

## Avatar 801

### Chapter 801: A New Season

As for Happy, they had no idea what drama was happening at Excellent Era. However, after identifying Qiu Fei, Ye Qiu was certain he knew where today's opponents were from. And in these matches facing almost pro-level trainees, neither side had a particular disadvantage.

Nothing needed to be said about Wei Chen, of course. Even though he was older, his experience was enough to let him easily deal with some trainees.

As for Tang Rou and Steamed Bun, having only started playing Glory upon the launch of the tenth server, being at this level now was a terrifying improvement.

Beating back Excellent Era's training camp was news that could definitely boost their morale, so of course Ye Qiu wouldn't keep it to himself. Though Happy's undefeatable gold wall was finally shattered, their victories still exceeded their losses, so no one could really use their two losses to prove anything.

Instead, through these matches, those with some degree of skill or judgement, finally had a clearer understanding of Team Happy's abilities. With those who had come only to be crushed, they really estimate Happy's skill. They could only tell how utterly useless their opponents were.

And now, having gone up against Excellent Era's training camp members who were close to being pro level, Team Happy had to perform at their best. The true depth of their ability had finally been revealed to players.

There were still many who said that even with such a skill level, wanting to best Excellent Era was a fantasy, but their momentum was greatly reduced.

Compared to Excellent Era, they still fell behind, but they could challenge them. Against normal players, they wouldn't be met with any resistance whatsoever, so why wouldn't aim for the Pro League?

More and more people rallied behind Happy. Although, among them, the vast majority just supported Happy to see Excellent Era fall, what with the enemy of my enemy being a friend and all. But, those who truly believed in the team weren't nonexistent.

On the last day of the free internet event, when Chen Guo came to the Internet cafe to oversee the cleanup, one of the customers suddenly wished them "good luck."

Just one phrase of encouragement.

Whether it was truly from the heart, or if it was because of the free internet, Chen Guo wasn't sure, but this was enough to warm her heart.

Two weeks! At first, they were besieged with accusations. Ye Qiu's identity had been exposed, and when the Internet cafe was surrounded by angry fans, Chen Guo had been terrified

Yet today, their efforts had finally earned them a phrase of encouragement. Even though they couldn't make out this person's true thoughts, this was the first praise they had gained from normal players. This

was something they had obtained through these two weeks of fighting against the overwhelming pressure put on them.

Facing continuous mockery, they struck back fiercely with each victory.

Although the taunting and mocking would continue, these simple words of support gave Chen Guo the courage to charge on.

August 31st. Happy's free Internet event came to a stop and the new season of the Glory Pro League was eminent. The actual matches themselves wouldn't kick-off until Saturday on September 6th, but the transfer period would be over at exactly 0:00 on the first of September.

The titans of the league that remained under the scrutiny of players surprisingly didn't make any moves as the transfer period came to a close. Not Team Blue Rain, which had lost Yu Feng, nor Tiny Herb which had lost two All-Star level players. After Tiny Herb bought 301 Degrees' Xu Bin, everyone was waiting for these two teams to replenish their strength with new blood. Who would've thought that upon the close of the transfer period, neither team made any sort of announcement about transferring players. For both teams, they only made minimal adjustments to their line-up, but what everyone wanted to see was the transfer of a God!

Among everything that had happened during the summer transfer period, the one team that gained the most attention was Tyranny. Ling Jinyan's transfer, and Zhang Jiale's return in addition to Han Wenqing and Zhang Xinjie who were already present, Tyranny's line-up was beyond striking. Tacky titles like the Elite Four were thrown about, and the voices of support for Tyranny to win the championships were the loudest.

As for the reigning champions, Samsara, they held the tradition of the champion team, not making any major adjustments to their line-up and keeping their main roster the same. But the purchase of Flying Drops from Tiny Herb would definitely strengthen them.

Even with this, not many people believed in the abilities of the defending champions. Especially for those older players with experience, they knew what would happen if the ace made a mistake in these types of teams. Although Zhou Zekai's flawless performance gave many people confidence about the coming season, on the official poll for who people thought the next champion would be, Samsara was second to Tyranny.

Blue Rain and Tiny Herb were expected to be third and fourth, respectively. Both teams had lost all-star level players and did not do much to strengthen their line-up. Their projected strength had fallen. Their placing on the poll revealed how much everyone expected of these two teams.

Yet the two teams that couldn't be ignored were Wind Howl and Hundred Blossoms.

Both the transfers in and out for these teams stood out during the summer transfer period. If they stood out, then they would naturally gain much attention. Looking at their resulting line-ups, they seemed very solid. Wind Howl had the impeccable combination of new generation's number one brawler, Tang Hao and the top brawler account, Three Hits. In addition, there was also Best Rookie Zhao Yuzhe, who would definitely be useful for the new season. And last up not least was the All Star Fang Rui, who was very familiar with this team. The new season was something to look forward to.

