

Avatar 661

Chapter 661: Hasty Escape

The Disappearing Body Technique was a skill that enabled Ninjas to have Spiderman-like abilities. However, this skill had a limited activation time. Deception was able to maintain this skill for 20 seconds. He planned on making good use of this time by planning his escape route, but he didn't expect Lord Grim to find him so quick.

This guy was very troublesome. From their previous fight together, he had experienced how bothersome Lord Grim was. Right when he thought he had gotten a good haul, he just had to bump into him.

He had used the Disappearing Body Technique and Darkness Palace itself was dimly lit. The higher you went, the darker it was too. How was this guy able to find me? Deception thought perplexedly. As he pondered over this, he didn't hesitate to move to a higher place. The long-ranged classes could still hit him at this height.

However, when he moved from his hiding place, he heard Lord Grim say, "There! Did you see him?! He moved just now!"

"I see him!" Numerous people responded and immediately began attacking him.

Deception felt helpless. He dared to make a bet with anyone that Lord Grim hadn't actually known where he was hiding, but rather guessed that he would be around this area. Did the random firing force me to move and trick me into revealing my location?

If I had just stayed still and took the sudden attack, would he have passed by me?

Deception's current analysis of the situation was actually incorrect. He had underestimated Ye Xiu.

It was true that Ye Xiu wasn't completely sure about his hiding position, but he could still roughly guess it. Deception's hiding position could be determined from his previous position and movement speed. In such a short period of time, when Deception went behind the pillar, he couldn't have moved much farther past it. Ye Xiu was sure about this. The previous blind firing hadn't been completely random. Even if it hadn't hit him, it wouldn't be too far off.

Deception was unable to hold off from the heavy attacks from so many players. The Disappearing Body Technique wasn't invincible. Escaping while being targeted by so many players on the stone pillar was no easy feat. Deception attempted to move to another pillar but immediately dismissed the notion, when he remembered that there was that troublesome guy below. He slid down the pillar and mid-way through, he suddenly kicked the stone pillar and jumped, ready to forcefully charge through the crowd.

He moved like a bullet, while taking note of Lord Grim's position. He had to avoid that guy at all costs.

However, right when he glanced over to check Lord Grim's position, Lord Grim's umbrella locked into him. He realized that of all the players, Lord Grim's reaction speed was the fastest. The other players were still shooting at the stone pillar.

“Bang bang!”

Two muffled sounds could be heard and the two shots had actually hit him, causing Deception to tumble in the air.

To be able to hit him, while he was moving at such fast speeds. This guy’s aim was too terrifying!

Deception, who had been shot down from the air, was about to fall into a group of players. If he were surrounded by these players, there was no way he could escape. In that instant, he used the ‘Shadow Clone Technique’ and then used his main body to force his way through.

He waved his hands and threw a smoke bomb towards the ground, instantly creating a thick purple smoke screen around him. The purple smoke was so dense that no one could see anything despite being right next to each other. It would be considered quite good if they didn’t crash into each other. Even though Heavenly Justice’s players could blindly attack because they wouldn’t be able to hurt each other, these aimless attacks would only deal a tiny bit of damage to Deception if they hit. They had no way of keeping him there. In the blink of an eye, Deception snuck his way out of the smoke and stealthily tossed a few caltrops behind.

The two ninja tools were used flawlessly. Deception, who had been in this kind of situation countless times before, knew how to get out of this predicament.

Deception had forced his way out of the encirclement. Normally, he would have ran away without looking back. However, today there was a troublesome guy who wouldn’t let him off so easily. As a result, he couldn’t help but look back. He noticed that while everyone else had lost their sense of direction and moving sluggishly, only Lord Grim quickly dashed out of the smoke and pursued him.

As expected, it’s not going to be easy shaking him off!

Deception turned around and sped up. His equipment could be considered as top quality in the eyes of the Glory community. Ninjas were also a class that emphasized speed. As a result, equipment that increased his movement speed were highly valued. In terms of running, Lord Grim’s shabby equipment would definitely lose to Deception’s.

But how could Ye Xiu only rely on just running? Lord Grim fired his gun while chasing after him.

With all of the bullets coming from behind, Deception could only zig zag left and right to prevent Lord Grim from accurately hitting him. But how could he dodge all of Lord Grim’s attacks? Not all of the bullets hit, but the accuracy was higher than what Deception had predicted. Deception felt like his zig zagging was pointless, but he also knew that if he didn’t move in this way, he would have been turned into a honeycomb.

The bullets induced a small stun effect, making it very annoying. Lord Grim purposefully aimed at Deception’s legs too, so he moved like a crippled duck.

In this situation, even though Deception’s speed was still very fast, Lord Grim, who was able to slow down Deception’s speed, was able to control him quite well.

The exit is right there!

Deception could already see the light coming out of the exit to Darkness Palace. With his current speed, he could shake off the other pursuers, but what about Lord Grim?

Deception wasn't confident that he could escape. Suddenly, the sounds of gunshots stopped. Surprised, Deception glanced over and realized that the distance between him and Lord Grim had widened enough that he was out of Lord Grim's attack range.

Ye Xiu couldn't do much about it.

He had tried his best to hold off Deception. If only his equipment was a bit better, he could definitely catch up to Deception. Unfortunately, his shabby equipment didn't increase his movement speed much, while his opponent's equipment increased his movement speed by a lot. And even though his bullets could slow him down, Deception was still able to slowly increase the distance. Currently, a lot of Heavenly Justice member had run past Lord Grim, but they were only running after Deception, without using any skills to impede Deception's progress. Without slowing him down like Ye Xiu did, they would never be able to catch up. Now that Deception have escaped Ye Xiu's range, his movement speed increased even more.

Deception felt more confident now, after shrugging off Lord Grim. Deception ignored all of the other pursuers.

"Steamed Bun, Little Tang!" Ye Xiu raised his head and called out.

"Hm?"

"Come over. You need to stop Deception." Ye Xiu spoke.

"No problem." Both of them replied.

Darkness Palace's exit was quite wide. Even with 2 players blocking, the exit couldn't be blocked completely. However, these two players didn't consider themselves as mere blockers. The murderous aura they released clearly stated their intention that they were ready to kill anyone who came near the exit.

In the blink of an eye, Deception reached the exit. After escaping from Lord Grim, he paid no heed to the other pursuers. Deception only glanced at the 2 players at the exit. Without even caring to avoid or evade them, he dashed forward.

When Tang Rou saw this person dash forward without any hesitation, she immediately felt admiration for him. Soft Mist moved forward and welcomed him with her spear.

As Deception ran closer, he saw their mismatched equipment and regarded them as worthless. The moment he reached Soft Mist, he suddenly jumped, and threw three shurikens.

Tang Rou didn't know everything about every class, but she had seen the majority of their skills before. In the Arena part of the Heavenly Domain challenge, she had encountered skills from various classes before.

Tang Rou is still not knowledgeable about other profession but have seen the majority of the skills. When she faced the Heavenly Domain challenge, she had witnessed quite a number of these skills, even more so when she completed the Heavenly Domain challenges.

Shuriken was a low level Ninja skill which Tang Rou had seen many times before. The moment the shurikens were thrown towards her, she had Soft Mist move sideways and swing her spear.

“Ding!” The sound of the spear colliding with those shurikens echoed throughout the area. This type of attack wouldn’t have priority over her spear because projectile attacks were usually weak attacks.

Tang Rou moved sideways, causing the shurikens to pass by her without harming her.

Against such a weak skill, Tang Rou had used such a domineering method to counter it. Of course, with such a domineering method, she also showed that she wasn’t just any ordinary player. Deception didn’t expect a character with such a mismatched equipment to be so skilled.

Are we of the same profession?

At this moment, Deception thought about this question. Although the equipment worn by experts weren’t usually bad, experts who came out for scrap picking would usually wear poor equipment. Didn’t Deception also use low grade equipment during scrap picking?

After deflecting the shurikens, the spear didn’t slow down and continued to arc towards Deception. As for Deception, he lived up to being a Ninja. He crouched down in mid-air and dodged the spear. He straightened his legs and stepped on the spear. Using it as leverage, he kicked at Soft Mist.

Seeing Deception and Soft Mist fighting, Heavenly Justice was completely petrified by the scene before them. Before their eyes was a pro-level fight. With those mechanics, were these guys really normal players?

Deception rapidly descended as if he were planning on tackling Soft Mist, but halfway, he was met with a flying brick, stopping him. Soft Mist’s spear swung at him and threw him towards the ground.

Deception immediately had his character quick recover, when he was suddenly met with a handful of sand.

Sand Toss!

Deception obviously recognized this skill and immediately turned away, so he wouldn’t be blinded. The Brawler was faster than the sand though. Right when Deception was about to turn his body away, his butt was kicked and he was sent stumbling face-down into the floor.

Deception hastily stabilised himself, but was immediately knocked over by Tang Rou’s Circle Swing.

The Heavenly Justice players felt numb inside. They had so many players, yet they couldn’t compare to these two players with trash equipment, who could stop Deception from escaping. Seeing Deception being tossed around on the ground by them made them sweat.

Chapter 662: The Heart of Shadow Dance

Deception had been careless. Facing two players with such garbage equipment, he hadn’t given them a second thought. If not, with his level of skill and superior equipment, even against both Tang Rou and Steamed Bun, he wouldn’t be in such a sorry state.

Circle Swing was categorized as a forced “grab” and couldn’t be Quick Recovered, but Deception was quite quick. As soon as he crashed into the ground, he immediately followed up with a roll. In the blink of an eye, he was back on his feet as if he really had used a Quick Recover.

Deception no longer underestimated his opponents. He only hated how he had used his ninja tools.

A Ninja’s ninja tools were a part of the skill tree. However, ninja tools differed from ninjutsu, which could be immediately cast after forming the hand seals. On the other hand, ninja tools required the Ninja to craft the tools in order to use them. There was a limit to how many ninja tools a Ninja could carry. Normally, Ninjas would prepare enough before setting out, but he had been using his smoke bombs and caltrops the moment the skills had refreshed from cooldown, so he had run out awhile ago.

He had been using pre-made ninja tools. How would he have any time to craft any, while running?

Seeing how these two fearsome individuals were blocking his path, Deception regretted using up all of his tools. In this sort of situation, they clearly weren’t going to give him any time to craft his tools.

When he got back onto his feet, Soft Mist’s spear immediately stabbed towards him. Deception hastily dodged when he saw something else flying towards him. It wasn’t a skill or a tool, but a person! Steamed Bun Invasion had directly pounced on him, pinned him to the ground, and started attacking him in a flurry.

Deception wanted to cry. Even though he was a lone wolf, he still had plenty experience with the game. Steamed Bun Invasion had used the Brawler skill, Tyrannical Chain Punch, which pinned the target to the ground and followed up with a flurry of punches. A skill was just a skill though. Every person would use it differently. Facing this wild monkey, Deception wanted to go crazy. The skill wasn’t being used with any strategy to it. It was just a bunch of random attacks.

How could he bear being pinned by such a person? Not longer after Tyrannical Chain Punch ended, without the effects of the skill forcefully pressuring him, Deception immediately dug into the ground.

