't face Blade Masters in close combat. Once Troubling Rain closed in on him, his health began to drop rapidly. However, as a pro player, Laughing Song may be on the losing side, the player Fang Minghua didn't panic. If a Blade Master closed in on a Cleric, the Cleric would certainly suffer, let alone against Huang Shaotian's Blade Master. Fang Minghua continued to calmly dodge and defend..... his weapon wouldn't reduce much damage when guarding, but it was still better than nothing.

Fang Minghua hung on. Team Samsara obviously wouldn't just let their Cleric get killed like that.

A gunshot rang. Zhou Zekai's Cloud Piercer turned his gun around. He shot at Troubling Rain as he ran towards him.

Huang Shaotian couldn't ignore the attacks of the Great Gunner either. He also didn't think he'd be able to kill off the enemy Cleric so easily. Clerics had to be saved, so he expected the enemy would be coming. When he saw the other side come, Huang Shaotian didn't run away and instead faced Zhou Zekai's Cloud Piercer directly. He used Immortal Guides the Way to send Laughing Song flying towards Cloud Piercer.

Cloud Piercer immediately reacted by using a Slide Kick to slide under Laughing Song. His two guns never stopped firing as he closed the distance between himself and Troubling Rain.

Cloud Piercer had two guns. The gun in his right hand was called Wildfire and the gun in his left hand was called Shattered Frost. For a Sharpshooter, a dual gun user and a single gun user were played differently. Only using a single gun was easier and more steady. Using two guns was much more difficult because it wasn't as simple as just firing both guns at the same time. The guns needed to be switched. In order to fully utilize both guns, the difficulty was more than twice as difficult as using a single gun. Even pro players couldn't completely maintain such high level of play for the entire duration of the fight. Usually, they would use one gun as their main and support it with their other gun. If you could only use a single gun, then you had no qualifications to be a pro player.

Zhou Zekai displayed the dual gun style to the limit. He was also doing it while using Slide Kick.

Huang Shaotian didn't dare to be negligent. Under his control, Troubling Rain swayed and shadows of him appeared all over the field. In an instant, the camera zoomed out. Everyone counted as the commentator cried out: "SEVEN!! A total of seven shadows! Huang Shaotian's Shadow Steps produced seven shadows! Correct, it's seven. Each and every shadow is perfect and complete too!!!"

Huang Shaotian pushed his mechanics to the limit as well to face off against Zhou Zekai, but the astonishment towards his move was more than Zhou Zekai's dual gun style. Because previously, Huang Shaotian could only produce six and a half incomplete shadows. However, he had now displayed a complete seven.

"Tsk tsk, he's improved again!" Ye Xiu sighed as he looked at the screen.

"Of course. He's a first-rate talent that this senior personally discovered." Wei Chen didn't forget to self praise.

"What are you so happy for? He'll be our opponent in the future." Ye Xiu said.

"You should worry about the younger generation that you guided before saying anything!" Wei Chen remarked. He was naturally pointing towards Team Excellent Era. Ye Xiu had been the former captain, so Team Excellent Era's players could be considered the younger generation.

The two old birds sighed. Tang Rou and Steamed Bun were amazed. The two of them had experienced these two skills many times before in the Arena. Steamed Bun was a bit puzzled: "How could there be so many? I thought three was the maximum? How could there be seven?? Are two people using it?" The Blade Masters that Steamed Bun had encountered in the Arena clearly weren't experts. The experts amongst normal players could produce four shadows at most. Steamed Bun had come from the tenth server, after all, so his real battle experience was quite low.

"This is a real expert! Only an expert can do that!" Tang Rou didn't know the complexities behind the move, but hearing the astonishment from the commentator voice, even she could tell that it must be incredibly difficult.

"I wonder how many I could do." Steamed Bun said.

"Brawlers have a similar skill?" Tang Rou asked.

"I don't think so. I wonder if I can learn it. It looks so cool. Look how scared that commentator is." Steamed Bun said.

“.....” Tang Rou.

The fight continued. Huang Shaotian’s Shadow Steps were at the peak. Seven shadows, difficult to differentiate between which was real and which was fake. In a real battle, if the real couldn’t be deduced instantly, there was no time for careful analysis. The purpose of Shadow Steps wasn’t to play hide and seek, but to seize any opening to attack.

If they couldn’t be differentiated, then attack them all!

After Cloud Piercer slid under, he shot bullets, kicked, performed elbow strikes, all sorts of attacks at the shadows. Sharpshooter skill: Firearm Martial Arts.

These were attacks that a Sharpshooter could use in close combat. Body techniques for direct attacks combined with sudden shooting out of nowhere. It was quite difficult to defend against.

Zhou Zekai’s usage of the ability didn’t need to be said. He instantly attacked five of the shadows.

The shadows from Shadow Steps weren’t like the clones from Shadow Clone Technique. Clones had real bodies with attack and health. After they took damage or the skill went on cooldown, the clones would disappear, but shadows were virtual bodies without any stats. They couldn’t take damage, but they also couldn’t deal damage either. They would only disappear after the skill went on cooldown.

Attacking was one way to distinguish shadows though. Zhou Zekai’s Firearm Martial Arts allowed him to hit five targets at once, not giving his opponent any time to adjust. However, it seemed like all of the five had been shadows. Zhou Zekai immediately turned around and saw that Troubling Rain’s real body had actually given up on the two targets in front of him. Instead, he had teamed up with Yu Feng on the other side of the field to execute a pincer attack on Samsara’s Assassin, Wu Qi.

Chapter 654: Trump Card versus Trump Card

Anyone with a starting position in Team Blue Rain or Team Samsara was definitely skilled. Wu Qi fought evenly against the All Star level Yu Feng for a single moment. Both of them were pro players. Arguing over who was better or worse wouldn’t give a definite answer. The results could only be determined once the fight concluded. In real battle, any small detail could be a deciding factor. It wasn’t something that could be predicted on paper.

Wu Qi may have been fighting evenly with Yu Feng, but once Huang Shaotian’s Troubling Rain joined the battle and the Blade Master and Berserker duo combined their attacks, Wu Qi could no longer endure.

Huang Shaotian and Yu Feng hadn’t been teammates for just a day or two. Their coordination with one another wasn’t as simple as one plus one equals two. Assassins had low defense and health. Facing the combined flurry of attacks, his Assassin rapidly lost health. Fortunately, Samsara’s Cleric Fang Ming Hua was able to rescue him. His character Laughing Song lifted silver weapon, Angel’s Protection, as holy light repeatedly flashed, helping Wu Qi survive for a bit longer. On the other side of the battle, Zhou Zekai had figured out where the real body was, so he wasn’t just going to sit around wasting anymore time. Cloud Piercer changed directions to rescue Wu Qi.

This was one advantage of the Gunner classes. They had long range attacks, so they could provide support faster. He just needed to lift his hands and the bullets would arrive. In comparison, if Huang Shaotian's Blade Master had to go rescue someone, no matter how fast he ran, he would never be as fast as a bullet.

No one would ignore an attack from the Great Gunner, but taking the attack under the protection of a Paladin's Life Activation was another matter. Life Activation increased the health regen of a character. It was especially effective for characters with equipment that had health regen effects. With Life Activation, it was possible to completely negate the effects of low damage attacks.

This skill could be used on teammates, but because the majority of characters wouldn't stack health regen on themselves, Paladins generally cast the skill on themselves before tanking damage for their teammates.

At this moment, Xu Jingqi's Soul Speaker activated the skill. A vigorous aura of vitality emitted from his body as he took Cloud Piercer's bullets head on.

Blood splattered everywhere!

When the bullets hit his body, the effects were still there, but because of the quickened health regeneration, the injuries on Soul Language's body healed at a visible pace. He didn't move at all and just ate the bullets like a meat shield. In that instant, he looked like a Knight holding a shield, facing the boss alone.

It looked somewhat stupid, but it was effective. Zhou Zekai's Cloud Piercer shot bullets at all sorts of angles, but Soul Language's body was there to block them! His attacks were able to deal damage to Soul Speaker, even under Life Activation, but Soul Speaker's health didn't fall as rapidly as Wu Qi's Cruel Silence.

Wu Qi was facing the attacks from two All Star level players. Even though he was still hanging on with the help of his Cleric, it rapidly consumed the mana and skill cooldowns of the Cleric. Once enough skills were on cooldown, the two enemies might be able to inflict serious enough damage to directly finish him off in one go. This was a method that pro teams often used. A team like Team Blue Rain could obviously execute it to perfection. With the way the current battle was going, it was obvious what Team Blue Rain was planning to do.

No one stopped Fang Minghua from healing. After Yu Wenzhou's Swoksaar escaped from the Electric Wave Formation, he stopped Samsara's Jiang Botao from assisting his teammates.

Ignore a Warlock's attacks?

That most definitely couldn't be done. It wasn't because of the damage, but because of the CC effects from Warlock skills.