Although Hundred Blossoms let go of both Tang Hao and Dazzling Hundred Blossoms, they obtained Yu Feng, allowing for the return of the former number one Berserker account, Falling Scattered Flowers, and provoking nostalgia in those who still recalled the scenes of the old times. Because of this topic, Hundred Blossoms managed to attain a good projected placing. But if one thought about it, they only had one All Star, Yu Feng. Team Void's Ghostblade duo, and Misty Rain's Chu Yunxiu and Li Hua, somehow both lost to Hundred Blossoms in the projected placings. It could be seen from this that these projection polls were a bit like the All Star votings, lacking in professionalism and authority. These places weren't reflective of ability, but rather the attention and hopes players had in them.

On September 1st, team rosters were set. Whether it was the transfer of a bigshot, the switching or replacing of average pro players or rookies from the training camp coming in, they all had to be registered by the first of September. On this day, the team line-up was officially set.

In the last week, Loulan Slash and the others from Heavenly Swords had become much less active on the game.

They were finally members of a pro team, so they had to do some special preparations. And all their effort made in gaining the attention of the masses for the first half of the season bore fruit. Their team, despite being completely new to the league, had a protected ranking of 10. This was the highest any new team had ever gotten.

Along with Heavenly Swords, the other team to enter the league was Team Time, not an unfamiliar face. Team Time was eliminated in the seventh season, but managed to fight their way back into the Pro League through beating their fellow eliminated team, Team Wind Sweep, in season eight's Challenger League.

With all the rosters set, the Pro League soon announced the match schedule for the new season. From now, the teams would begin discussing tactics. At the same time, the Challenger League for the new season wasn't any slower. On September 1st, the applications for the Challenger League were officially over. The number of teams competing totalled 14218, over 1000 more than last year. Naturally, this was used by the league as a sign of growth to help advertise themselves.

These 14218 teams would come head to head after being randomly assigned opponents, and after all sorts of different adjustments, there would only be 40 left. These 40 would be the participants of the offline matches and upon making it here, there would be an adjustment to the tournament rules away from single elimination. To make certain that only the best teams would be left, the teams would be split into groups for the next round of eliminations.

In the past, the Challenger League wouldn't get much attention. Though the teams eliminated from the Pro League would have some fans, they were, in the end, weak teams wouldn't get that much notice.

Yet this year was a little different. First of all, Excellent Era with three All Stars had somehow become a part of it, and then there was the recently infamous Team Happy.

The first opponents of these teams got some attention, especially Team Happy's opponent. Since Excellent Era was more or less the most terrifying team in this time's Challenger League. No matter who the opponent was, looking into them was just a tradition, who would need to care about the opposing side for Excellent Era?

But people did very much care about Happy's opponent. It was just that most people hoped they would very strong.

With Happy managing to make anyone who doubted or mocked them eat their own words, these people would obviously want Happy to meet their match in the challenger's league and get eliminated quickly. This way they could have some cathartic relief.

But there were really too many teams called Happy, just trying to find them was a task that would make you cry. But they were persistent to the end, managing to find the Team Happy they were looking for. A glance at Happy's opponent, Team Global Insomnia.

The world hadn't gotten insomnia, but those who were hoping for Happy to fall did. What a flippant name, not at all serious. Just by this you could tell that they weren't anything impressive. Never mind then, let's just see how the next round goes!

Chapter 802: Challenger League Round 1

Worldwide Insomnia.

After seeing the name of their opponents, everyone in Team Happy was speechless for a long time. A short pause later, Ye Xiu said: "I think our name Team Happy is very very good."

Everyone nodded their heads fervently. To everyone present, an imposing name like Worldwide Insomnia made it hard for them to take things seriously.

Chen Guo searched up this team and looked at their team members. Their classes were all listed out. Public information on teams would only report classes. Anything else you wanted to know would have to be found through the course of the Challenger League. Finding information at the beginning was unrealistic. There were over ten thousand teams. How could you pay attention to them all? Usually, teams would fix onto their own opponents and examine their tactics and strength.

Of course, only teams, which cared about winning the whole thing, would plan meticulously. Teams, which just participated for fun, didn't need to have such foresight.

After Chen Guo finished looking over the classes of the team members on Worldwide Insomnia, she looked up their final opponents, Team Excellent Era.

Excellent Era may be a powerhouse, but after being relegated, they had no special privilege as a participant in the Challenger League. Of course, because of their fame, the Alliance didn't mind using them for marketing. But from a tournament format, Excellent Era was just one of the 14,218 teams.

When Chen Guo searched for Excellent Era, she almost fell off her chair.

Too terrible.

Chen Guo stared at the various team names, sighing while laughing.

"Team Universally Unrivaled Relegated Excellent Era", "Excellent Era, I've Been Your Rival Since the Day I Was Born", "Excellent Era's Challenger League Future Is Good"... team names mocking Excellent Era

could be found everywhere. These teams definitely weren't here to seriously participate in the Challenger League. Their entire purpose here was to slander Excellent Era's name. Powerhouse! Team Excellent Era might have numerous fans, but they did not lack haters either. This type of sharp and unkind conduct invigorated Chen Guo's spirit of hatred towards Excellent Era.

She actually clicked on these teams and took a look. These were clearly randomly put together teams. When she finally found the real Team Excellent Era, she checked the publicly-released information on the members of Team Excellent Era.