“What!?” Steamed Bun cried out in astonishment.

“You’ve never seen it before?” Tang Rou said. Soft Mist had already started acting. It wasn’t impossible to find someone who was using the Underground Tunneling Technique. There was a small hole used for breathing from the ninjato’s sheath. It was very small though, so the terrain easily hid it. However, Deception had used the skill right in front of them. How could they not know where he was? Soft Mist stabbed the ground, but something didn’t feel right.

The Underground Tunneling Technique wasn’t a rigid skill that only allowed the user to go up and down. The user could tunnel around a small area. Deception was a skilled Ninja. Since he dared to use the technique in front of them, he obviously had some confidence in using it. When Soft Mist stabbed the ground, Deception popped out of the ground behind her. His ninjato didn’t gleam with cold light. It silently stabbed Soft Mist. Deception didn’t follow up though. He had already started running. No matter how confident he was, he didn’t dare to continue fighting the two of them. There were more chasing after him. He had to be especially aware of Lord Grim in particular.

Deception glanced back, when he saw a brick flying towards him. He hastily tilted his head and dodged it. Suddenly, he was struck by Soft Mist’s spear.

These two reacted too quickly!!

Deception was astonished. His Underground Tunneling Technique had hit Soft Mist. Whenever an attack hit a character, there would be some sort of effect. Deception thought Soft Mist would be startled by it. He didn't know how much Soft Mist had been slowed down, but she had been able to react in time and chase him down with her spear. No matter how fast he moved, he couldn't be faster than the enemy extending her arms. The superior range of a spear finally displayed itself here.

Soft Mist had used Dragon Tooth. It didn't deal much damage, but it still had a stun effect. This stun duration was enough for Soft Mist and Steamed Bun Invasion to trap Deception again.

Helpless, Deception could only start fighting the two of them again and see if he could find an opportunity to escape. After a few back and forths, he couldn't find any openings. In trouble, he heard someone say: "You little punk! You scrap pick very bravely now!"

Deception knew who was talking, but he didn't have time to look. He relied on Tang Rou's and Steamed Bun's lack of real battle experience to grasp an opening. He was about to take advantage of it, so how would he have the time to glance at Lord Grim?

Deception's two hands moved in a blur as they formed a complex seal. It was clearly a high-level move. If not, he wouldn't need so much time to complete the seal.

Ninjutsu - Shadow Dance!

Numerous clones instantly appeared all around Soft Mist and Steamed Bun Invasion. Tang Rou and Steamed Bun hadn't experienced this skill too many times. High-level skills required more time to activate. Even Deception required a good opening in order to successfully execute the skill. Normal players would have needed even more time than him, but Tang Rou and Steamed Bun completely dominated their opponents. Very few of their opponents had the opportunity to activate the skill.

Thus, even though the two of them knew what this skill did, they didn't have much experience dealing with it. Deception was an expert as well. Several clones jumped and attack them all at once. The two didn't know what to do. The attacks from the shadows wouldn't bother them too much, but they had no way of grabbing onto all of the clones

The Blade Master's Shadow Steps hid the real body amongst the fakes, but that wasn't the case for Shadow Dance. They wouldn't be able to catch Deception unless they killed all of the clones.

But Deception obviously wasn't using this skill to continue fighting them. He was just using it as a distraction so he could escape. He just had a few of his clones randomly jump at Soft Mist and Steamed Bun Invasion before sprinting towards outside of Darkness Palace.

Tang Rou and Steamed Bun tried hard, but they could only keep on killing the clones one after the other, but Deception would never jump to a clone that was attacking them.

As for the other clones, he had them run as well. Shadow Steps only had a limited range, so the clones couldn't be too far from the real character. This made it easier to control though. Deception had two clones stop Soft Mist and Steamed Bun Invasion from advancing.

At this moment, Deception finally had time to check the situation. Sure enough, Lord Grim had caught up to him along with a bunch of Heavenly Justice players. There were even a few players that were faster than him, but in any case, none of them were closer to him than Soft Mist and Steamed Bun Invasion. After stopping them from chasing him, Deception felt like escaping wouldn't be too difficult now. He still needed to pay close attention to Lord Grim though. What trap had that guy set for him? Should he have some of his clones harass him?

Deception was still deciding when one of the clones moved askew. Soft Mist clearly hadn't attacked it. In that moment of absent-mindedness, the clone had been whisked away.

"Not good!!"

Deception suddenly understood what had happened. He hastily moved his character when he saw the clones running out of Darkness Palace suddenly poof into smoke as he was grabbed by a Qi Master.

Qi Master skill: Cloud Grasping Fist.

Deception obviously knew this skill. He just hadn't thought his enemies would use this sort of skill to break his Shadow Dance.

He only had two clones remaining. One of them had been grabbed by the Qi Master and the other was instantly killed by Steamed Bun Invasion. By default, the system forced Deception back into his original state.

"Ha ha, why are you only paying attention to me? Aren't you looking down on everyone else here?" Lord Grim's laugh floated over.

Deception was sad!

Indeed, he had ended up paying too much attention to Lord Grim. He had thought that Lord Grim was the only top expert among the group. Even though the two with trash equipment had surprised him, he hadn't put Heavenly Justice's players in his eyes. However, the one who had used Cloud Grabbing Fist on him had just been a normal member of Heavenly Justice. The only reason he was able to pull it off was because he was a Qi Master that could use Cloud Grabbing Fist.

Deception was certain that the reason the Cloud Grabbing Fist had worked on his Shadow Steps wasn't because of the Qi Master's skill, but either on accident or.....

"Not bad....." Deception heard a voice. Lord Grim had walked over, talking to the Qi Master.

Sure enough!

Deception knew that he had fallen into Lord Grim's hands.

In theory, none of the clones were his real body for Shadow Steps. However, because the clones could only move around in a limited area, in order to satisfy this condition, there had to be a marker of some sort. This marker was the clone being used by the user.

If this clone were killed, it just meant there was one less clone. Even if the player didn't choose to, the system would automatically throw the player into another clone, and this clone would become the new marker.

This marker clone was called the Heart of the Shadow Steps. It wasn't the real body. The player could still freely switch.

What Ye Xiu had done was determine that Deception had used the clone Soft Mist was fighting as the Heart of Shadow Steps, and so he quietly ordered a Qi Master to suddenly use Cloud Grasping Fist to bring him over. By the time Deception noticed, it was too late to move. All of the clones that had rushed out of Darkness Palace were immediately recalled because they were now out of range of the heart.

Chapter 663: Don't Let Him Escape

Deception's path ahead was completely blocked off. Loulan Slash had even set up a net comprised of several players linked together in the air to defend. Deception was simply too slippery to catch. It was no wonder that he was infamous. He had successfully pulled off his scrap picking operations time after time. Loulan Slash had fought alongside Deception before, so he had a good understanding of his skill level. This time, after becoming the target, he deeply felt how talented this person was. If the five players on his team were qualified to be pro players, Deception was definitely qualified as well.

Loulan Slash had already started thinking of how he would recruit him. For a moment, he wasn't sure what to say, but the Heavenly Justice players surrounding Deception had begun shouting: "Run! Why'd you stop running? Why don't you give it another try!"

There were a hundred of them, yet they couldn't even catch a single person. Fortunately, two players had been blocking the exit. These two players wore such garbage equipment that everyone wanted to cry just looking at them. Heavenly Justice's players were ashamed and resentful.

Deception didn't say anything. When he killed Loulan Slash, three items from the Level 70 wild boss had dropped. Even if he died, he would still profit, unless he were unlucky enough to lose all three of those items. However, the probability of this happening was too low. Maybe none of these items would drop and he lost one or two pieces of equipment. He would have made a killing if that were the case.

If you dropped an item after being killed, getting it back wasn't an easy task. A single fight was rarely enough. However, even if you couldn't get your dropped item back, getting another item of equal value wouldn't be bad either! However, this wasn't even close to the case right now. Nothing on Deception was equal in value to any of the three items that were dropped by a Level 70 wild boss.

Deception clearly knew this point, so he knew that when he died, he was very calm. So what if he died?! He would still make a huge profit.

The Heavenly Justice players could only curse at him. No one moved though. They understood this point. They wouldn't be able to get the items back if they killed him once. Perhaps there was a better way.

However, their guild leader wasn't saying anything. Lord Grim stood out though.

"You can't run anymore. Hand over the items." Ye Xiu said.

Deception didn't even look at him. Quite a few Heavenly Justice players turned to look at him. They felt like his words were a bit naive. Even if Deception died, he would still profit. Why would he just hand over the items like that?

"This brother is very talented!" Loulan Slash finally spoke. His opening words were meaningless. Afterwards, he played by the book: "If you don't mind, why don't we add each other as friends. You won't need to return the items. Just consider them a gift from me."

It was very obvious what his intentions were. Loulan Slash's boldness manifested itself. He was willing to gift three Level 70 wild boss drops. His character as a money warrior showed.

Even though the players from Heavenly Justice weren't too happy, Deception was truly very skilled. They could understand why Loulan Slash made this type of decision. Let alone the fact that none of the players that had come to kill the wild boss were outsiders, everyone in the game near Loulan Slash was planning on entering the pro scene. If he found someone talented, of course he would try and recruit him!

Deception ignored him though, leaving Loulan Slash hanging.

Loulan Slash felt a bit embarrassed, but he didn't back down. He played his big card: "Brother, scrap picking is a waste with your talent. I'm currently forming a pro team and I'm looking for players to join. Brother, would you be interested? If you are, I'm open to whatever conditions you have."

The Heavenly Justice players were jealous!

Being offered to join a pro team and even being allowed to state your own terms? How could a Glory player not feel jealous about such treatment?

But when the person in front of them heard such incredible terms, he remained indifferent. He didn't even glance at Loulan Slash.

"Brother....."

"What brother!"

Right when Loulan Slash was about to say something, Ye Xiu interrupted him. He saw Lord Grim transform his umbrella into a spear and stab towards Deception.

Deception didn't even dodge. After getting stabbed, Deception stumbled. Lord Grim stabbed again and Deception fell to the ground. He didn't seem to have any plans to get up.

"He logged off." Ye Xiu said to Loulan Slash.

Loulan Slash was a pro-level player. Just from the reactions made by Deception after being attacked, it was clear that no one was controlling the character.

Deception was still in a combat state, so he couldn't directly log off. He could only force quit the game. If that were the case, his character would remain in the game until he left combat. Another possibility was that he had left his character in the game and was just not controlling it anymore.

"Maybe he's still there?" Loulan Slash thought of this possibility.

“Then you want to keep on chatting?” Ye Xiu asked.

Loulan Slash felt a bit embarrassed. Whether the person was there or not, his attitude was clear. He wouldn't pay any attention to them. Talking to a piece of wood with so many people watching was too embarrassing! If he had confidence in persuading the other side, he might give it a try, but Loulan Slash's previous statements had been very clear. If even these statements couldn't move him, then nothing would work. After thinking about it, Loulan Slash felt like it would be better to show off his strength. In the end, he pointed his sword at Deception and said: “Kill him.”