Binding Curse, Control Curse, Hexagram Prison..... You wouldn't die from these attacks, but being dead might be better than being alive under these spells.

Yu Wenzhou's hand speed wasn't fast, but his grasp of timing had reached near perfection. Wasting skills or cycling through skill cooldowns properly would never happen as long as he was in control. Yu Wenzhou rarely appeared in the individual competitions, but it didn't mean his slow hand speed made

him useless in 1v1s. With his slow and steady pace, he was able to completely control Samsara's Jiang Botao.

"F*ck!"

Ye Xiu heard someone beside him curse. He turned his head to see Wei Chen watching the confrontation between Swoksaar and Empty Waves. His expression was ugly. He was clearly thinking of some unpleasant memories.

"You have to overcome that psychological trauma." Ye Xiu turned his head to look at Swoksaar on the screen.

"F*ck!" Wei Chen cursed. He clearly wasn't happy with the usage of the word "psychological trauma". He didn't have any such thing. He had just thought about something very unpleasant.

"What psychological trauma?" Tang Rou and Steamed Bun turned their heads and asked curiously.

"F*ck off! It isn't something that little kids like you should be worried about!" Wei Chen shoed the two away.

"Yeah, a little kid in his teens beat him so badly, he lost all confidence and was so down-hearted, he retired. Did you really think Old Wei would blab about it casually to anyone?" Ye Xiu said.

"Tch, I was just helping a younger generation player mature and gave him confidence, so I lost on purpose." Wei Chen jumped up and said without missing a beat. It wasn't without reason. That time, when he lost to Yu Wenzhou, it had just been a practice bout with the team. As a senior, he could say that he intentionally went easy, because Wei Chen wouldn't go all out against a kid in the training camp, even for someone as shameless as him.

In the end, he lost all three rounds. In the pro scene, losing three rounds didn't prove anything. but from their positions in the team at that time, even if Wei Chen didn't go all out, it wouldn't change anything. Gold would always shine. Whether Yu Wenzhou won or lost those three rounds, the shell came off of Yu Wenzhou and Wei Chen would always be stuck with the feeling that he wasn't as good as him. Losing only made the feeling worse.

"A younger generation player from your team? I don't know where you thought of that! I'm talking about that year in the playoffs where I completely crushed you!" Ye Xiu said. When Wei Chen had still been in the Alliance, Ye Xiu hadn't even been 20 years old yet, so he could be considered a little kid in his teens at that time too.

"So that's what you were talking about!" Wei Chen slapped his leg: "Wasn't that because when this senior saw your repulsively ugly face and crafty-looking eyes, with my eyes honed in the streets, I could easily see that aura of evil around you? If I didn't let you win the championships, someone like you might take on a vengeful personality and inflict a great terror on society. As a citizen of this country, I could only throw the game and allow you to win the championships. And I had to do it three times to prevent such a great tragedy from happening. Now that you've grown up, this senior doesn't need you to repay me anymore. Give this old fellow a break!"

"Are you pulling that out of your ass? I specifically looked for you to join our team so that you could win finally a championship for once. This is my apology for beating you so badly that year, but we have to

get one thing straight! I only beat you up once, so I can only let you win once. The rest you have to gain with your own efforts. Look at those youngsters on the screen. Their tenaciousness and passion to win is something that you should learn from.”

“Ha ha……” Tang Rou laughed. She shifted her attention back to the match and stopped listening to their argument. The beginning of the argument seemed to have been half-truth half-lie, but near the end, the two of them began talking nonsense.

Though when Steamed Bun listened, he looked hard at Ye Xiu and mumbled to himself: “I have eyes honed in the streets too. Why don’t I see an aura of evil?”

“Ha ha ha ha, Steamed Bun, see…… Ah!” Wei Chen heard his mumble and laughed. He was just about to say something, but his eyes had been watching the match the entire time. Team Blue Rain had control of the match, when their control was suddenly broken. Once again, the person to change the tides of the match was the Great Gunner!

Zhou Zekai fiercely turned Cloud Piercer’s gun and started attacking Yu Wenzhou’s Swoksaar.

This action had been planned beforehand. Xu Jingxi’s duty was to block his bullets. Now that he shifted his attention to a different target, Xu Jingxi’s Soul Language couldn’t get there in time. The Sharpshooter’s attacks covered a large range.

As for Yu Wenzhou? A battle of hand speed was his nemesis. His tempo was disrupted. Jiang Botao’s Empty Waves was able to use this opportunity to escape from Yu Wenzhou. He immediately cast an Ice Wave Formation towards Troubling Rain, Brilliant Edge, and Cruel Silence, where the main battle was taking place.

The wave formation headed towards both targets and the probability of getting frozen was very high. Huang Shaotian and Yu Feng had to be wary. They could only temporarily stop attacking Cruel Silence and hastily escape the formation’s area of effect.

Under the wave formation’s protection, Wu Qi quickly controlled Cruel Silence to escape, but this battle wouldn’t give him any time to rest. Cruel Silence immediately headed towards Yu Wenzhou’s Swoksaar to return the favor and bully the enemy captain.

The situation instantly reversed.

Starting from Huang Shaotian’s ambush, Team Blue Rain had dominated the match until Zhou Zekai reversed the situation with a powerful snipe. Huang Shaotian then ambushed the, again regain control of the situation. Instead of facing the enemy ace player directly, he threw the enemy Cleric aside and, along with Yu Feng, focused his attacks on a non-core member like Wu Qi. Unfortunately, their control over the battle was once again disrupted by the enemy ace player Zhou Zekai.

A series of ups and downs occurred in a short period of time. The styles of the two teams could completely be seen.

Team Blue Rain had clever tactics and coordination. Team Samsara’s Zhou Zekai overturned the battle with his own power. These were their trump cards! From start to finish, they were evenly matched.

However, tactics couldn’t be executed perfectly every time, and no individual never made mistakes.

Which team would be the first to expose an opening?

Chapter 655: Trade

No one had expected that the ones to tip the scales of this even battle between Team Blue Rain and Team Samsara would be the two nearly non-existent players.

Team Samsara's Lu Boyuan and Team Blue Rain's Song Xiao.

Ever since the beginning of the match, the confrontation between the Grappler and Qi Master had practically been ignored. The cameraman rarely gave them any screen time.

Compared to the fast-paced team battle, where opposing teams kept on changing targets, these two seemed to almost be in their own little world. The two players had engaged in a 1v1.

However, when this 1v1 concluded, one side ended with an overwhelming advantage.

The vast majority of attention given to Samsara was focused on Zhou Zekai followed by the vice-captain, Jiang Botao. The other supporting players weren't bad, but compared to the brilliance displayed by the Great Gunner, their plays would all appear somewhat dull. At this point, many people had realized that Team Samsara's characters all had increased skill points. However, most of the discussion was still focused on the two All Star characters, Cloud Piercer and Empty Waves.

Only Team Samsara themselves would know the exact details. With their 20 million RMB purchase of the skill book guild, the character with the greatest improvement was actually Lu Boyuan's Grappler: Chaotic Cloudy Mountains.

Chaotic Cloudy Mountains originally possessed 4770 skill points, an average number in the pro scene, but while clearing the quests for skill points, their luck was extremely good on this account and they had actually managed to reach the maximum 5000 points. An increase in 230 skill points had been the greatest through all of Team Samsara'. Zhou Zekai's Cloud Piercer and Jiang Botao's Empty Waves also managed to reach 5000 skill points, but their All Star characters had a higher starting point to begin with. Both of their characters originally possessed over 4800 points and only needed a bit more than 100 points to reach the max. As a result, amongst Team Samsara, Chaotic Cloudy Mountains had improved the most. If the opponents used data from previous matches, they would certainly realize that Chaotic Cloudy Mountains contribution exceeded their expectations.

And at this moment, the unexpected happened on Chaotic Cloudy Mountain's side.

With the help of the 230 extra points obtained through the skill book guide, Lu Boyuan was able to suppress Song Xiao. Once Chaotic Cloudy Mountains grabbed Receding Tides, he continuously used throwing skills to pressure Receding Tides. Song Xiao began to panic. He originally had confidence in breaking out of these chain throws, but during the fight, he felt that something wasn't right. The gaps, which he could usually take advantage of to break free, were always chained together even faster than he had anticipated.

This wasn't just an issue of the user's hand speed, but rather a step up in the character's skills.

Even worse, Team Samsara seemed to have expected such results. After Chaotic Cloudy Mountains successfully grabbed Receding Tides and began to continuously throw him, the other three Team Samsara attackers focused their attacks on Receding Tides.

Song Xiao wasn't the only one to be surprised and panicked. For Team Blue Rain, this was certainly an unexpected result.

Since they hadn't expected Song Xiao to be completely helpless against Lu Boyuan's chain throws, they hadn't thought that his Receding Tides would be toyed around in the hands of Chaotic Chaotic Mountains.

A character being completely controlled by a Grappler would find it difficult to react to any other enemy attacks. With the sudden attacks were focused on him, along with Chaotic Cloudy Mountain's complete control, Receding Tide's health rapidly fell. Xu Jingxi was suddenly a mess again.

Song Xiao's suppression affected the rest of the battle. Team Blue Rain was suddenly caught unprepared. Everything had happened too quickly.

Song Xiao's Receding Tides was able to be saved, but it had cost Xu Jingxi's Soul Speaker a huge amount of skills and mana. With a lot of his skills on cooldown, he wouldn't be able to keep up the healing for Team Blue Rain in their fight against Team Samsara. The entire team's health had been lowered by a peg. The series of events triggered by Song Xiao's suppression had led to Team Blue Rain suffering a heavy loss.

"What an idiot! To think he can't even escape out of something like that!!!" Wei Chen anxiously shouted, during Song Xiao's suppression.

"It seems like Chaotic Cloudy Mountain's skill points have improved by quite a lot." Ye Xiu truly deserved to be called an expert at all classes. He was able to quickly discover Chaotic Cloudy Mountain's significant increase in strength.

"F*ck." Wei Chen angrily cursed.

"It seems like with your attitude, you want Team Blue Rain to win?" Ye Xiu said.

"Nonsense." Wei Chen glared at Ye Xiu, "If Team Samsara loses, the twenty million that they spent would be a waste of their money. How exciting would that be? Ha ha ha ha!!"

"You beast....." Ye Xiu sighed.

Unfortunately, reality didn't meet Wei Chen's expectations. The first lead grasped by Team Samsara had been obtained because of their twenty million RMB investment.

"Chaotic Cloudy Mountains is a bit strange." Song Xiao had managed to survive, so he quickly warned the rest of his teammates.

"Be careful."

Team Blue Rain couldn't do much about it. They had no way of slowly analyzing how their opponents allocated his skill points in the middle of such an intense match. They could only rely on their experience

and intuition to deal with the problem. In an even match like this, if someone made a mistake in judgement, he would end up like how Song Xiao had previously.

After gaining their first lead, Team Samsara continued to pressure their opponents. They continued with their relentless attacks, not giving Team Blue Rain any time to recover from their earlier loss.

This type of forced fighting was exactly what Team Samsara wanted. Even though Team Blue Rain didn't lose in a frontal confrontation, such a fast-paced battle didn't give them any opportunity to close the gap made by Team Samsara. If this situation continued, the first one to fall would definitely be someone from Team Blue Rain.

Team Samsara gradually displayed their reason for choosing this map. By using the protective screen of the grass, they were able to force Team Blue Rain on the defensive.

“Captain, behind you!!”

A Team Blue Rain player suddenly warned during the deadlock. The spectators were able to notice it faster from their viewpoint. Team Samsara's Assassin, Cruel Silence, had circled around to flank Swoksaar.

The warning had come too late. Against a sudden ambush, Yu Wenzhou's reaction speed and intuition wouldn't lose to anyone, but his execution was always a bit slower than anyone else's.

Yu Wenzhou was extremely important to the team, but his weakness was also extremely obvious. He was a contradictory existence in the team. The team's greatest strengths and greatest weaknesses were both him. This wasn't any secret. As a result, Yu Wenzhou's Swoksaar was often ambushed by others, so he was very used to it.

Facing this kind of situation, he didn't panic. He would always calmly resolve it.

Cruel Silence leapt out of his cover from the grass. The cold light glinting from his dagger slashed downwards towards Swoksaar. Suddenly, a Hexagram Prison appeared out of the void. However, it wasn't aimed at Cruel Silence, but rather Swoksaar himself.

Wu Qi was depressed!!

If he continued, he would definitely hit Swoksaar, but his Cruel Silence would definitely crash into that dark-purple prison. In that case, he would immediately be trapped inside the Hexagram Prison. A single attack in exchange for getting imprisoned wasn't worth it.

Cruel Silence didn't continue forward and retreated instead. Suddenly, as he dodged to the side. “Ding!” The sound of two blades colliding could be heard. Huang Shaotian's Troubling Rain had suddenly appeared. However, Wu Qi had been aware and used his dagger to block the attack.

The two melee classes engaged in battle. Swoksaar's Hexagram Prison immediately began to move. It wasn't fast, but it cut off Cruel Silence's path of retreat.

Huang Shaotian knew what to do intuitively. Troubling Rain drew his sword and used Formless Phantom Blade.

Assassins didn't have the ability to directly face a skill like this. Wu Qi hastily had Cruel Silence retreat, but only then did he discover that he had nowhere to run. In front of him was a Formless Phantom Blade and behind him was a Hexagram Prison. One of the lights from the Hexagram Prison touched Cruel Silence. The prison instantly formed around him. Before the duration of the effect had ended, he would have no way of escaping. Troubling Rain's attack was already storming towards him. Blood flew everywhere from Cruel Silence's body.

It hadn't been easy to catch an opponent. Just one attack would be a waste. Team Blue Rain's characters began to focus their fire on him. Team Samsara could hastily try to rescue him and Cruel Silence might not die, but this situation was similar to Song Xiao's previous situation. Team Blue Rain would use this opportunity to make up for the gap that had previously been created.

But who would have thought that Team Samsara didn't have any intentions on saving him? Wu Qi and his Cruel Silence had unexpectedly been completely abandoned. Samsara's players immediately focused their attacks on Swoksaar instead.

Team Blue Rain suddenly realized this might happen and wanted to make adjustments, but Team Samsara didn't give them a chance. The first one to arrive was Chaotic Cloudy Mountains. Ignoring everything else, he grabbed Swoksaar and tossed him into the air. Then, bullets flew towards Swoksaar. Zhou Zekai was planning on using a Delivery Gun to send Swoksaar away!

Delivery Gun wasn't something that couldn't be broken free from, but..... it required Yu Wenzhou to best Zhou Zekai in hand speed. It was something very very very unlikely to happen. None of Team Blue Rain's players had any hope for their captain. They hastily searched for Cloud Piercer's position and headed over to stop him.

But how could Team Samsara just let them do what they wanted? They hurried over to protect him.....

Swoksaar continued to tumble in the air. Cruel Silence being trapped by the Hexagram Prison had been Team Samsara's trade.

However, the trade for Wu Qi's Cruel Silence in exchange for Yu Wenzhou's Swoksaar was too worth it!

After another series of back and forths, Cruel Silence made a heroic sacrifice and Swoksaar was finally killed by Cloud Piercer.

Chapter 656: At All Costs

Swoksaar being the first to fall in the finals was an unexpected outcome. Yu Wenzhou was both Team Blue Rain's greatest strength and greatest weakness. Everyone knew this. Team Blue Rain was no exception. Thus, Team Blue Rain never neglected their protection towards Swoksaar.

Yet in the finals, Swoksaar was actually the first to fall. Even though Team Samsara had sacrificed one of their team members, it was an extremely good trade for them.

The fans of Team Blue Rain were very worried over this death. On the field, Team Blue Rain was clearly in a bit of a fluster. The reserve players on both teams were automatically switched in. Even though it was still a five versus five situation, Team Samsara seized the opportunity to launch a wave of attacks.

But Team Blue Rain was still the number one team during the regular season and a team that had reached the finals. Even though Yu Wenzhou's early departure heavily affected them, his loss wouldn't cause them to completely collapse.

Team Blue Rain's five players stood firm, and another closely-fought contest between them and Team Samsara unfolded. Although Yu Wenzhou was no longer on the field and unable to lead the team or set up formations, his tactics and knowledge imperceptibly seeped into the team after playing for so long together. Despite him not being there, Team Blue Rain was still a team that coordinated well with each other. This was what a pro team should be like.

Countless fans continued to watch in worry. The health of the characters on both sides continued to fall. Even with healers, they couldn't keep their teammates at full health. This was PvP, not PvE. The battle was constantly changing. Healing had to closely follow the pace of the battle. Every skill and drop of mana had to be utilized efficiently. In this kind of high-level fight, no one had any opportunities to be wasteful. A single overheal could be a deciding factor in a match.

There were sometimes brilliant plays and sometimes mistakes in the shotcalling by both teams. As the fight went back and forth, everyone's health and mana fell. The match was nearing the endgame, which required perfect play. Both sides were fully focused. Apart from Huang Shaotian chattering away in the all chat, the tensions were at their peak.

Had Huang Shaotian's trash talking affected this match?

Although the other players in Team Samsara weren't as quiet as Zhou Zekai, they still took after their ace player. Thus, their team was generally quiet and rarely talked in all chat. When facing Huang Shaotian's completely illogical and brainless trash talk, Team Samsara wouldn't bother inviting trouble onto themselves. But Huang Shaotian would still be constantly chattering in all chat even though no one ever replied back. No one knew what Team Samsara's players were feeling right now. From the way the match was going, it didn't seem like they made too many mistakes. Or perhaps these mistakes were a result of his trash talking? If Huang Shaotian wasn't talking trash non-stop, would their play have been more perfect?