As soon as he gave the order, the players attacked and Deception instantly became a corpse. He didn't revive for a long time. It seemed as if he had truly logged off. Deception must be celebrating his success! It was a good thing Loulan Slash didn't continue speaking. If not, Deception might have gotten out of combat and actually logged off. That would have been even worse!

When Loulan Slash looked at the ground, it didn't make him feel happy though.

Not a single one of the three Level 70 drops that Deception had stolen had dropped. Two pieces of Ninja equipment had dropped, but Loulan Slash wouldn't put any equipment from the game in his eyes! He looked at them and didn't even want to pick them up. He was clear-headed enough to know that he wasn't the only one unhappy. He said loudly: “Killing him can be considered our revenge! You can blame me for being too careless and getting killed by him. Don't worry everyone. I'm not going to reduce any of the rewards for this run just because of something like this.”

The Heavenly Justice players felt much better after hearing his comforting words.

They clearly knew that these Level 70 wild boss drops would have been used by Loulan Slash for his pro team, so he couldn't directly distribute them to the guild. He could only give them other rewards. It was the same for any other Club guild. Equipment from Level 70 wild bosses could sometimes be found in the guild storage, but materials were a dream.

None of them expected to get any of the boss drops anyways, so they didn't care too much if Loulan Slash didn't end up getting the drops. After all, Heavenly Justice had been founded through Loulan Slash's money and his team had just been created. The fans created through hype didn't have as much loyalty as the other Club guilds. For the Club guild players, if they were fans of the team, they would share the team spirit and cohesiveness. If something like this happened and not getting the materials affected the team's development, they would definitely feel worried too.

As for Heavenly Justice, when Loulan Slash expressed his attitude on this matter, the majority of the players were happy. Of course, they wouldn't display it. They remained gloomy in the game. However, Loulan Slash understood their feelings. If not, he wouldn't have said any of these words to comfort them. In order to gain more fans, he had to be willing to say anything.

After placating his guild members, Loulan Slash had to say something to Ye Xiu too.

Even though Ye Xiu had said that he would treat the ones that had been stolen away as his part of his share, but how could Loulan Slash let him do that? Having those items stolen away was definitely his fault. Even though he could come up with many excuses, none of it could be blamed on Ye Xiu. He had been responsible for attacking the other competing guilds and had completed his task beautifully. Being able to crush two Club guilds was something that they couldn't usually do.

Loulan Slash messaged Lord Grim. He gave him the list of items that had dropped from Night Streak and then said: "The three drops stolen away by that guy should be considered as part of my share, but I really wasn't able to see which items were stolen. How about we first split it evenly and then you can pick any three from my share."

"What? You're planning on letting him go so easily?" Ye Xiu said.

"Him?" Loulan Slash asked. He obviously didn't feel happy about letting him go, but that was how it had turned out. Loulan Slash was very angry, but what could he do? Deception had already died and they didn't know which city he revived at. Chasing and hunting him down wasn't worth it either. Plus, they probably wouldn't be able to get the items back by hunting him down. Once he revived, he could just transfer the materials to his storage. The items in storage couldn't be dropped.

"Just provide me with info. I'll be responsible for hunting him!" Ye Xiu patted his chest.

"God, look! There are still a few wild bosses left to kill. Shouldn't we put in our efforts towards those bosses? If we can get another boss, isn't that more valuable than getting those three drops back from that punk? Wasting your time and our resources on him just isn't worth it!" Loulan Slash refuted.

"Of course we have to get the bosses, but we can't let that guy go either. In any case, all you have to do is tell me his coordinates. Announce it to your guild and just have them report his location if they ever see him." Ye Xiu said.

"But if you go and take care of that punk, how am I supposed to steal bosses?"

"You don't need to use a spear to kill a fly." Ye Xiu said.

Loulan Slash hesitated: "Are you saying that punk is the fly or the boss is the fly?"

Chapter 664: A Bit of an Ass-Kisser

Deception hadn't actually logged off. He was still in the game! After knowing he would certainly die, he was too lazy to try anything else, so he got up and went to take a bathroom break. When he returned, as expected, his character had died. The surrounding players hadn't left yet though. That eye-sore Lord Grim was still walking about.

Deception didn't care. It wasn't like he would revive on the spot. After choosing to revive, he clicked on the choice to revive at the closest city. He checked his inventory and found that all three of the boss drops were still there. He knew that he would still be profiting today no matter what he had lost. When he saw which equipment had been dropped, he felt his heart hurt a bit, but the profit he had earned was far greater than his losses. It was the first time in his scrap-picking career that he had managed to obtain Level 70 wild boss drops. His luck today had been very good.

Deception coming to this area had been a complete coincidence too. If he had planned on going scrap picking, he usually wouldn't wear his best equipment. Today, he had just wanted to get a few items from Darkness Palace and just happened to run into the wild boss.

While the guilds fought, Deception hid on the sidelines. He didn't act blindly without thinking because the equipment he had on him was quite expensive. Scrap pickers always had to consider whether the

equipment obtained would make up for the equipment they lost. Since he had worn a good set of equipment this time, he obviously couldn't press forward rashly like he usually could.

Deception had waited patiently for a long time. Today's wild boss fight wasn't as chaotic as usual. There were fewer participating guilds and Heavenly Justice had the clear advantage, not giving the other competing guilds any opportunities. This sort of situation wasn't suitable for scrap picking, so the experienced Deception continued to wait patiently.

In the end, the opposing guilds had been defeated and Heavenly Justice began focusing the wild boss. This conclusion made Deception quite disappointed. However, he still waited, hoping Heavenly Justice would make a huge mistake and get wiped by the boss. If that happened, he could happily pick away.

Heavenly Justice didn't get wiped as he had hoped. The one to fall was the wild boss, but at this moment, Heavenly Justice became careless. They made a common mistake committed by victors. The moment the winners celebrated, he acted.

Afterwards, Deception obviously needed to try and escape. Even though he failed, his gains had been quite considerable. How much would he be able to sell these three wild boss drops for? Deception wasn't really sure because these sort of items rarely showed up on the market! Deception felt like if he sold it correctly, he would be able to live lavishly for years to come.

"Hm? Did that guy revive??"

The instant Deception revived, the surrounding players reacted. After a character revived, the corpse would disappear and turn into a tombstone. If he had really logged off, this wouldn't have happened.

"That guy was still on!!" Loulan Slash shouted.

"Have your players in Darkness City be on the lookout." Ye Xiu instructed and then called out to Tang Rou and Steamed Bun: "We're leaving."

"Everyone, let's go." Loulan Slash ordered, "Grab the equipment on your way out."

Loulan Slash was pointing at the equipment dropped from the battle. Quite a few players from Conquering Clouds and Seaside had died. Players who died would naturally drop equipment. No matter how hard they tried to get them back, there would still be many pieces of equipment that would land in the hands of Heavenly Justice's players. The guilds all had their own ways of resolving this situation. In general, it was a difficult issue to deal with because in this type of chaotic battle, it was difficult to pinpoint who exactly took your equipment.

Ye Xiu had talked about these equipment drops with Loulan Slash earlier. Loulan Slash now understood why Ye Xiu said he didn't need equipment, if it were after the battle. It turns out he had complete confidence in their dominating victory and knew that he could just pick which of the plundered equipment he liked after the battle.

But choosing out of all of these was quite troublesome. Everything had to be organized first, so Loulan Slash made the decision: instead of going through all that trouble, he would directly buy them the equipment that they wanted when they got back to the city.

Right when he said this, they realized Deception had revived. Ye Xiu said a few words and started rushing back to the city with Lord Grim.

“How do you know he’s in Darkness City?” Loulan Slash chased after him and asked. Darkness City was the city closest to Darkness Palace.

“From his equipment, it didn’t look like he had planned on scrap picking today. If he had something else to do, isn’t it common sense that he would pick the closest city as his revival point?” Ye Xiu said.

“Right!” Loulan Slash suddenly understood. He hadn’t thought about this point because he had no knowledge of how scrap picking worked.

Loulan Slash gave an order in the guild chat. Ye Xiu and his team naturally saw it too. Right now, they were under Heavenly Justice, so they belonged to the guild.

“I have players in Darkness City who are heading over to search.” Loulan Slash said to Ye Xiu.

“Mm, that’s good.” Ye Xiu replied. Lord Grim turned his head to glance back. Loulan Slash also looked back and was a bit speechless. As his and Ye Xiu’s groups rushed back, they had left the other Heavenly Justice players behind. The players with equipment that increased their movement speed were still able to keep up for awhile because they ran faster, but gradually, without properly utilizing their stamina, they would run out. If they could no longer sprint, their equipment’s added movement speed wouldn’t do anything.

In comparison, Loulan Slash and his team kept up. Thinking of this point, Loulan Slash felt a bit happy. They deserved to be pros! Look, they could keep up with a God!

Just as he was thinking in this way, he noticed that Soft Mist and Steamed Bun Invasion were easily keeping up as well. When he looked, he immediately realized how disgusting their equipment looked. He was wearing good equipment and had some increase in movement speed, yet he was running at the same speed as them. How could he feel happy?

Loulan Slash felt quite defeated.

“Have the brothers who are investigating in the city hide their guild tags.” Ye Xiu suddenly said. He was still being careful.

“Okay!” Loulan Slash received the message and immediately passed it down.

“Have players in other cities pay attention too. Darkness City is just an estimation. He isn’t guaranteed to be there.” Ye Xiu added.

“Makes sense!” Loulan Slash nodded his head and ordered again.

When Ocean Ahead, Homeward Bound, Thousand Falling Leaves, and Night Tide heard their conversation, they tried hard not to interrupt. They couldn’t compare to Steamed Bun in this area. Student Steamed Bun would say anything that he thought of. When he heard the two talk, Steamed Bun opened up the guild interface. After studying it carefully, he suddenly asked: “When you said ‘Makes sense!’, who said that?”

“Me!” Loulan Slash said.

'Who is this 'me'?' Steamed Bun asked again.

"What do you mean?" Loulan Slash was puzzled.

"Loulan Slash?" Steamed Bun seemed to have determined something, but he still seemed unsure.

"That's me!" Loulan Slash said.

"Senior, how mighty!" Steamed Bun excitedly said, "You can even order around a guild leader. What a god!"

Sweat!

Ye Xiu typed an emoji sweating. Loulan Slash typed a depressed face. The others had wanted to say something about this. Loulan Slash and them weren't just any players in the game. They had been good friends even before they started playing and understood each other well. With their friendship, the other four wouldn't object to any one of them being the guild leader. In the end, Loulan Slash became the guild leader because they felt like he had the most potential as a leader.

If this hadn't happened in front of them, they would never have thought Loulan Slash could ever be regarded as a little kid and he didn't even look like he had any objections.

How embarrassing!

At this moment, all of them felt a bit embarrassed. Loulan Slash wanted to explain, but he also felt like he had been acting like a b*tch! How would he explain himself? Wouldn't it just make matters worse?

In the end, Ye Xiu was the calmest. He immediately said: "Steamed Bun, what do you know? We're discussing strategy."

"Oh, so that's the case!" Steamed Bun said.

This sort of explanation was enough for Steamed Bun, but for everyone else, it didn't explain anything. Loulan Slash knew his friends were probably laughing at him. They just didn't express it.