The effects of trash talking was difficult to test.

Headwind, Double Stab, Rising Dragon, Falling Phoenix, Sword Strike Rends the Sky!

Huang Shaotian didn't lose his distinctive characteristic as an opportunist. He suddenly found an opening amidst the wave of attacks. Before anyone else could interrupt him, he chained a series of attacks onto Team Samsara's Blade Master, Du Ming. Against his own class, Huang Shaotian seemed to be even more merciless. After completing this combo, he finished it with an Immortal Guides the Way. By the time Du Ming's Blade Master flew backwards, he had already died.

Before Huang Shaotian could feel happy about his kill, he quickly turned around.....

Bang bang bang bang bang.....

To Huang Shaotian, the majority of a Sharpshooter's attacks could be described with a single word. "Bang!"

Repeated gun sounds along with punching and kicking could be heard. The same time Huang Shaotian killed an opponent, Zhou Zekai also killed one.

“F*ck! 1v1 me!!” Huang Shaotian shouted in all chat. Troubling Rain rushed towards Cloud Piercer with a Triple Slash. But Zhou Zekai wasn’t done yet! He continued to shoot. If no one stopped him, he would kill off a second player soon.

With Troubling Rain closing in, Zhou Zekai didn’t dare ignore him. He temporarily switched targets. He retreated, while pointing his gun at Troubling Rain, running while attacking.

“F*ck, stand still! Stop running!!” Huang Shaotian shouted. It looked as if Zhou Zekai was a coward, but anyone who played Glory knew that even though Sharpshooters had close combat skills, it was better to keep a distance away and take advantage of their long-ranged skills. If you didn’t have the ability to close in on your opponent, you would be kited to death.

Zhou Zekai’s actions were very normal. Huang Shaotian’s taunting was being deliberately provocative, but then again, talking back to Huang Shaotian was just inviting trouble without reason anyways.

The ace players on both teams clashed. Everyone hoped for more sparks to fly. But despite Huang Shaotian constantly cursing at Zhou Zekai, Troubling Rain didn’t complete his Triple Slash and turned around. His target wasn’t Cloud Piercer.

Huang Shaotian had switched targets, but his trash talking was still towards Zhou Zekai. It was very obvious too. Most people would have been confused and disoriented by the switch-up. They might even think Huang Shaotian had messed up and gotten the wrong person.

But pro players wouldn’t be so easily affected. When Troubling Rain closed in on Fang Minghua, Fang Minghua didn’t panic. He had Laughing Song retreat calmly to the protection of his other teammates.

Team Blue Rain seemed to have all gotten the same order. All of them pounced in one direction. It seemed like they were determined to kill Laughing Song once and for all.

Zhou Zekai!

The person to stand out again was Zhou Zekai!

The wide-coverage that long-ranged classes possessed was fully utilized by Zhou Zekai. Cloud Piercer shot with his two guns to delay the movements of the other three Team Blue Rain players.

In the end, it turned into a situation, where Team Samsara had Troubling Rain surrounded.

Both teams had a 1v3 situation on side and a 3v1 situation on the other side. But for Team Blue rain, their 3v1 put them on a disadvantage. Even if they switched targets to Cloud Piercer, he was still far away! By the time the three of them arrived, Troubling Rain might already be dead by then.

Huang Shaotian was without a doubt a top God, but fighting 1v3 was a stretch. It was the endgame too. None of them had much health left. Even running away in a 1v3 situation might be difficult for him.

“F*ck f*ck f*ck f*ck f*ck f*ck f*ck f*ck f*ck!!!!”

When he typed out a bunch of curse words, a yellow light on his computer lit up, giving Huang Shaotian a warning. Huang Shaotian's "f*ck" wasn't an appropriate words to use. If he just used it once or twice, everyone would turn a blind eye to it, but they had to give a warning for a bunch of them in a row.

"Sword sword sword sword sword sword sword sword!!!!"

Huang Shaotian immediately switched words. He didn't dare go against the rules and continue swearing. If he got enough warnings, he would be kicked out from the match. As for whether his "sword" meant "look at my sword" or "dirty dirty dirty dirty dirty" (TLN: the word for dirty and sword sound the same in Chinese) No one knew. After all, using the word "sword" alone wasn't commonly done.

Huang Shaotian made his decision. His hand speed erupted. Troubling Rain didn't try and retreat. He swung his sword to fight the three enemies. The match was at the end game. Without much health left, retreating would be worse, so Huang Shaotian was planning on doing his utmost to deal as much damage as possible before he died.

Blood splattered everywhere!

Some of the blood flew out from the other three characters, but there were some that flew out from him. Huang Shaotian tried to make a trade.

Not a one for one, but a one for three!

He didn't think he could kill the three enemy players or even kill him along with himself. Instead, he wanted to lower their health enough for the others to be able to finish them off.

"The rest is up to you guys!!!"

Huang Shaotian's final words weren't trash talk. Troubling Rain fell, but his three opponents had lost a lot of health in exchange. It was very possible that Team Blue Rain would be able to abandon all else and directly wipe them out in one go. Afterwards, it would turn into a 3v1.

The match would end soon. Team Samsara didn't cower. The three players faced the attacks of the remaining Team Blue Rain players.

In the end, Team Samsara's three players fell, but they were able to bring down Team Blue Rain's Paladin with them.

Without giving them any pause, Zhou Zekai's Cloud Piercer arrived. It was a 2v1, but the remaining Team Samsara player was Zhou Zekai. Apart from healing, there was nothing Zhou Zekai couldn't do.

Everyone knew the match would conclude soon. Even though Zhou Zekai was skilled, he would still be going up against two enemies. Cloud Piercer may be in a better condition than his two opponent characters, but he still didn't have much health or mana left at this point.

Bang!

A single bang resounded throughout the field.

Brilliant Edge fell. After Cloud Piercer stood up, he only had a sliver of health remaining, but he still seemed as calm as ever.

When the camera pointed at Zhou Zekai, his calmness couldn't be seen. From the camera, only his nervousness could be seen. Even so, the thrill after winning couldn't be hidden. The audience exploded with cheers. This was Team Samsara's home stadium. Their victory was a victory in the finals.

In the first round, Team Samsara won over Team Blue Rain: 7.5 to 2.

Chapter 657: The People's War

Hu..... when the match ended, everyone heaved a sigh of relief, even Team Blue Rain's fans.

This match had been as brilliant as it had been intense. From the first clash between the two teams, the fighting never stopped until there was only one player remaining. This sort of match weren't commonly seen. The fierceness of this season's finals made the entire crowd feel like it was worth their money to watch it live.

7.5 to 2. Team Samsara's lead seemed quite large. However, players familiar with the Glory scene knew that these points didn't have the same amount of weight as a sport like football. One side leading by five points after a single round wasn't a dealbreaker in Glory. After all, following the competitive scoring rules, the team competition was worth 4 points. Along with a few points obtained in the individual competition and group arena, this difference in points was actually quite common. The finals would be decided by the total points obtained in the home and away matches, so this difference didn't mean the competition was over.

The post-match interviews after the first round of finals were like fire. Team Blue Rain's captain Yu Wenzhou was as calm as ever. He praised his opponents as well as the performance of his players. He expressed his regret for being the first one to die in the team competition: "Because of a few reasons that everyone knows about, I'm often the enemy team's priority. Maybe I should have considered being the team's reserve player and substituting in occasionally to prevent our opponents from finding any opportunities to focus me."

Whether his words were true or not, Yu Wenzhou's relaxed attitude could still be seen. He was an experienced player who had passed through many storms. A 2 to 7.5 point disparity didn't make him feel too much pressure.

As for Huang Shaotian's interview, he once again tested the writing speed of the reporters and their recording device's battery life. They would need to search through a lengthy speech later to dig up valuable information. It would put their skill as a reporter to the test.

But the most important interview was the one that gave them the greatest headache.

Zhou Zekai was without a doubt the MVP of today's match. Even though Team Samsara's Lu Boyuan had been the first to open up the match in the team competition, Zhou Zekai was still the deciding player in the end.

After a bunch of "mm, ah, oh", The reporters finally obtained a few relatively long responses. One of the questions that they obviously needed to ask was how he felt towards their victory, to which Zhou Zekai replied "Very happy."

Another lengthier response was Zhou Zekai's comment towards Huang Shaotian's performance, which he expressed was "Very outstanding".

Someone asked Zhou Zekai for more details and his feelings towards Huang Shaotian's trash talking.

Zhou Zekai fell silent for quite awhile before responding: "No time to read!"

That was about all they managed to unearth from Zhou Zekai. They would be able to get more information out of the other members of Team Samsara, but most of their answers were just decorous remarks, praising their opponents or their team. When the reporters asked about Team Samsara's skill points, the players would simply smile, but wouldn't say anything.

After the post-match interviews ended, the stream showed a few highlights from the match. Then, the commentator and guest conducted a detailed analysis of the match. Ye Xiu obviously didn't need to listen to the content of this analysis. The analysis of the commentator and guest couldn't compare to their own analysis.

"Tsk tsk tsk tsk....." Wei Chen clicked his tongue. He didn't say anything. His hands and head seemed to be focused on the game, but his heart clearly wasn't in it. His character was just running around in circles, not doing anything. His mind still lingered on the match!

Ye Xiu also went back to the game. He soon received a message from Loulan Slash: "A boss spawned!"

"No way. How could it be such a coincidence? A boss spawned right when the match ended?" Ye Xiu replied.

Loulan Slash sent him an ashamed emoji: "The match was too intense. I forgot to pay attention to the game. It was info we received from awhile ago....."

"The boss is still there?" Ye Xiu asked.

"Still there. I just checked." Loulan Slash replied.

"Then let's hurry!" Ye Xiu immediately called Tang Rou and Steamed Bun. Those two were still watching the highlights from the match. When they heard his call, they went back to the game.

"Which boss?" Ye Xiu asked Loulan Slash for more details!

"Darkness Palace's Night Streak" Loulan Slash replied.

"Ah, that guy!" Ye Xiu was excited. Night Streak was a Level 70 wild boss. It was Darkness Palace's secret protector, an expert in subterfuge and assassination. Among the player classes, he would be categorized as an Assassin.

"I'm on my way. What's the situation over there?" Ye Xiu asked.

"Currently, none of the guilds have made any movements. However, a few players have grouped up to kill the wild boss, but they're hovering between life and death. Let's hurry!" Loulan Slash was quite excited. His guild probably hadn't gotten a Level 70 boss yet.

"The other guilds might be on their way too. Have your people be on the lookout." Ye Xiu said.

“Should we start acting now?” Loulan Slash asked.

“Having many bully the few won’t be an issue.” Ye Xiu replied.

Loulan Slash immediately arranged his troops. Ye Xiu asked Wei Chen: “Night Streak has spawned. Did you guys get the information?”

“My side? No.....” Wei Chen checked his messages. He looked at the guild chat. It was filled with the guild celebrating their victory. Tonight was, without a doubt, a holiday for Samsara’s fans. It wasn’t just their own guild chat. Samsara had included the global chat with them. They acted like Samsara had already won the championships.

The fans of the other teams couldn’t keep watching.

Especially Tyranny’s, Tiny Herb’s, and Blue Rain’s. These teams had already won the championships before. Their fans were looking down on Samsara’s, regarding them as country bumpkins. Samsara’s fans weren’t looking at the big picture. They had only finished playing the first round of the finals. How could that be considered worth celebrating for?

Excellent Era’s fans also wanted to say a few words, but Excellent Era’s performance in the regular season was too embarrassing. The smarter ones shut their mouths and endured it. A few jumped out and argued about Excellent Era, which attracted a lot of attention. They were immediately met with ridicule.

All sorts of insults were thrown in the global chat. In this virtual world, it was always easy to make sparks fly. It couldn’t be stopped either. Being able to say whatever you wanted was one of the charms of an online game.

Wei Chen finally received a message. He checked it. It was unexpectedly a call for him to PK..... The dispute between the fans of different teams had gone up a level. The friction had been continuously rising. That night, the arrogance of Samsara’s fans had reached the peak.

The guilds couldn’t stop it from happening. This was the people’s war. At this moment, as symbols of their team in the game, the Club guilds could only stand on their fans’ side. Any burden or losses from this large-scale PK was something that they couldn’t ignore. The will of the people was everything.

The fires of war continued to reach new heights. Even Wei Chen, the group leader of Samsara’s second elite group, had been called to battle. The elite groups were the peak powers in the Club guild. They would only set out for important battles.

“I’m..... going.....” Wei Chen was solemn as he replied to the call. From the rapid scrolling in the global chat, he could already predict how bitter this war would be. No matter how strong his character was, he would certainly drown within that ocean of people.

The fires of war spread from the fans of the teams, who stood at the top in the game. A guild like Heavenly Justice could only watch as a spectator. Ye Xiu quickly helped Loulan Slash recognize how good of an opportunity this was. Loulan Slash continued to dispatch troops over.

Everywhere they walked was a battlefield.

This was a war among the people. At the same time, it was a paradise for scrap pickers. The fans of these powerful teams were relatively high-end players. When they fought, good equipment would drop everywhere. Even non-professional scrap pickers would join in for this opportunity. However, how could the PKers just let scrap pickers take their equipment? The scrap pickers also got dragged into the war.

An element of equipment soon added into the war between the fans.

Ye Xiu didn't care about any of this. He picked the shortest route to Darkness palace. Lord Grim's colorful equipment made others want to vomit at the sight of it. No one was crazy enough to want to fight him. His Myriad Manifestations Umbrella was a Silver weapon, so many people would covet it, but Ye Xiu wasn't so stupid as to show it off to everyone. He obviously hid it in his bag. As a result, from the outside, it looked like Lord Grim didn't have a weapon equipped. His character was also equipped with a set of garbage equipment. It didn't matter if others had heard of the famous "Lord Grim". No one caused him trouble.

Tang Rou and Steamed Bun's situation were similar. They weren't members of any of the top guilds. Their equipment was below-average. They were practically invisible in the current environment. The three quickly met with each other midway and headed over together.

Halfway through, Loulan Slash received a message. A guild had started making movements in Darkness Palace.

"Which guild is it?" Ye Xiu asked.

"Conquering Clouds." Loulan Slash said.

"Conquering Clouds....." Ye Xiu repeated.

Even though Conquering Clouds was also a Club guild, in terms of the fight for wild bosses, they were a relatively low presence.

In the Alliance, Team Conquering Clouds had performed quite well in the first half of the season. They had reached eighth place, but after Sun Xiang transferred to Excellent Era, Team Conquering Clouds quickly dropped and ended up in fifteenth place. It was hard to even consider them as middle-tier team in the pro scene. Their guild was certainly more powerful than your average player guild, but they were far from being at Blue Brook Guild's or Herb Garden's level. However, arranging a few elite groups to kill a wild boss wasn't a problem for them. For a lot of player guilds, even if you threw an uncontested wild boss to them, they still wouldn't be able to take it down.

Thinking about this point, Ye Xiu was a bit worried for Heavenly Justice. Heavenly Justice had started as a player guild. He also didn't know how good Loulan Slash's elite groups were. What if they controlled the field, but Heavenly Justice still wasn't able to take down the boss?

When Ye Xiu asked, Loulan Slash cried: "God, don't look down on us!!"

"Okay okay. That's good. I'll be there soon. Give me a group to lead. I'll take care of Conquering Cloud. You take the boss." Ye Xiu said.

Chapter 658: The Battle at Darkness Palace

Darkness Palace was a place that was filled with countless legends according to the game's lore. The magnanimity of the palace made the characters look tiny. When you looked up at the ceiling, it looked as distant as the sky.

But to these experienced players, none of this amazed them anymore. Only Tang Rou and Steamed Bun had never been here before. After entering the palace, they looked around everywhere, enjoying the fresh scenery. Ye Xiu and Loulan Slash had contacted each other previously. When they arrived at the palace, they saw Loulan Slash and his group waiting. Loulan Slash immediately invited them to join his team and then directly gave him the position of group leader.

When he saw the equipment worn by the three of them, Loulan Slash felt pity!

"God. I'm feeling sick looking at the equipment on you guys." Loulan Slash said.

"Then give us some equipment. I don't mind." Ye Xiu replied.

"I didn't bring any with me. I'll give it to you, when we're done." Loulan Slash said.

"Ha ha, then we probably won't need it." Ye Xiu laughed.

"Hm? What do you mean?" Loulan Slash didn't understand.

Ye Xiu didn't explain and switched topics: "Where are Conquering Cloud's people?"

"They're currently inspecting their troops and making arrangements inside. They already saw, so they're probably on their guard!" Loulan Slash said.

"You haven't seen any other guilds?" Ye Xiu asked.

"No."

"Throw some people along the sides of the road to keep a lookout for them. If they discover anything, we'll be able to prepare a plan in advance." Ye Xiu said.

"Relax. I've already arranged for it." Loulan Slash wasn't so green, he needed Ye Xiu to teach him something as simple as this.

"Let's go in." Ye Xiu nodded his head and their group set off. Their group was in high-spirits because everyone knew Lord Grim's name. Even though they couldn't personally confirm it, most players firmly believed Lord Grim was Ye Qiu. It didn't matter whether you were a fan of Ye Qiu or not. The weight that the name Ye Qiu held was obvious. Being able to play with a God in the game would always be an amazing experience.