How depressing! However, a message suddenly arrived, averting everyone's attention from the issue.

"Someone's found him! He really is in Darkness City!" Loulan Slash said.

"Good!" Ye Xiu replied.

"What do we do now?" Loulan Slash asked.

Ocean Ahead and the others were crying. Brother, do you have short term memory? How can you keep acting like this?

But this time, Ye Xiu was generous. Instead of directly saying it, he sent Loulan Slash a private message: "Watch him and figure out where he's headed."

The instant Loulan Slash received the message, Loulan Slash immediately realized..... He had acted like Ye Xiu's b*tch again.

Fortunately, he had been reminded by Ye Xiu. It was a you say it instead of me message! Loulan Slash immediately gave the order and told Ye Xiu: "We're not sure right now. Let's just head over according to his coordinates!"

"That's fine too. Can you get us some better equipment? Especially any that add movement speed. If not, dealing with that guy might be a bit difficult." Ye Xiu replied.

"I'll see if anyone can do it for us." Loulan Slash busied about.

Following afterwards, they quietly entered Darkness City. Ye Xiu and Loulan Slash talked to each other privately, so the others obviously wouldn't know.

"It seems like he's planning on teleporting away!" Loulan Slash received some new information.

"Have your players in the other cities hurry and pay attention to the teleport formations! The more cities the better." Ye Xiu hastily said.

"Already done." After being embarrassed, Loulan Slash checked himself. Did he really need Ye Xiu to teach him this type of stuff? Not at all. With his experience, he could have done it completely on his own.

Chapter 665: Insufficient Equipment

They finally arrived in Darkness City. The news that they had received on the way there had made them feel gratified. Deception hadn't gone directly to the teleport formation. Instead, he headed towards the marketplace in Darkness City. If he had ran straight for the teleport formation, Loulan Slash and the others would have been in big trouble. The Heavenly Domain had numerous cities. Having people stationed in every city just wasn't possible.

The good news didn't last long. The strong teams had an astonishing amount of fans and support. It was a world war right now. The marketplace was cold and empty. Deception walked around for only a short while before he quickly departed.

Fortunately, when they received this information, they had just arrived at Darkness City. Along the way there, they saw battles taking place everywhere, so their group hid their guild tags. Ever since Heavenly Justice made the announcement that they were forming a pro team, they had been looked down upon by the other teams. Now that everyone was in a state of aggression, who knew if their violence would fall upon Heavenly Justice. Loulan Slash didn't want Heavenly Justice to be dragged into the war. Even though this war was a result of a dispute between who was the best team, Loulan Slash didn't want to look for trouble.

Without a guild tag next to them, they appeared inconspicuous. Since everyone was busy fighting, they didn't have time to pay close attention to whether or not that passerby really was Lord Grim.

When they arrived at Darkness City's entrance, there were people waiting there to bring them the equipment that Loulan Slash had asked them to find for him.

Ye Xiu picked which pieces of equipment he wanted. If Loulan Slash had any, he would give it to them. Otherwise, he would spend money to buy it. Just a few sets of in-game equipment for a few characters

wasn't worth much in Loulan Slash's eyes. Ye Xiu's group had helped him a lot. He was perfectly happy with spending this bit of money for them.

Ye Xiu's group wasn't polite. After taking their new equipment, the three characters switched them out. Their models and stats immediately transformed. Soft Mist and Steamed Bun Invasion finally had a full set of class-specific gear. Their equipment only fell short of equipment that could only be dropped from the seven hundred-player dungeons. In the game, their equipment would already be considered outstanding.

As for Lord Grim..... His stats had changed, but his model.... His new and improved equipment still looked like garbage on him. He still looked like a rainbow. Mixing and matching equipment from different classes almost never looked good together. Each class had equipment that they were proficient in. If you mixed and matched equipment, you would lose stats from your class' proficiencies. The better the equipment, the greater the losses.

However, Lord Grim's unspecialized didn't have any proficiencies, so he didn't care much about any of that. As a result, he wore a cloth belt, leather boots, a leather cap, heavy armor, and cloth pants. It gave others a disgusting top-heavy feeling.

However, Ye Xiu didn't care about his appearance. He opened up his character's profile and appreciated his stats. Because unspecialized characters didn't change classes, their stat growth was completely balanced. Their strength, vitality, intelligence, and spirit all had a growth of 3. When unspecialized characters reached Level 70, their base stats would each be at 210. The stat point rewards from each quest was also evenly distributed for a total of 90 points per stat. For any class, there were no worthless stats. All of them had their uses, just some less than others. Thus, all players would complete these quests regardless. At Level 70, Lord Grim's base stats were all at 300.

All characters had a total of 1200 points at Level 70, unless they missed a quest. The only difference between them was how those 1200 points were distributed.

Unspecialized characters had a balanced growth, so their 840 points from leveling up were evenly distributed between each stat. However, every other class was different.

For example, Battle Mages had a 3.5 growth in strength and intelligence and a 2.5 growth in vitality and spirit.

Thus, when they reached level 70. Their total base stats would add up to 840, but their strength and intelligence would both be at 245, while their vitality and spirit would each be at 175.

These stat growths couldn't be changed by players. The players needed to match equipment based on their needs. Apart from equipment, players could also freely distribute the 160 points they got from the guild buffs.

As for how these points were distributed, it was up to the players to decide. Especially for classes like Battle Mages, which dealt both physical and magical damage they had to think about whether they should stack strength, intelligence, equal strength and intelligence, or a proportion of each? This was a question that was still debated to this day. In particular, when a player got new equipment, they often had to consider this issue.

The top-tier Battle Mage, One Autumn Leaf, had chosen to lean slightly more towards strength and lean slightly less towards intelligence. As one of the most popular characters in Glory, many players naturally copied this choice. However, reality proved that blindly following a pro player's choice was not always a smart decision.

Because normal players didn't have the resources to accomplish proper stat distribution. First of all, their skill level wasn't as high. Second of all, their equipment was far from pro level. A lot of stat distributions required a certain level of equipment to display their utmost potential. If they didn't meet those requirements, even if their skills were at the pro level, they still wouldn't be able to utilize it properly.

Tang Rou and Steamed Bun were at the pro level in terms of mechanics, but their game sense wasn't there yet. Having them choose their own equipment would certainly end poorly. As a result, Ye Xiu helped them choose their equipment.

Tang Rou's Soft Mist went with a strength-oriented stat distribution. After switching equipment, her strength reached 870, while her intelligence was only at 540.

These stats were already quite impressive in game, but it was still far from the pro level.

One Autumn Leaf had 1220 strength and 1140 intelligence. These two main stats were 1.67 times greater than Soft Mist's. This didn't even include the disparity in vitality and spirit. In terms of overall stats, these in-game impressive stats were not worth anything in pro gameplay.

Soft Mist's equipment definitely couldn't be regarded as bad in the game. All of them were second only to those that could be found from the seven hundred-player dungeons and those from Level 70 wild bosses. Even those higher grade pieces of equipment couldn't compare to Silver equipment.

In truth, the reason Silver equipment was superior compared to Orange and Purple equipment wasn't because they had much better stats, but rather because they were customized specifically for the player. It was for this reason that Silver equipment allowed pro characters to have such terrifying stats. This sort of disparity in stats was difficult to make up for with skill alone. It was the reason why Wei Chen was so uneasy about meeting a team like Excellent Era in the Challenger League.

If Soft Mist, with her 870 strength and 540 intelligence, faced off against One Autumn Leaf, with his 1220 strength and 1140 intelligence, wasn't the difference as obvious as night and day?

This didn't even factor in the difference in attack power between Soft Mist's Level 70 Purple weapon, Extreme Light Spear, and One Autumn Leaf's Silver weapon, Evil Annihilation.

This didn't even considering the other additional stats apart from the four main stats provided by the other Silver equipment on One Autumn Leaf.

This sort of equipment definitely wasn't enough.

Ye Xiu might be satisfied with his Lord Grim's current stats, but he knew that it was still far from reaching the required level to enter the pro scenes. His Lord Grim's stats actually weren't even as good as Soft Mist's. Soft Mist at least had proficiency in her armor. Those extra stats from proficiency wasn't something that he had. In order to make up for that gap, he would need to rely on self-made

equipment. Specializing the stats was an issue that Su Muqiu had been analyzing for the Myriad Manifestations Umbrella.

A weapon like the Myriad Manifestations Umbrella had never appeared before in Glory, but the concept of specializing the stats had been analyzed in the pro scene already.

Lord Grim's strange appearance made others want to laugh, but they didn't know that Ye Xiu had done it this way for a specific reason.

However, even though they had switched equipment and were looking over one another's new appearances, they never stopped moving. After understanding Deception's current path and Darkness City's teleport location, Ye Xiu decided: "We can make it." Then, he immediately gave the order: "Little Tang, Steamed Bun. You two head to the revival spot first. Once you get there, message me."

"Okay." The two listened to his order and then left.

They were clearly planning on killing Deception multiple times! Thinking about how Deception had stolen away three pieces of material, Loulan Slash felt very excited about this sort of method. The other four felt the same. There had been so many of them at Darkness Palace, yet they still failed to catch that guy. It was too shameful! They had to win back their face.

The five people were pumping themselves up when they heard Ye Xiu say: "Then I'll see you guys later. If I need any more information, I'll contact you Little Lan."

See you later?

The five went into a daze. They had followed this senior all the way here. Now that they had arrived, he just said see you later?

"Hey!" Loulan Slash suddenly called out. The five continued to chase after him.

"What's wrong?" Ye Xiu had Lord Grim ask, while running.

"What do you mean 'see you guys later'? We're going too!" Loulan Slash said.

"You're going too." Ye Xiu was puzzled, "I thought you guys felt like chasing and killing him was a waste of time?"

"I...." Loulan Slash realized he had truly said just that. How could he suddenly change his mind? How did that happen?

"Relax! With this equipment, he won't be able to escape. I'll get revenge for you! If I get those three materials, I'll definitely return them to you, but I feel like he won't have them on him. He probably put them in his storage already, or maybe you could find some way to get a buyer to get close to him. I reckon that he'll bring those materials out, if that happens. As long as he has it, we'll find a way to get them back for you." Ye Xiu said.

"Okay okay. I can't talk anymore. I have to hurry or else I won't be able to intercept him. Remember to update me on his whereabouts whenever you can!" Ye Xiu said and had Lord Grim speed up. He wore leather shoes, cloth legs, heavy armor, yet he easily left the five of them behind.

“This this.....” The five were tongue-tied, but they had already slowed down.

“How amazing!” In the end, Homeward Bound sighed at Ye Xiu’s decision.

Chapter 666: Ineffective High Level Skills

Lord Grim disappeared from view after turning the corner of the street. In the end, Loulan Slash’s group didn’t follow him any longer.

“Let’s just provide him with the information he wants!” Loulan Slash said angrily.

“Information is information. You’d better not keep acting like a child.” Seeing that there was no one else around them, the other four immediately warned him mercilessly.

I’ve been tainted!

Loulan Slash looked up at the sky, wanting to cry. Today really had been a disgraceful day. He had been killed in the middle of his allies and acted like someone’s b*tch in front of everyone else. He really wanted to find a hole and bury himself in it!