"Is he God Ye Qiu? Is he God Ye Qiu?" Quite a few people were asking around in the group chat. Even though Lord Grim had the Heavenly Justice tag next to his name, he rarely interacted with the other guild members.

"That's me, that's me. Everyone, listen to my directions!" Ye Xiu typed.

"Oh oh oh." All sorts of emojis were typed into chat, making Loulan Slash feel jealous and envious. This sort of respect wasn't something he could get by throwing money.

“God, I’ll be heading over there.” Loulan Slash called out. He was planning on leading another group.

“Mm, go ahead.” Ye Xiu replied.

Loulan Slash left the group and was preparing to join the other group, but his character couldn’t teleport over. He walked with Lord Grim and the others, guiding them.

It wasn’t very bright in Darkness Palace. After passing through a few rooms, they finally reached a spacious hall. Several hundred players were already inside, but it didn’t feel crowded. Apart from several stone steles and dusky rays of light, it didn’t feel like they were indoors.

“Those are Conquering Cloud’s people.” Loulan Slash pointed out to Ye Xiu.

“I see them.” Ye Xiu replied. He examined his opponent’s members and then said in the group chat: “Come. I’m going to do some rearranging.”

Each group had ten teams. Ye Xiu rearranged it by class. Each team composition had a clear style. The teams were sorted into distinct melee, long-ranged, healers, AoE, control, trap teams to make it easier to lead.

“Our people are over there. When should we start?” Loulan Slash asked Ye Xiu. He wasn’t in Ye Xiu’s group anymore, so he didn’t know that he was rearranging his troops.

“Whenever you want.” Ye Xiu said, while rearranging everyone.

“Ah! They’ve started!” Loulan Slash suddenly shouted. Ye Xiu turned around. Sure enough, Conquering Cloud had started attacking. All sorts of skills suddenly burst out.

“Have some people go up.” Ye Xiu said.

“Attack people or attack the boss?” Loulan Slash asked.

“It doesn’t matter. Right, where’s the boss?” Ye Xiu asked. He hadn’t seen the boss. Night Streak had the same model as the characters. The boss wasn’t some giant monster, so he wasn’t easy to find with so many people here.

Loulan Slash, who was about to go to battle, stumbled. He couldn’t help but turn around and look at Lord Grim. A normal person asking this question would be normal, but God should know everything. They had arrived at the scene, but he couldn’t find the boss. It made Loulan Slash panic a little.

Before he could answer, he heard Ye Xiu say: “Whatever. That’s your problem.”

Loulan Slash absent-mindedly ran to one side and met up with his group. Conquering Cloud’s people fought the boss, while keeping their guard against Heavenly Justice. It was obvious what Heavenly Justice’s intentions were. For Conquering Cloud, having the opportunity to snatch a Level 70 boss wasn’t easy. They didn’t want to lose this chance.

“Go up!” Loulan Slash roared.

“Attack the people or the boss?” The group members asked.

“It doesn’t matter.” Loulan Slash thought about Ye Xiu’s previous words and gave an answer. In the end, he swepted over the battlefield and then paused: “Right, where’s the boss?”

Loulan Slash understood now..... The battle was such a mess that the boss Night Streak couldn’t seen.

Loulan Slash also couldn’t find the boss, but his group had people paying attention and pointed it out to him. When he saw the boss, Loulan Slash considered how he should go about attacking. At this moment, Ye Xiu sent him another message: “They have quite a lot of people. I might need some more support.”

“Okay.” Loulan Slash replied. He recalculated how he should arrange everything, when he suddenly heard shouts from nearby. Ye Xiu had led his group forward.

Their target was obvious. They didn’t hesitate. Then again, Ye Xiu didn’t even know where the boss was located. He just directed his team to start attacking enemy players.

“Team one and two to the left. Team three and four to the right. Team five in the middle. Team six and seven stand four units from the back and attack. Team eight CC them. Team nine get ready to throw ice. Team ten, get ready to heal!!!”

This division of work had been arranged beforehand. Without anyone disturbing them, their execution went flawlessly. With just one wave of attacks, a huge hole appeared in Conquering Cloud’s troops. They clearly couldn’t hang on. They hadn’t thought Heavenly Justice would be so aggressive and directly charge at them. It didn’t even seem like they knew where the boss was.

“Hold your ground! Hold your ground! Stay in order! Stay in order!!” Conquering Cloud didn’t have any plans on attacking back. They were shouting orders according to the first thing that they thought of.

“Team nine! Ice!!!” Ye Xiu ordered. Team nine was comprised of Spellblades and Ghostblades. They had been ready to attack at any moment. When they heard the order, they immediately cast their spells. The Spellblade’s Ice Wave Formation and the Ghostblade’s Ice Boundary were different, but they both had a chance to inflict freezing. A huge section of Conquering Cloud’s troops had been frozen into blocks of ice.

“AoE team, don’t stop attacking!!” Team three charge! Make sure to interrupt their high-levelled skills!”

In a large-scale battle, Ye Xiu had no way of displaying his individual prowess. He could only lead the group. Even though he hadn’t formed any tacit understanding with this group, with Ye Xiu’s identity, no one would question his orders. They didn’t ask why and just carried it out. Each of the teams had their use in the battle. There would sometimes be AoE attacks or crowd control or focused attacks. The battle went smoothly.

If they were doing well, Conquering Cloud was naturally having a bad time. Their troops were in a complete mess, yet their leader was still telling everyone to hold their ground. In comparison to Ye Xiu’s quick and precise leading, Conquering Cloud’s troops were like scattered sand. Without any strategy or tactics, they suffered heavy losses with very little advantages to show for it. This was Conquering Cloud’s current state.

If Conquering Clouds continued on in this way, they would be forced out. It wasn’t that the leader was stupid, but rather he didn’t know what do in this situation. The enemy attacks blotted out the sky and

covered the ground. It made him feel like if he did this, it wouldn't be right, but if he did that, it wouldn't be right either.

"Hold your ground. Hold your ground." As he shouted these words, the leader was actively surveying the situation and thinking of a solution. However, his thinking couldn't keep up with the constantly changing situation. As soon as he thought up of something, the battle suddenly shifted. It was as if a spy had ruined his plans. How could he dare to send out any orders?

Once Ye Xiu's team spread chaos throughout Conquering Clouds, with the rear on fire, how could the ones on the frontlines attacking the boss be calm! Quite a few of them went to help in the PvP in panic, when Loulan Slash's group suddenly charged forward. Conquering Clouds immediately resisted, thinking Loulan Slash's group was planning on attacking them like Ye Xiu's group, so they decided to strike first.

Even though the boss was their target, Loulan Slash obviously couldn't ignore this attack. His leading couldn't compare to Ye Xiu's, but his group had a team of elites too!

Loulan Slash, Ocean Ahead, Little Bei, Night Tide, Thousand Falling Leaves.

These five were planning on entering the Pro Alliance next season. Whether it was their character or their skill, they far surpassed normal players. It could be said that unless a pro team was here, for a five-player team, Loulan Slash's team were unrivaled in the game.

This point could directly be seen in this battle. These five were unstoppable. They had tacit understanding with one another and their coordination linked together naturally. They already had an aura of pros.

With such a team, Conquering Cloud's troops were suppressed. Heavenly Justice's other players weren't just cheerleaders either. Both sides of Conquering Clouds had to retreat in defeat. They couldn't control the boss Night Streak either. Attacked on all three sides, their troops fell layer after layer.

"Attack the boss!" Loulan Slash was still clear-headed. He hadn't forgotten his goal. As he killed players, he directed several of his troops to begin attacking the boss. Conquering Cloud's defeat had already been determined, but who knows if another guild might show up?

Just as he was thinking about this, he received a message: "Players from Seaside are heading over!"

Chapter 659: Who is robbing whom?

"I knew it wouldn't be this easy." Ye Xiu sighed after reading Loulan Slash's message. Compared to Conquering Clouds, both the guild and team Seaside were troublesome opponents. Their team's Zhao Yang was an All Star level pro who used the Qi Master, Boundless Sea, a powerful character even amongst the pro players.

Although they were strong, there was still a limit to just how powerful they were. The truly powerful Clubs were too occupied with the drama happening during the playoffs. The only ones who still had time to fight for field bosses were the small fries who still hung around on both sides.

"Where are they now?" Ye Xiu asked Loulan Slash.

“They’re on the way. There are two groups.” Loulan Slash answered.

Guild Seaside didn’t have much success with wild bosses in the past, so they had learned to be more vigilant every time they found a new opportunity; they would gather their troops together before they embarked on the conquest. Because of this, they were a lot slower than Heavenly Justice and Conquering Clouds.

“Two groups are fine. Let’s hurry up and finish it up here. You guys continue dealing with the boss. I will lead another group to deal with Seaside.” Ye Xiu decided.

Loulan Slash wasn’t dealing with the boss at the moment. He and his five people team were enjoying their massacre against Conquering Clouds along with the assistance of Ye Xiu’s group. Loulan Slash had only sent a portion of his people to deal with the boss Night Streak. Seeing that that portion was enough, everyone else continued to enjoy the slaughtering.

With sharp strategies on one side and overwhelming combat prowess on the other, Heavenly Justice beat Conquering Clouds swiftly. Although Heavenly Justice didn’t win without any casualties, all of the losses they sustained were rather negligible. The brilliant strategies minimized the damage they had taken.

Conquering Clouds quickly realized that their defeat was set in stone and struggling longer would only lead to more losses. The guild leader ordered the retreat with a long sigh. Under normal circumstances, Heavenly Justice would have just let them go, but considering that Seaside was arriving soon, they chased after Conquering Clouds, trying to kill off as many players as possible. Heavenly Justice wanted to eliminate the possibility that Conquering Clouds would come back to take an advantage of both sides once Heavenly Justice clashed with Seaside.

Conquering Clouds had the worst luck today as they were slaughtered all the way out of the Darkness Palace. Even the guild leader died in the chaos.

Without a leader, Conquering Clouds fell apart immediately. Ye Xiu stopped the bloodshed right away, and started reorganizing the troops because Seaside’s troops were now within sight.

Heavenly Justice had grasped total victory against Conquering Clouds, so everyone’s moral was through the roof right now. Loulan Slash spent no time on the boss. Instead, he followed Ye Xiu’s group all the way to the entrance. Using this small break, he delivered a rallying speech to his own guild, outlining the glorious victory they would have over Seaside.

“Stop listening to his bragging. Hurry up and get into positions!” Ye Xiu yelled out, and the crowd scattered instantaneously.

“What are we doing?” Loulan Slash was confused.

“Ambush!” Ye Xiu replied.

“Ambush?”

“Do you actually want to go head to head with them? Don’t you know how to use your information properly?” Ye Xiu questioned.

“But didn’t they already see us?” Loulan Slash was even more puzzled.

“Then they can chose to not enter. There’s only one entrance to the palace anyways.” Ye Xiu refuted. He had already regrouped all the players and sent everyone in hiding. He never planned on having a direct confrontation with Seaside, so instead, he had the ambush in mind from the start.

“Oh. I get it. I should get my guys to hide too.” Loulan Slash turned around to deliver the new command to his group.

“Tell me,” Ye Xiu’s Lord Grim stepped in front of Loulan Slash, “If you come over here, then once the boss dies over there, who will pick up the loot?”

“F***!!” Loulan Slash jumped up in shock.

The right to pick the boss’ loot wasn’t free for all. It’s usually determined within the group, so only the guild leader or the person designated as the guild leader had this right. Loulan Slash hadn’t given this authority to anyone, so by default, he had to be the one to pick up the loot. However, he was so far away from the boss that the system had switch the right to pick loot to free for all, which definitely didn’t work for Loulan Slash.

After realizing this, Loulan Slash ran back like a shooting rocket. On the other hand, Ocean Ahead and the others stayed behind to join the upcoming battle.

But then again, just now was pretty exciting, but this time... seemed a little shameless?

Although something felt wrong, everyone hid themselves well. As they approached, Seaside noticed that there was a crowd at the entrance, but the mob quickly dispersed. Knowing that there was a wild boss, Seaside assumed that the scene they witness was probably the result of the clash between two guilds: What a wonderful opportunity for us!

No matter who the winner of that conflict was, both sides must have suffered severe losses. If this isn’t the most perfect time to attack, what is?

Guild Seaside moved swiftly and was soon upon the entrance at the middle of mountain. Nonetheless, they maintained a cautious position and did not break their formation nor did they attack randomly, preparing against a potential assault.

Unfortunately, they had miscalculated the results of the conflict between Conquering Clouds and Heavenly Justice. They never imagined that Heavenly Justice had decimated Conquering Clouds by such a large margin. There were some minor casualties, but the moral of Heavenly Justice was incredibly high after that one-sided victory.

While guild Seaside was still thinking about how to torture a group of wounded after a battle, they stepped into the gateway of Dark Palace. A flood of skills exploded out without any warning.

“AMBUSH!!!” The guild leader of Seaside screamed, but he was not too worried. This was, in the end, a game. All that an ambush could usually accomplish was to provide some initial advantages since instant-kill between same level players was not a possibility. Unlike a real battlefield, where a successful ambush could take out a field of enemies. In a game, all it could do was lowering the enemy’s’ HP somewhat, unless you focused firepower on a single target. Believing his opponents were just a group of wounded players, the leader of Seaside’s troops did not panic at all.

He told his troops to not panic, and then started observing the situation calmly. Within moments, this guild leader found himself in a total confusion.

Wasn't this offense.... A little too violent?

The guild leader of Seaside noticed this whiling watching his own HP gauge slipping at a visible speed. The attacks were simply too fierce to be coming from the pitiful victims that he was imagining. On top of that, there were attacks coming from all directions, so he had no idea which way he should be retreating to.

"First team..."

"Fourth team..."

"Sixth team..."

Ye Xiu, on the other hand, was giving out a constant flow of commands and directing this surprise attack with patience. He had no intention of turning this into a frontal battle after gaining even the tiniest advantage at the beginning. However, Ocean Ahead and his friends had a different idea. After being contemptible for awhile, they decided to charge in and soon wrestled among Seaside's players.

This gave the ambushed Seaside a sense of direction and focused their attacks on them.

In terms of numbers, guild Seaside had the upper hand. Still, Heavenly Justice had just won a perfect victory. Their high moral boosted their performance level way above the usual. Coupled with Ye Xiu's ingenious strategies and the fact that only Loulan Slash was missing from the elite force, Heavenly Justice dominated the battlefield with ease. Guild Seaside's confidence quickly deteriorated: Aren't our people dying a bit too quickly?

Advantage? Where is our advantage?

Seaside's guild leader finally began to panic. The current situation was not what he had expected in the slightest. He had dreamt of an easy victory. He had prepared to accept the struggle if the opponent was not that much weaker, but he couldn't understand why the balance of winning was tilting in favor of the other side as it continued to progress.

"Third team, 4 o'clock direction, charge."

"Ninth team, 8 o'clock, traps."

"Sixth team, AoE attack, provide cover for the charging team..."

"First team, ignore them. Come back and regroup with the second...."

The attacking teams were also being put on track as well under Ye Xiu's command. They maintained the violent attacks without sacrificing organization. Seaside's ease and calmness had already been crushed. The guild leader was starting to give out directions like "stand your ground!". If the people from Conquering Clouds were here, they would definitely feel a sense of deja vu. If someone could give them another chance to start over, they would retreat right at that moment without any hesitation.

Unfortunately for Seaside, since they had no idea what had happened before they had arrived, they still believed that there was still a chance for them to turn it around. The guild leader was still looking for an opening to turn the tide. As he looked around, he noticed that his people were disappearing at a frightening pace. Soon it seemed like the entire screen was filled with Heavenly Justice's people, waving their blades around to reap the life of another one of his comrade. All the characters with guild Seaside's tag above their head were either struggling or on the ground.

It was only then did Seaside's guild leader realize that he had lost this fight completely. He had lost this boss fight without even seeing the boss once.

No matter how unsatisfied they were, they could not revive dead characters with their emotions, so Seaside had no choice but to retreat, which is the best thing they could do right now.

Seaside had a smooth retreat. Loulan Slash did not receive any more additional news of any newcomers, so they did not treat Seaside the way that they treated Conquering Clouds. Upon seeing them retreating, Ye Xiu let them off by easing the attacks before sending Loulan Slash a message. Loulan Slash did not have the spare time to reply. When the players rushed back to where the boss was, the announcement that Heavenly Justice had killed Night Streak showed up in the world channel.

Cheers erupted from the troops. All of that killing was for this moment.

Noticing that everything went without problems, Ye Xiu finally let his heart drop back down and started hoping for the right loot.

When the new message from Loulan Slash arrived, Ye Xiu was fully expecting a report of the loot, but the message had only one word, "F***!"

"What?" Ye Xiu was confused. This was a level 70 field boss' drop, so no matter how unsatisfactory it was, one could always use it to trade for something he or she needed.

"I got killed by someone!" Loulan Slash messaged again.

"WHAT?"

"Deception! Wasn't he your friend?" Loulan Slash asked.

"That guy..." Ye Xiu paused in surprise. He could guess most of the things that happened without asking and cried out hurriedly, "Steam Bun! Hurry up and guard the door!"

"Humph?" Steamed Bun looked up. After a second of confusion, he took off his headphones and walked towards the entrance of the room.

All three people in the room stared at him for a second, then Ye Xiu snapped exasperatedly, "I'm asking you to guard the door in the game!"

While Tang Rou was laughing hysterically, Wei Chen was full of seriousness, "This was a grave mistake on our part!"