Ye Xiu had Lord Grim hurry ahead. After chasing Deception for so long, he had a good idea of Deception’s movement speed. He was confident that he would be able to reach the teleport formation and intercept him. Of course, the prerequisite was that he had to take the correct path. There were simply too many factors in this game. Whether it was in the wild, a city, or a dungeon, Ye Xiu couldn’t say he was very familiar with all the terrain.

However, with the help of the in-game map, Ye Xiu wouldn’t make such a low-leveled mistake like making the wrong turn. Soon, Darkness City’s teleport formation entered his range of view. There was still no updates as to where Deception’s current location was.

Deception hadn’t gotten anything from his trip to the marketplace. Afterwards, he made an all out effort to rush to the teleport formation. No one liked wasting time traveling, so the faster they ran the better. As a result, the Heavenly Justice players on the lookout for Deception quickly lost him. They couldn’t keep up!

“I hope he doesn’t go somewhere else.....” Ye Xiu muttered. After looking at the map, Lord Grim found a suitable location to camp. Over here, he could see all three possible routes Deception could take and it wasn’t conspicuous either.

Ye Xiu not being familiar with the terrain didn’t hinder him from using the terrain to his advantage. He surveyed the terrain and utilized it accordingly, treating it as if it were an away match.

“He should be here soon.” Ye Xiu looked at the time. If Deception were rushing over, Ye Xiu should be able to see him anytime now. He had Lord Grim look around, but there was no sign of Deception approaching.

Maybe he isn’t coming this way?

Maybe he’s just slow?

Ye Xiu thought, but he didn't leave the spot. After waiting for awhile longer, a figure could be seen sprinting along one of the three routes.

Ye Xiu readied Lord Grim to act at any moment. Soon, the name on that figure could be seen clearly. It was really was Deception. His running speed even felt a bit slow in Ye Xiu's eyes.

Deception didn't seem to be aware that there was danger hidden nearby. He was just like a normal player passing by. He didn't look around to see if there was anything unusual around him. When he arrived at the end of the street, he ran straight for the teleport formation.

"Bang!"

A gunshot rang out.

During this time of war, a single gunshot was insignificant. They were outside of the city, so there were skills and curses flying around everywhere. The players who were online were pretty much used to this environment. However, this gunshot was loud and clear to Deception.

He deserved to be an infamous scrap picker. Deception had actually noticed the shot was aimed at him. He stepped to the side and the bullet whizzed past him.

"Not bad!"

After hearing this remark, Deception saw a top-heavy bottom-light creature jump in front of his character. This creature's appearance was too eye-catching. Even Deception couldn't help but be drawn to it before he noticed the character's ID: Lord Grim.

Deception had played the game for many years already. He had been in constant danger throughout his career. He wasn't just any ordinary scrap picker. Most scrap pickers didn't survive after scrap picking. For them, the longer they lived, the more items they could pick up. Deception valued his life very much. There were a lot of scrap picking opportunities in the fights between the top guilds, and Deception obviously took advantage of these opportunities. Thus, he had seen many in-game experts before. However, he had never met anyone as skilled as Lord Grim before. Deception didn't have much confidence in a real 1v1 fight with him.

Now that he had been targeted by him, Deception panicked a bit, but the teleport formation was just up ahead. As long as he could get there, he would be able to leave Darkness City. Lord Grim definitely wouldn't know where he would be heading either. Since he wasn't planning on fighting a life-or-death match, Deception was just going to charge his way past Lord Grim.

He didn't say anything and focused on escaping. He started with a Shadow Clone Technique. It would be best to create a gap between them before doing anything else.

His clone was left behind as his real body instantly moved ahead, but instead of seeing a clear path ahead, he saw a poof of smoke in front of him.

"Shadow Clone Technique? I can do that too!" The other side didn't seem to need to see clearly as he attacked him.

Deception hastily jumped backwards. The other side did a flip and began to fire bullets at him. Deception was quick though. He swung his ninja blade and guarded against the bullets.

The Myriad Manifestations Umbrella was flung open. Deception had just wiped some sweat off his face when he heard another bang. The tip of the umbrella lit up, shooting three missiles at him.

A missile's attack range..... was far greater than a spear's. Using a dagger to block it just wasn't going to happen. Guarding would be a pointless action.

But what other option did Deception have?

He had none. Being able to put the dagger in front of his body to block the missile was already quite impressive. How could he have known that, in that short amount of time, the other side would strike him with a sword, stab with him a spear, and shoot him with missiles?

The explosion from the Anti-Tank Missiles engulfed Deception. The shockwave threw Deception into a wall.

There were two other players fighting below the wall! They weren't too surprised seeing someone get blasted over here, but when they glanced at him, they noticed he didn't have a guild tag above his head. He was by himself, so they ignored him.

Deception slid down the wall. When he thought back on what had just happened, not only did his Shadow Clone Technique not get him any closer to the teleport formation, it had actually caused him to end up farther away.

Directly use a high-leveled skill!

Deception immediately began forming the hand seals for Shadow Dance.

He saw that there was still some distance between him and Lord Grim. He felt like even with those long-range attacks, he would be able to complete the seals in time.

One advantage of playing as a ninja was that forming seals didn't affect their movement speed. Even the Elementalist's "Mobile Cast" reduced the Elementalist's movement speed drastically when it was used.

Ninjas didn't need to worry about such life threatening danger. Deception's hands and legs moved in a blur. He dodged left and right. He also hoped Lord Grim's attacks would hit other players.

But how could Ye Xiu make such rookie mistakes? Even so, because of this, his long-ranged attacks weren't as effective as he wanted them to be. He wasn't able to interrupt Deception's hand seals.

Ninjutsu - Shadow Dance!

Deception instantly split into ten clones. All of them moved as if they were real, but when Deception turned around, where had Lord Grim disappeared to? F*ck! Lord Grim had ignored his clones. He ran straight to the teleport formation as if he were planning on guarding the entrance.

Would that work?

Deception didn't think so. The closer Lord Grim was to the teleport formation, the more advantageous it was for him. With so many clones rushing towards him, he doubted Lord Grim had the ability to block all ten of them. As long as one made it over, wouldn't he be fine?

Deception thought of this and planned on having all of his clones swarm over, but in that instant, he suddenly realized, how did all of my clones get attacked?

“Tsk tsk tsk, it seems like you’re not experienced enough.” Lord Grim’s voice rang.

Deception was depressed! When his Shadow Dance finished and his clones beautifully spread apart, the surrounding players had misunderstood.

With so many clones around them, how could they not defend against them?

As a result, they attacked them before saying anything. For that one moment, Deception had become everyone’s enemy. The surrounding players just attacked whatever clone was nearby. Deception had wanted Lord Grim to aggro everyone with his long-ranged attacks. Who would have thought that he would be the one to aggro everyone with his Shadow Dance.

Deception wasn’t the type of person who would try to explain the situation. Even if he did, no one would believe him. He immediately had his clones charge towards the teleport formation and ignored the surrounding players.

There were just too many enemies, which made it difficult for Deception to handle. Ye Xiu wasn’t going to play nice either. Just as Deception was having a hard time, Lord Grim attacked. He sent one flying away with a Falling Flower Palm, threw another one with a Fling, Repelled a different one far away. He always attacked whenever Deception had openings. Shortly afterwards, Deception soon discovered something... where did all of my clones go? With this distance.....

Pu pu pu pu pu.....

Half of his clones went poof. Lord Grim had scattered them too far apart. No matter which Heart he chose, they wouldn’t be able to cover the entire situation.

To think his Shadow Dance would be broken just like that. Deception still wanted to try with the remaining half, but he immediately realized that it wouldn’t work!

If the remaining half of shadow clones rushed forward one after the other, Lord Grim would have enough time to send them flying away one at a time again. If they had rushed forward in a swarm, the skill’s duration would run out before the strategy would be a success!

And just like this, Shadow Dance became useless.

Chapter 667: Talking While Fighting

All of Deception’s clones disappeared because the skill duration had ended. The good news was that all the aggroed players had realized those clones hadn’t been targeting them, so they didn’t attack him. If not, they would have kept chasing him forever. His real body would have nowhere to run!

Ninjutsu - Hundred Streams.

Deception still wanted charge through. He cast another skill and a hundred streams of water leaped towards Lord Grim to block his path. Just this attack alone posed no threat to Ye Xiu. He easily sidestepped it. Deception moved in the opposite direction and threw a smoke bomb.

Deception's ninja sense was quite good. After using all of his ninja tools at Darkness City, he had immediately restocked his ninja tools after reviving.

Purple smoke billowed outwards. This was one area where Smoke Bomb was better than the Spitfire's Smoke Bullet. The former's effects took place extremely quickly compared to the latter. In return, Smoke Bomb's area of effect was much smaller than Smoke Bullet. Deception merely wanted to use the Smoke Bomb to act as a wall, so that Lord Grim wouldn't know which direction he was heading.

As soon he saw the purple smoke appeared, Deception immediately began moving, when he suddenly heard a loud rumble above him. He tilted his head upwards and he saw Lord Grim with a propellor rotating above his head. He had used Rotor Wings to float over the purple smoke. Deception's sneaky movements could clearly be seen. At this moment, Deception truly felt like an idiot.

Lord Grim had the Rotor Wings dive down and retract in mid-air. A sword light flashed. Right when Deception dodged, he heard a boom. An explosion from below his feet sent him tumbling away. Deception tilted his head down to look down. Only a few remnant of scattered rocks could be seen. Even so, he recognized it as the Mechanic's Machine Trace.

Why didn't I see it?

Deception wanted to cry. It was because it had come out of the purple smoke! When he threw the Smoke Bomb, his own vision had been blocked as well, allowing the opponent to utilize it.

Because of this explosion, Deception had to stabilize himself. He couldn't dodge Lord Grim's Falling Light Blade as a result and crashed into the ground. He immediately recovered after landing, but Lord Grim had already rushed over. Lord Grim used a Falling Flower Palm and sent Deception flying away from the teleport formation.

I can't beat him.....

Deception started to have thoughts of retreating. His own skills had been used against him as a cover for his opponent's sneak attack. It truly made Deception feel defeated.

If I can't beat him, then I should run!

Deception had quite the natural gift when it came to preserving his life. Once he made his decision, as he fell to the ground, instead of heading towards the teleport formation, he turned around and ran.

Ye Xiu's Lord Grim naturally chased after him. His appearance looked funny, but the stats were no laughing matter. Ye Xiu was confident that his movement speed was enough to deal with Deception.

When he chased after him, he felt like Deception's speed was a bit slow. Deception wasn't just running to his next destination. He was running for his life!

Ye Xiu had a hard time understanding, but after looking carefully at Deception, he noticed that his equipment was a bit strange. Only now did he suddenly remember that, when Deception died, he had dropped two pieces of equipment. Loulan Slash had regarded it in disdain, but it was still a rare piece of

equipment amongst normal players. Those two pieces of equipment probably gave him some movement speed bonuses. Without them now, of course Deception's movement speed would be affected.

With his advantage, Ye Xiu wasn't any under pressure. He wasn't in a hurry either. He chased after Deception, all the while firing at him.

Deception didn't really have much of a plan. He just knew that he couldn't charge through to the teleport formation, so he wanted to rely on his speed to shrug Lord Grim off. He originally had confidence, but as he ran, Lord Grim kept following behind him, neither too far, nor too close. Lord Grim occasionally fired a few shots, annoying him very much. From the looks of it, Lord Grim probably had energy to spare. Was Lord Grim just playing with him?

Deception turned his head in despair. Lord Grim's funny-looking appearance! It really was eye-catching, but at this moment, Deception finally noticed that he had switched equipment.

It's over. I probably don't have the movement speed advantage anymore!

Deception immediately thought of this point. The other side was chasing after him in a very relaxed manner.

If he couldn't rely on his movement speed to shrug him off, his only choice was to hide. As a result, Deception began climbing over walls and crawling through holes and tunnels. He tried to use whatever he could to block his pursuer's line of sight.

But none of it worked.

Several minutes passed. Lord Grim was still following after him. Deception couldn't shrug him off or beat him in a fight. Lord Grim never got too close either.

"Maybe that's the limit of his movement speed and it happens to be the same as mine, so he can't actually catch me?" Deception thought.

"If that's the case, then I just need to be patient!" Deception didn't give up. He was frequently had to wait for opportunities to come when scrap picking, so he had quite a lot of perseverance and patience.

What Deception didn't know was that Lord Grim had another reason for not catching up to him.

"Okay. Me and Steamed Bun are here." Tang Rou messaged Ye Xiu.

"Oh, then let's begin." Ye Xiu replied and had Lord Grim suddenly speed up.

Deception had been planning on being patient, when he suddenly heard footsteps getting closer to him.

Is it that guy?

Deception was startled. He couldn't help but turn his head to look.

It really was him! Lord Grim was suddenly starting to get closer and closer to him.

Deception used every trick he knew, but none of them worked. Lord Grim caught up to him every time and was constantly getting nearer and nearer.

Shuriken, Shadow Clone Technique, Caltrops.....

None of these skills stopped Lord Grim from closing in.

Hand seals!

Deception began forming hand seals. He once again used Shadow Dance!

This time, when his shadow clones appeared. Deception immediately pounced towards Lord Grim. He wanted to take advantage of the chaos to find a character that Lord Grim failed to notice and sneak out, but on his way here, Deception knew that he had to use the terrain effectively.

Shadow Dance.

Deception really liked to use this move. It was no wonder that he was quite good with it, but in front of Ye Xiu, he was still too green.

For Ye Xiu, it was wishful thinking if Deception wanted to use these shadow clones to bother him. He used a few skills and easily sent the few shadow clones around him flying away. When Ye Xiu looked around, he quickly noticed the clone trying to sneak away. At this moment, Deception realized that he had been completely seen through.

With a gunshot, that sneaky clone was hit in the butt and Deception's heart hit rock bottom. He knew that his move had once again been seen through and dismantled.

The heart of shadow switched. He controlled his clones and looked for a different direction, where Lord Grim wasn't paying too much attention to. Found it!

Deception saw an opening and immediately switched his heart of shadow over. He hastily tried to run. This time, Lord Grim directly used a Shadow Clone Technique to block his path.

Was this because this opening had been a trap, or because Lord Grim had insanely fast reaction speed? Deception didn't know, but Lord Grim blocking his path in front of him was a reality. Run!

He immediately switched hearts, but his shadow clones suddenly disappeared. The skill duration had ended again!

Deception had been so busy figuring a way out that he had forgotten something as important as this. Such a low-levelled mistake shouldn't happen to an expert.

"What's the point in scrap picking all day? Is this really how you make your living?" Ye Xiu asked. It was a rare opportunity for them to meet face to face.

Deception turned around and wanted to run. This time, Lord Grim closed in on him. Ye Xiu wouldn't give him an opportunity to escape. His Myriad Manifestations Umbrella opened up and he immediately attacked. Deception wasn't able to block it and it became a life and death battle. Deception's health rapidly fell.

He struggled and struggled instead of leaving his computer like he had last time, when he had been surrounded by Heavenly Justice. However, it was futile. The usual moves that worked against other players all seemed like child's play to Lord Grim, who easily dealt with them.

“You’ve got so much talent! Scrap picking is just a waste! You should be using your talent in the right places!” Ye Xiu beat him up while talking the entire duration of the beating. Deception was about to go crazy.

“The finals are taking place right now. Do you even know what that is?” Ye Xiu said. Lord Grim’s spear stabbed through Deception’s body.

“It’s a competition between the best players and characters in all of Glory!” Ye Xiu continued.

“You don’t even know that? You’re like an expert who knows nothing about the outside world!” Lord Grim sent Deception crashing into a wall.

“What does any of that have to do with me?!” Even though Deception’s face was sliding down the wall, it didn’t stop him from talking.

“I’m forming a team right now. Would you like to join? There will be a salary as well as living accommodations included!” As Ye Xiu beat him, he sent him an invite. He was acting like a bandit from the Water Margins.

“What are you talking about?” Deception clearly didn’t appreciate this bandit’s conduct.

“You’re skilled. Picking up trash for a living is too much of a waste of that skill.” Ye Xiu said.

“What I pick up is never trash!” Deception said.

“Tsk.” Ye Xiu looked down at him in disdain, “That’s because you’ve never seen the really good stuff.”

“Such as the weapon in my hands. Have you ever seen one like it before?” Ye Xiu said.

“.....” Deception had obviously never seen it before, but then again, Ye Xiu’s umbrella was a bit too much. No one in Glory would have ever seen this weapon before.

“This is what you call top-quality. Pick it up and you’ll see.” Ye Xiu said.

“This is.....”

Bang! Deception was once again hit, but this time, he didn’t stand back up.

“Oops.....” Ye Xiu was startled, “He died..... I was too focused on talking and didn’t pay attention to his health. He seemed like he wanted to say something?” Ye Xiu muttered.

Chapter 668: Revival Point

Deception died. His ghost floated around. The drop rates from PKing in the Heavenly Domain lived up to its reputation. When he died, another piece of his equipment dropped. The ghost Deception could only quietly watch as Lord Grim take his equipment away.

Deception had been mentally prepared. Even though he was sad about his death, he wasn’t too angry either. Soon afterwards, he chose to revive.

When he revived, Deception checked his inventory. He had lost a leg armor piece and a pendant in the Darkness Palace, which he made up for with some make-do equipment. This time, he had dropped a ring.

Good. It wasn't too painful of a loss.

Losing equipment would always be painful. Deception could only console himself with the three materials on him.

What do I do now? Is that guy still going to be guarding the teleport formation? Deception thought. He didn't take any of what Ye Xiu had just said to heart. However, what he didn't know was that the moment he died, Ye Xiu messaged Tang Rou and Steamed Bun.

"I'm here! I'm here! I'm watching the place closely!!" Steamed Bun immediately began looking around the revival point.

Finding Deception at the revival point wasn't easy. There was a world war going on, so the revival point was very busy. Not only were there a lot of players reviving. There were also a lot of players fighting around it. These players were similar to Tang Rou and Steamed Bun and had come to the revival point to chase after and kill more players. All of the revival points in the cities had turned into intense battlefields.

Even though the revival point wasn't a safe area, a revived player would be protected by the system for a brief duration. It was similar to logging on. During this brief duration, the character would be protected from all damage they received, but the character also wouldn't be able to deal damage.

After Deception revived, he checked his inventory to console himself, while running out of this revival point. If not, when the system's protection wore off, while the players might not be aiming for him, it was hard to avoid taking splash damage.

Tang Rou and Steamed Bun saw the chaos around the revival point and obviously wouldn't look for trouble. The two characters watched from the edges of the battlefield.

"Over here over here over here!!!" Steamed Bun messaged Tang Rou.

"Which way is over here....." Tang Rou said helplessly, "Coordinates?"

No response. Tang Rou turned her head to look at Steamed Bun's screen. Steamed Bun and Deception had already started fighting with each other. Tang Rou checked the coordinates and had Soft Mist rush over.

"You punk! Forfeit your life!" Steamed Bun shouted as he lifted the brick in his hand.

Deception looked and immediately recognized that the other side had set up an ambush here beforehand. He was quite annoyed. When the brick flew at him, he tilted his head to dodge it. The brick whooshed past him and slammed into the back of a Blue Brook Guild player in the midst of a battle.

Steamed Bun hadn't consider whether a mistake on his part would pull aggro. He only reacted after the injuries had already been made.

"Oops!" Steamed Bun shouted. He crouched down in an attempt to hide from the other side.

In reality, the battlefield at the revival point was so chaotic that if an accidental attack occurred, the player hit by it could only consider himself unlucky. The player didn't even have time to bicker!

Deception saw this scene and thought about how stupid Steamed Bun must be. He immediately turned around to leave. He had no plans on fighting him. Steamed Bun saw that the person he accidentally hit wasn't going to look for trouble, so he focused again. He shouted "Don't run!" Steamed Bun shot forward. His character flew through the air as his two legs headed for Deception.

Brawler skill: Powerful Knee Strike.

Brawlers had a street-style way of fighting. Sand Toss, Brick, and Poison Needle skills were all dirty fighting moves. Skills such as Powerful Knee Strike and Tyrannical Chain Punch showed their violent and unrestrained fighting style.

This Powerful Knee Strike was fast and fierce, but Steamed Bun liked to talk when he attacked. Deception heard his loud shout and turned around to look. When he saw the two legs flying towards him, he immediately dodged it. Steamed Bun missed and landed on the ground. He got up and charged at Deception.

Deception quickly formed a hand seal. His character instantly tunneled into the ground to dodge Steamed Bun's charge. Then, he drilled out of the earth and stabbed towards Steamed Bun Invasion.

Steamed Bun reacted fast. He had Steamed Bun Invasion swing his arms horizontally to block it. His arms hit Deception's hands and knocked them aside, successfully defending against the stab.

Brawler skill: Tiger Flips the Mountain.

The skill name sounded very intelligent, but players liked to call it "Protect My Face". From its nickname, it could be seen that it was just a simple defensive move used in the streets. Of course, the game wasn't going to call it something as lame as "Protect My Face". That just wouldn't be right.

After having his dagger blocked, Deception leapt up and used a Bird Fall from high in the air. His two feet stepped on Steamed Bun Invasion's shoulder. With a whoosh, he flew past Steamed Bun Invasion.

Even though these guys were quite good, they were much easier to deal with compared to Lord Grim. Right when Deception thought in this way, he heard a "Pow!" His head had been smashed in by a brick.

Being hit by a brick from behind had a 100% chance of inducing a .4 second stun.

This meant that even though Deception was still in midair, he would be stunned. Characters in a stunned state couldn't use skills or make any movements, so he crashed headfirst into the ground.

F*ck!

Deception was sad! Why did this guy like Bricks so much? He wasn't using it intelligently either. He just used it as soon as it came off cooldown. Even so, he had been hit from behind. Deception was furious.

Fortunately, he had been in midair previously! Even though he lost his balance from the stun, he had still been able to gain some distance. He took some damage from the fall, but the stun wore off fairly quickly. Deception got up and threw a Shuriken. Only then did he adjust his camera. F*ck! The person moving towards him wasn't Steamed Bun Invasion.