Chapter 660: Be Wary of Leaving Combat

When Steamed Bun finally figured out what was happening and rushed to the entrance of Dark Palace, Tang Rou had moved ahead of him. Ye Xiu's Lord Grim followed Soft Mist to figure out the situation.

The cleric present revived Loulan Slash right away, so he was present as well. Right now, he was ordering everyone to start a hunt, "That guy was pretty strong. Make sure you stay with your party. Don't confront him by yourself."

When Ye Xiu heard his command, he hastily spoke up to stop Loulan Slash, "Scatter! Scatter around!"

"But that guy was pretty strong!" Loulan Slash stated his point again.

"Being alone can drag him out, so it's a good thing. If this drags on for too long, then he'll leave combat be able to log out. It'll be too late by then." Ye Xiu explained.

Upon hearing this, Loulan Slash changed his orders immediately while lamenting over the shrewdness of the experienced experts.

"Isn't he your friend? What's going on?" Loulan Slash was nowhere near as composed as he appeared to be. He rushed forward to pick up the loot the moment the boss died. While he was still counting the rewards excitedly, someone else suddenly labeled him as a boss and killed him when he least expected it. When one got killed in the game, a few items from the inventory would also drop. Therefore, most players wouldn't carry anything important on themselves. Just now, when he picked up the loot, Loulan Slash had turned himself into a mobile treasure vault. When he died, he lost more items from his inventory than equipment on his body. Three items from his inventory dropped, while only one equipment on his body had dropped.

While his equipments were flashy, the items in his inventory were much more rare. After all, they had come from a level 70 wild boss, which was usually hoarded away by the big guilds. The items he lost, especially the materials, couldn't even be bought with money. Their value far surpassed the equipments he had. Right now, he lost all of that to a scrap picker. There were no words to describe the bitterness he felt.

"We just know each other. Don't worry. He hasn't run too far yet. I'll take full responsibility if I can't get the stuff back." Ye Xiu replied.

Loulan Slash had some doubts. Apart from Deception's reputation, Loulan Slash had seen Lord Grim working with him last time. The thought "did he act on Lord Grim's order?" surfaced the moment he got killed. Still, he quickly realized that this kind of betrayal was meaningless. They had originally agreed to divide the loot by half. This assassination would earn him less than half, so what would be the point?

Loulan Slash didn't think too much about it, but the thought was still there. He simply pushed it to the back of his mind. Ye Xiu's words not only crushed his doubts, it also embraced him a little, "No, I didn't mean it that way. I was just wondering. Aren't the two of you friends? Is there some misunderstanding?"

"No. That is just what he does." Ye Xiu answered.

"Oh, he..." Loulan Slash was going to follow up with an explanation of how Deception had killed him, but Ye Xiu interrupted, "Just tell me where he ran off to. That's much more important than how you died. This way?"

Lord Grim pointed with Myriad Manifestations Umbrella towards the direction where players were gathering.

“Yeah...” Loulan Slash agreed.

“Start attacking with AoE attacks!!!” Ye Xiu called out, while going over, “Attack with your group! Those who aren’t in the same group, don’t crowd together!”

“Don’t stand around too loosely! Try to cover more area with your attacks! Start attacking!” Ye Xiu was too busy giving out commands to chat with Loulan Slash.

Loulan Slash thought about it. There really was no time to chat. Once Deception leaves a combat state and logs off, he can’t have everyone here wait until he comes back. It didn’t take long to leave combat: only 3 minutes. This was determined by the system. If no skill hit Deception within 3 min, he would be considered out of combat. Then, he could simply log off and escape this hunt with ease.

Ye Xiu’s plan right now wasn’t focused on killing or even finding the opponent. All he wanted to do was ensure that Deception couldn’t log off.

“Open your eyes! That guy’s a ninja. The ID is Deception! He’s a professional scrap picker! His greatest strength is being shameless! Very shameless!” When Ye Xiu’s voice echoed across the hall, Loulan Slash, as the guild leader, decided to stay silent to let Ye Xiu take full control.

The players from Heavenly Justice responded in kind. They were quite enraged by the fact that their guild leader got killed out of the blue. They simply couldn’t allow the fruits of their hard work to be stolen so easily. They couldn’t accept that they had beaten two large guilds with Clubs behind them, but lost to a lowly scrap picker.

The peace and quiet that had settled down in the Darkness Palace with the end of the boss fight was quickly shattered. Players of all classes took out their AoE skill. No one knew if the skills had hit Deception, but they had aggroed quite a number of monsters.

Dark Palance was nonetheless still a leveling area and all leveling areas had regular monsters. It was just that those regular monsters posed no real threat to the elite teams, so no one really cared much about them. While dealing with the monsters casually, everyone was still looking around, hoping to see Deception.

“There!”

A cry rang from somewhere. When most were still looking around to locate the source of it, Lord Grim had already run off.

“Is he there?” Loulan Slash hastily followed but he wasn’t sure about it at all. This only made him realize the gap he had in comparison to pro even more.

Ye Xiu had Lord Grim charging straight over. Purple smoke exploded, engulfing a number of people in a flash.

Ninjutsu- Smoke Bomb.

Spitfires have a similar thing called Smoke Bullet.

Smoke bombs worked faster than smoke bullets. They filled the entire area in a split second. Using this skill in that moment was obviously for escaping. Ye Xiu immediately gave up trying to find Deception in the smoke cloud. Instead, he started predicting where he would jump out from.

As expected. Deception's figure quickly shot out of the smoke cloud. Surely, there were people other than Ye Xiu who noticed this and gave chase right away. Ye Xiu, on the other hand, noticed that Deception's hand moved back as he was escaping and shouted out a warning, "Beware of the nails!"

"Nails" was the name given to the skill by the players. The actual skill name would be caltrops. These tiny spikes are thrown onto the ground. Those who stepped on them wouldn't take a lot of damage, but it severely decreased a character's mobility.

Deception hid his action well, so most people wouldn't have noticed that he threw out the nails. Unsurprisingly, among the many that gave chase, quite a few slowed down suddenly. Clearly, they had stepped on the nails by accident. With another handful of caltrops, he successfully delayed his pursuers to buy himself sometime to jump onto the stone pillar nearby and started climbing upward.

The guns roared away.

Just because the melee players were stopped didn't mean that the long-range players had to take a back seat. The gunner class players focused their gunfire on him right away. However, Deception performed superbly. He was clearly well-practiced with the climbing skill known to ninjas. In that moment, there was no one to stop him. Ye Xiu knew from his agile movements that he probably hadn't brought out his trash equipments for this scrap picking. This kind of speed could only be achieved with movement speed buffs from relatively good equipments.

In a few breath, Deception was pretty high up. With a backward jump, he stepped onto a beam and started sprinting straight ahead.

The beam was rather narrow, so it had no space for horizontal movement. Running up there spared him from dealing with the troubles from melee class players, but it made him the perfect target for long-range class players.

Amidst the gun fires, Deception ran straight ahead, swaying left and right to dodge the attacks. These actions demonstrated his incredible mastery over his character's movements.

"Not bad!" Ye Xiu praised. At the same time, Deception had finally entered Lord Grim's effective attacking range. The Myriad Manifestations Umbrella shook and Anti-Tank Missile shot straight at Deception.

Boom!

The missile landed on the beam squarely and the shock wave spread out. Deception dodged both with an agile leap, successfully avoiding this calculated move of Ye Xiu's.

Amidst the regretful sighs of the players around, Deception could feel cold sweat dripping down his back. If he had reacted half a second later, the missile would have hit him.

Deception had been ignoring his attackers up until now. That well-planned attack finally tempted him a glance at the crowd. Immediately, a familiar name stood out painfully to him.

Why is he here?!

Deception buried his surprise in his heart and noticed the guild ID before Lord Grim's name. It was same as all the other players: Heavenly Justice.

Had he been recruited?

While Deception was still contemplating about it, Lord Grim fired again.

Deception started to worry. If it was a one on one, he was confident that he could dodge the attacks pretty easily. The problem at hand right now was that he was running around in a rain of bullets. If an expert at such a high skill level joined the fray, there was no way his escape would be easy. That jump had indeed been splendid, but that was because he had made a mistake previously and moved one step too slow. How many players could make that sort of prediction?

I can't drag this on any longer!

Deception made up his mind. Eyeing the stone pillar nearby, he suddenly jumped over.

Just when he seemed to have missed it, he threw out a ninjato, which buried itself into the pillar. Then he swung his character over using the rope attached to the small knife. After some swinging in midair, he successfully hid himself behind the pillar.

"Surround him!!" Loulan Slash ordered loudly, and the players of Heavenly Justice rushed from every direction.

Behind the pillar, Deception used a Ninjutsu · Disappearing Body Technique right away and was planning on taking his time to assess the situation when a roll of racing bullets nicked him

Among the flying debris, Lord Grim's gun pointed straight at him from below the pillar, "Still hiding?"

Deception was gloomy. Wasn't that a bit too fast?