Battle Mage!

Dragon Breaks the Ranks!

Tang Rou's Soft Mist had finally arrived.

Shurikens could briefly stun a target, so it was good at interrupting spells, but it was worthless in front of Dragon Breaks the Ranks, which gave the user Super Armor. Apart from grabs, no other skill could interrupt it.

The shurikens hit Soft Mist and did negligible damage, but it wouldn't stop her from activating the skill.

Skills with super armor were equally tyrannical. In the blink of an eye, Soft Mist closed in on him. Her spear ripped through the wind as it penetrated Deception's body.

Deception was sent flying. Soft Mist was a physical-oriented Battle Mage, so Dragon Breaks the Ranks was utilized to its maximum potential. Tang Rou never let up in a battle though. She followed up with a Rising Dragon Soars the Sky. Her spear transformed into a dragon, which shot towards Deception and devoured him. The magic undulations poured into Deception in a burst of colors.

"I feel like he's much weaker now." Steamed Bun said from the sidelines.

"It's probably because you have better equipment now?" Tang Rou said.

"Oh oh, right!" Steamed Bun realized.

Following afterwards, the two coordinated with each other and Deception's bitter days had truly come. He didn't even plan on fighting them anymore. He just wanted to escape, but now that they had switched equipment, their strength had improved significantly. Deception could no longer handle both of them together. He had also lost experience and equipment. He had three mismatched pieces of equipment and his stats had been reduced to that of a Level 69.

"Do we just kill him?" Steamed Bun asked.

"Probably?" Tang Rou wasn't sure.

"Let me ask!" Steamed Bun stood up and shouted: "Senior, do we kill him?"

"Huh....." Ye Xiu jumped up in surprise at Steamed Bun's sudden shout. His Lord Grim was heading towards the revival point, but it seemed like Steamed Bun and Tang Rou were fine on their own?

"I was just talking with him to see if he wanted to join us. How about you keep asking him?" Ye Xiu asked.

"Understood." Steamed Bun sat down and immediately said: "Punk, what a rare opportunity! Our senior actually recognizes your skill. Have considered his offer?"

Consider my ass! When did I say I would consider it? Deception was being hunted down repeatedly. How could he be in a good mood? He also couldn't beat his enemies. This type of powerlessness was very frustrating.

"Why aren't you talking? Are you thinking about it? Is three seconds long enough?" Steamed Bun said.

“.....”

“One, two, three.....” Steamed Bun counted.

“.....”

“You’re still not talking? Is three seconds not enough? Then how many seconds do you need?” Steamed Bun asked.

“Enough!!” Deception couldn’t help but shout.

“If it’s enough, then where’s your answer!” Steamed Bun said.

“I’m saying I’ve had enough of your chattering!” Deception said.

“Then did you think about it?” Steamed Bun asked.

“.....” Deception was speechless. He wasn’t the talkative type, let alone keeping up with Steamed Bun’s thought process.

“He’s about to die.” Tang Rou reminded.

“Hurry hurry. Drink some potions!” Steamed Bun hastily urged Deception.

“.....” Deception wanted to cry. In order to survive, he had chugging potions, but potions had cooldowns. They were on cooldown right now. Did you think I didn’t want to drink more?

Tang Rou felt like Steamed Bun’s way of speaking was completely brainless, so she explained: “We’re planning on forming a team. Are you interested in joining us?”

“Not interested!” Deception ground his teeth.

“Okay!” Tang Rou replied. She attacked and ended Deception’s misery.

“I.....” Deception had wanted to say something. His character died though, so his voice didn’t come out. His ghost floated around again. Deception was speechless. This sister was so ruthless!

Afterwards, Deception saw Steamed Bun Invasion run forward and pick up something from his corpse.

Another piece of equipment.... lost.....

Chapter 669: Three Tasks

Deception’s corpse lay on the ground. He chose not to revive. He knew that the other side wouldn’t leave just like that. He couldn’t beat them, nor could he run away from them. If he revived, it would just be a never ending loop.

It seemed like logging off was the most appropriate choice in this situation.

However, Deception wasn’t willing to! He had played this game for so long, and he had aggroed a lot of players during his scrap picking career. It wasn’t his first time dying, but it was certainly his first time being camped at the revival point and being unable to escape from them.

But what could he do?

He couldn't beat them. He truly didn't have the ability.

Let alone Lord Grim, fighting even Steamed Bun or Soft Mist was hard enough. With those two fighting him together, Deception couldn't see any chance of winning.

He had always played alone, so he didn't have any friends in the game. If he were any other player, most of them would have called their friends to help them escape by now.

Seeing how Soft Mist and Steamed Bun were still standing there, checking that his corpse hadn't turned into a gravestone, Deception knew that they weren't planning on leaving.

I guess I should log off.....

Deception didn't have any other choice. He could only log off.

By the time Lord Grim arrived, his corpse still hadn't turned into a tombstone, but it had already disappeared, indicating that he was offline.

"He escaped." Steamed Bun sighed with regret.

"What did he say in the end?" Ye Xiu asked.

"He said 'I.....' and then he died." Steamed Bun described it vividly. He even had his Steamed Bun Invasion lay on the ground as if he had truly died.

Ye Xiu couldn't do anything about it. Lord Grim turned around and faced Soft Mist.

"I asked if he was interested in joining us. He said no." Tang Rou said.

"Tsk....." Ye Xiu sighed. It seemed like getting Deception to join wasn't going to be an easy task. The key point was that he wasn't an ordinary player either. If a normal player got an invite to join a pro team, the player would be extraordinarily happy. Even if the player couldn't accept it because of his family or some other reason, every player desired to be a pro player, but this Deception only scap picked and didn't seem to care about anything else in the world. Ye Xiu wasn't sure how to persuade someone like him. There weren't any players in the pro scene who liked to scap pick.....

"Hu..... how tiring....." Just as he was sighing, the door to the practice room opened and Chen Guo came in out of breath. The finals were the finals after all. Even though Excellent Era wasn't playing, Happy Internet Cafe was still packed. Any team that entered the finals would have plenty of fans.

When the first round of the finals ended, Samsara celebrated, while Blue Rain cried. The fans of the two teams taunting each other was hard to avoid. Fortunately, the fans were reasonable enough and nothing escalated too chaotically. However, keeping everything under control was still exhausting work. It hadn't been easy getting everyone to leave. During that time, they had defeated two guilds, killed a boss, and killed Deception twice.

"Today's match was pretty good." Chen Guo was obviously here to discuss the match with them. Chen Guo didn't care too much about either team, but it was still an intense and entertaining match.

"Yeah." Ye Xiu answered.

Chen Guo looked at the practice room. Something wasn't right! None of them had the excitement that they should have had after watching such a brilliant match. Even though she had come late and they had already finished discussing it, shouldn't they still have a happy expression on them?

"What's wrong?" Chen Guo walked around in a circle questioningly. Ye Xiu, Tang Rou, and Steamed Bun weren't doing anything right now. Only Wei Chen was busy. Truthfully, when Ye Xiu and the others had defeated the two guilds and killed Deception, Wei Chen's shouting was louder than their own.

Wei Chen was participating in the world war! And as Samsara's second elite group leader, wherever the battle was cruel and intense, he would have to appear there. When Chen Guo turned to look at Wei Chen's screen, she saw all sorts of skills flying around everywhere. Wei Chen's Warlock was running around amidst the chaos. All of the players around him had guild tags of the top guilds.

Chen Guo had been monitoring the situation downstairs. There was no way she would know about what was happening in the game.

"What's going on? Are they fighting for a wild boss?" Chen Guo asked.

"They're fighting." Ye Xiu said.

"What do you mean?"

"The fires from the finals have reached the game." Ye Xiu said.

"How exciting!" Chen Guo immediately turned on a computer and logged into the game.

Ye Xiu had just got in contact with Loulan Slash. Deception had logged off. Ye Xiu and the others couldn't stay there guarding the entire time, so they asked Loulan Slash for help to pay special attention to his whereabouts.

"Okay. I got it." When Loulan Slash heard Deception had already died twice, had been forced to log off, and Ye Xiu still wasn't done, he deeply felt that offending this God was a very scary matter. When this God pursued and killed players, he did so with everything he had.

Chen Guo's Chasing Haze entered the game. She walked around and naturally saw the battles going on everywhere. These battles had started since the end of the first round of the finals. Now, they had reached their peak. Walking around on the street wasn't so bad though. The players feeling it the most were the elites of the Club guilds, such as Wei Chen. They were fighting nonstop without rest.

As for Ye Xiu and the others? Loulan Slash had gotten them new equipment. They were max leveled and max skilled. Getting better equipment from the game than what they had now was pointless. No equipment in the game could compare to those in the pro scene. In order to get to a pro level, they would have to create their own equipment, which required wild bosses. Ye Xiu hoped for Loulan Slash to message him about bosses, but there just weren't any more spawning right now. Without anything to do, Ye Xiu led Tang Rou and Steamed Bun around to form a three-player scrap picking team.....

Correct. Right after killing the infamous scrap picker Deception, Ye Xiu and the others went to go scrap picking.

With a huge war going on, there were plenty of opportunities to pick up scraps. However, even a master scrap picker like Deception didn't dare to rashly move and instead went to Darkness Palace to do something. This only showed how difficult scrap picking would be right now.

However, there would always be players who welcomed challenges. With the fires of war spreading everywhere, it was sometimes hard to tell who was there to fight and who was there to pick up scraps. These fights were because of the competition between the pro teams. Players with the Club guild tags on them were only a very small portion of the fans. Those with guilds and those without guilds participated in this war regardless.

Ye Xiu and the others really had nothing to do without any wild bosses out there. From a training perspective, letting Tang Rou and Steamed Bun participate in these chaotic battles would be good practice.

Facing Ye Xiu's logical and confident words, Chen Guo had no way of arguing against him.

Because they would be regarding this as training, they would obviously go to the most difficult places to scrap pick.

"Old Wei, where are you?" Ye Xiu asked.

"Ah? What did you say? Speak louder!" Wei Chen roared.

"I'm saying, where are you?" Ye Xiu shouted.

"Oh, you're talking!" Wei Chen turned his head over.

"Stop talking nonsense. Who else in the game would call you Old Wei?" Ye Xiu asked.

"I'm feeling a bit dizzy. What is it?" Wei Chen had only glanced at Ye Xiu, before focusing on the game again.

"I'm asking, where are you?" Ye Xiu asked. Instead of waiting for Wei Chen to reply, he just looked at Wei Chen's screen. A few seconds after Ye Xiu finished looking, Wei Chen suddenly replied: "Why don't you look yourself?"

Busy! Wei Chen was truly too busy! He was responsible for leading the group as well as his own character. He had to do two things at once. With Ye Xiu being the third, he had a difficult time managing everything.

After Ye Xiu checked for himself, he notified Tang Rou and Steamed Bun. The three of them immediately set out. Chen Guo wanted to participate too, but seeing how chaotic the battle was from Wei Chen's screen, Chen Guo felt like it would be best if she didn't become a burden.

A few minutes later, Wei Chen suddenly said: "You're coming over? To do what?"

"Scrap pick." Ye Xiu confirmed that Wei Chen was talking to him and replied back.

"F*ck! Why? What's there to pick up?" Wei Chen had left the pro scene a long time ago and his perspective had gone back to a normal player's perspective, but now that he planned on going back to

the pro scene, his perspective quickly changed back. None of the equipment in the game was worth squat.

“It’s a rare opportunity. We might not get anything useful, but it will still be good for the guild storage. We’ll have to form a guild sooner or later.” Ye Xiu said.

Wei Chen didn’t refute his statement. How could he not know about the importance of a guild for their team? In the early days of the pro scene, the pro players had to manage the guild as well as practice. During Wei Chen’s time as a pro, he had done both too. Speaking of which, Wei Chen was having trouble adapting to the current structure, where pro players put all of their effort into their own matches. He always felt like pro players, who completely threw the game aspect aside, weren’t reliable.

Ye Xiu and the other two soon arrived at the battlefield. There were corpses and gravestones littered all over the ground, but this also made it easier for Ye Xiu and the others to find dropped equipment.

“Seven o’clock. Coordinates 25865, 45726. Grab that weapon!” Ye Xiu ordered and the three began their scrap picking journey.....

“Little Tang, don’t keep fighting!!” Ye Xiu had said these words who knew how many times. When Tang Rou fought against someone, she would sometimes get too engrossed in it.

“Steamed Bun, don’t pick up that one. It’s worthless.” Ye Xiu often had to remind Steamed Bun this. Steamed Bun would put whatever equipment he found into his inventory.

“Oka okay. That’s good enough. Let’s go!” Once they filled up their inventories, Ye Xiu hastily had them leave the battle. Right after they stored these pieces of equipment in their storages, they received a message from Loulan Slash about a wild boss.

“Let’s go!” The three changed directions, heading towards a different map.

“These are the three main tasks that we will be doing in the near future.” Ye Xiu said in a serious tone: “Scrap picking, killing bosses, and killing Deception.”

Chapter 670: A New Beginning

The news of another Level 70 boss excited Loulan Slash. His gloominess over losing three uncommon materials to Deception had diminished significantly. Taking advantage while the top guilds had no way of interfering in wild boss fights was certainly something to be happy about.

These kinds of opportunities didn’t come often. Wild bosses were one of the most important objectives for the Club guilds. It wouldn’t be too excessive to say that it was their reasons for existing.

After contacting Ye Xiu, who replied that he would immediately head out, Loulan Slash felt at ease. The battle at Darkness Palace had proven that a God leading a group battle could turn the situation from a disaster to a walk in the park. In the beginning, Loulan Slash had even been worried Ye Xiu’s individual influence would be too insignificant to matter!

While he was happy about this point, Loulan Slash couldn’t help but worry about the future of his team: if a God’s ability to lead a team was this incredible, what about us? How will we beat him?

Loulan Slash was both happy and unhappy. The first pro player he bumped into was a top of the top player. The bad part was that Ye Xiu became his reference, crushing Loulan Slash and his team's confidence. They often realized things afterwards that only made it worse for them. Loulan Slash felt like he was already forcing himself with Team Heavenly Swords, but giving up now wasn't a possibility. At this point, he had abandoned his initial ambitious hopes and shifted towards a more stable approach.

When Ye Xiu came over, he came over with three others, instead of two. Chen Guo could also follow them and participate. It wasn't like Chen Guo had no experience hunting Level 70 wild bosses. But her experiences could be summarized as "Hey, there's a boss! Let's go try and kill it." and then die to the boss.

A wild boss wasn't something that could be beaten by a random group of players. Even the elite groups of the top guilds would die to them from time to time!

So to be more accurate, Chen Gu had never killed a wild boss herself, but rather had been killed by one. Now that there was an opportunity to kill one, she obviously wanted a part of the glory.

The wild boss was the World Tree's Forest Guardian Vich.

Vich was a complicated boss. Its skills spanned through all of the classes. He used a rifle and could utilize any of the Gunner class skills. Apart from that, he was also proficient in traps from the Thief class. There were often traps hidden all over the forest, making it very frustrating for players to explore the map. Apart from these two attack methods, Vich could also use..... Cleric spells.

A boss that could heal himself! This was undoubtedly very troublesome for players. Interrupting his heals were crucial to hunting him down.

For the Club guilds, winning control of the boss was most important. Killing the boss itself wasn't too big of an issue for them. However, Heavenly Justice didn't have any experience killing wild bosses. Loulan Slash was quite worried about a difficult boss like Vich.

The God Ye Xiu was in charge of PvP, while he was responsible for killing the boss himself. How do we actually kill this boss? He was currently looking up guides as references! If the God successfully completed his task and beat the other guilds, and his group ended up getting wiped by the boss, how shameful would that be? If he also needed to rely on Ye Xiu to kill the boss, Loulan Slash would feel too ashamed to ask him for half of the materials.

He felt extremely uneasy. In the end, Loulan Slash felt like he should ask Ye Xiu to teach him!

"Oh, you've never killed it before?" Ye Xiu said.

"Yeah!" Loulan Slash replied.

"Let me see!" Ye Xiu said.

"What?"

"To kill this boss, there are a few key things to be wary of." Ye Xiu said.

"Oh?" Loulan Slash hastily grabbed a pen and prepared to write everything down.

“Pay attention to the positions of your troops. They can never be in a straight line because Vich uses a rifle. Along with the power of a wild boss, he has the ability to have his shots penetrate multiple targets.”

“Got it.” Loulan Slash replied, but he didn’t write anything down.

“This boss also has traps, especially huge AoE poison and ice explosions. If players get hit, you have to make sure to heal them as soon as possible. Ice is mainly for control purposes. Its damage isn’t so bad. but for huge AoE explosions, a single person stepping on a trap could affect a huge area, so when an ice explosion occurs, you have to control the boss’s pathing well. If the boss makes some unexpected move during this time, your players might not be able to react because of the ice explosion hindering their movements. One way to deal with this is to intentionally step on an ice trap, when the situation is still under control, and then everyone can just stand still and attack.” Ye Xiu said.

“Okay okay, is there more?” Loulan Slash asked.

“More? The boss can also heal. Make sure you have some troops responsible for interrupting his casts.” Ye Xiu said.

“And?” Loulan Slash was still asking. He hadn’t written anything down yet. He realized that everything Ye Xiu had said was straight from the guide.

“And?” Ye Xiu asked himself. After a while, he said: “That’s it?”

“That’s all written in the guide!” Loulan Slash said.

“You’ve looked over the guide already? Then why’d you ask me?” Ye Xiu said.

Loulan Slash coughed blood. I didn’t feel very confident after reading the guide, so I thought I should ask you!

“Apart from the content in the guide, are there any other details or techniques I should know about?” Loulan Slash was patient.

But the God’s reply was devastating: “How would I know? I’ve never fought against it before either.”

Loulan Slash wanted to cry. They were all noobs here. They didn’t have anyone with experience.

After listening to Loulan Slash’s questioning, Ye Xiu could tell: “Are you afraid that you can’t kill the boss?”

“Yeah!” Loulan Slash replied. The fight against Darkness Palace’s Night Streak had scared everyone witless. If not, how else could Loulan Slash have been assassinated by Deception? It was because the battle had been so difficult that they were relieved after successfully killing Night Streak, giving Deception an opening.

Forest Guardian Vich was much more difficult to handle than Night Streak, giving Loulan Slash even less confidence in the fight.

“Oh, are there any guilds around?” Ye Xiu asked.

“Yeah! Conquering Cloud has already been seen.” Loulan Slash said.

“It’s Conquering Cloud again.”

Clearly, it wasn’t just Ye Xiu and Loulan Slash who wanted to take advantage while the top guilds were at war. These small Club guilds wanted to seize this opportunity to grab some difficult to get resources.

“Yeah. They haven’t even recovered their lost experience yet and they’re here……” Loulan Slash said. Conquering Cloud had suffered huge losses and had even been pursued afterwards. Only a bit of time had passed, which wasn’t enough for them to recover that 20% loss of experience. Loulan Slash’s own stats were still red! He was Level 70, but his stats were equivalent to characters at Level 69. Even though his level hadn’t changed, his stats were still lower, so people still called it a level drop.

“That’s a good thing! You’re even worried about that?” Ye Xiu said.

“I’m worried about the boss.” Loulan Slash said.

“I’m saying that since our opponents are weaker, why don’t you go and deal with them, while I kill the boss?” Ye Xiu said.

“Uh…… what if other guilds come?” Loulan Slash said. If it was just Conquering Clouds, he had confidence in winning, but he didn’t have the skill to crush them with very few casualties. His group would certainly suffer a significant loss. If another fully prepared guild came, he wouldn’t be able to stop them.

“Then it seems like we’ll need to wait and control the situation at a later time.” Ye Xiu said.

“Let them attack it first?”

“Yeah and then we’ll kill the boss and everyone else at the same time.” Ye Xiu said.

It was quite a fierce method because, at a certain point, the first to act usually took the boss’s aggro. Taking the aggro away from them using conventional methods wasn’t likely. The only way was to completely wipe the other team or force them to leave, and then reestablish the boss’s aggro.

Apart from stopping the other side from taking the boss, it made the other side feel disgusted. Even long-time rivals wouldn’t be so fierce as to use this method. After all, in this close circle, competition was important, but if you wanted to trade materials, you had to trade with someone, no? If you offended everyone, it wouldn’t be helpful for your guild’s development down the road. As a result, the Club guilds often wouldn’t be so impulsive like what other normal players might do in these situations. Whenever a Club guild made a move, the guild held itself up to certain norms.

This sort of method not only broke these norms, but there were other things to consider as well. Loulan Slash had clearly thought about this before and hesitated towards Ye Xiu’s suggestion: “That’s not too good, no?”

“Oh? You want to leave some leeway?” Ye Xiu said.

Loulan Slash could tell that it wasn’t that Ye Xiu didn’t know about the faults of this method, yet he still wanted to use such a fierce method? He thought about it again and realized: I’m such a pig! No matter how terrible their conduct is, the one to pay the price would be Heavenly Justice. Ye Xiu was currently working as a temporary worker. Once he finishes his task, he simply takes his portion of the materials and leaves. He won’t have to bear any sort of enmity, so of course he’d want to use this method.

Thinking of this possibility, Loulan Slash rejected it and also said: "If I do that, it'll come back to bite me in the future, no?"

"That depends on how you do things. If we do it according to what you're thinking of, isn't that just who gets there first, gets it? When did fighting for a wild boss ever follow the rules?" Ye Xiu said.

"Then how should we go about doing it?"

"You just need to give them the appropriate amount of face." Ye Xiu said.

"Give them the appropriate amount of face?"

"For example, if we immediately go up, see them, intentionally not do anything, and then right when they're about to kill the boss, we suddenly kill them. That isn't good. However, we can wait outside of their sight for a while, pretend like we arrived late, and then attack them. No one can blame us in this scenario." Ye Xiu said.

"Is... there a difference?" Chen Guo asked when she heard Ye Xiu's explanation.