"Hm? Excellent Era has two Battle Mages!" Chen Guo was incomparably familiar with Team Excellent Era's team composition. However, the familiar names she recognized no longer gave her the same feeling as before. Among these characters, there was an unfamiliar Battle Mage, Combat Form.

"Who's this?" Chen Guo asked Ye Xiu. No matter how familiar she was with Excellent Era, she couldn't be more familiar with it than Ye Xiu. Su Mucheng had returned to her team already, so Chen Guo couldn't ask her.

"Combat Form....." Ye Xiu saw this character and immediately recognized it.

Qiu Fei. This was the Battle Mage that the Club had given to Qiu Fei. As the previous successor to One Autumn Leaf, Qiu Fei would not have been given a weak character. Now, Qiu Fei's character was among the team roster. Had he been summoned by the team?

This was the Challenger League. Because of the tournament format, Qiu Fei appearing in the team roster didn't necessarily mean that he had been given a contract. Team Excellent Era may have added the All Star, Xiao Shiqin, to the team, but they also lost three players this summer. Xiao Shiqin was an All Star and God, but he couldn't replace three regulars, even with his powerful All Star character, Life Extinguisher.

Excellent Era needed to fill in their vacancies, but as a relegated team, their position was awkward. If they picked pro players from the competitive scene, let alone how many pro players had the same confidence as Xiao Shiqin, signing on players for a considerable price for the Challenger League would seem somewhat excessive.

In the trade for Xiao Shiqin, Excellent Era lost two players, but all of the second-string players were there. As second-string players of a powerhouse like Team Excellent Era, weren't they already more than good enough to crush some Challenger League opponents? Even if this time's Challenger League had Ye Qiu, Excellent Era still didn't need to be so cautious.

Excellent Era had carefully studied Team Happy's strength. In the beginning, they had been overly wary of Qiao Yifan, but they now knew that he wasn't some secret weapon. He was leftover trash tossed out by Team Tiny Herb. On the other hand, this type of player would be like treasure to a grassroots team like Team Happy.

Then, there was Tang Rou. During this period of time, she had risen to the spotlight, but at the same time, Excellent Era could conduct thorough analysis of her. When she bullied normal players, it was hard to tell the depth of her skill. However, Excellent Era wasn't an ordinary group. They had Glory specialists for this type of work. In front of these specialists, Tang Rou's skill was thoroughly examined.

On the other hand, Steamed Bun was a new sight. No form of strategy could be gleaned from his way of fighting, but his reckless fighting brought down his opponents. His technical skill was quite good, but if he could even beat the trainees from the training camp, that alone wouldn't cut it. His brainless fighting was truly difficult for these systematically trained experts to figure out.

However, as professionals in a famed team, they wouldn't be stumped by this problem. In short, after serious analysis by Excellent Era, Team Happy didn't need to be worried about. No one should be an obstacle to Excellent Era in the entire Challenger League. This was the reason for why they did not wave around money to sign players and only used their team's current resources. The top second-string players would be promoted to the first-string. The top trainees would be promoted to the second-string.

This method was a healthy way to develop a team, especially when they possessed absolute dominance over their opponents. Letting every level of the team grow was important. As a result, Excellent Era did not do anything during the transfer window, letting them avoid any controversy at the same time. If Excellent Era had signed any players, that may have actually been more astonishing.

Under this background, Qiu Fei and his Battle Mage, Combat Form, became a member of the team. Whether or not there would be others was hard to say because the Challenger League allowed team members to be adjusted at any time before the offline competition stage started.

Numerous players anxiously waited for the opening match of the new season, but before that, the Challenger League would start.

Regular league matches were played every Saturday. The Challenger League matches were played every Friday night, so they wouldn't conflict with the regular league matches. Online competitions were played in the in-game Arena. The game would specially cut out a section in the Arena dedicated to the Challenger League. Every week, the rooms would be automatically arranged. Teams would be given a room number to look for. The match would need to be played on time for the system to record it.

Last season, Samsara won the finals 3-0, ending the finals quickly. As a result, the Alliance wanted to find a new tournament format to use. Usually, the new tournament format would be tested in the Challenger League, but it seemed like the Alliance had yet to come up with a breakthrough over the summer. The elimination format was announced for the Challenger League, which was no different from the past. Both sides would each play each other on their home stage and then the winner was decided based on the total number of points obtained. As for who would play first or second, there was no record to consult, so it was decided by a flip of the coin.

Friday night, the Challenger League's first round of matches began. Because this year was different than last year, there were more people paying attention to the Challenger League this year. Excellent Era didn't need to be said. Even though they were against a weak team made up of random players, loyal fans still came to watch, expressing their support for their team. The Excellent Era room was filled with spectators.

At Happy, even though they had been in the spotlight for half a month, when the Challenger League began, they still received less attention than Excellent Era. However, compared to the other grassroots teams, it was simply no comparison. Moreover, Excellent Era wasn't the only pro team in the Challenger League. The previous season and previous previous season and even the previous previous previous season had relegated teams that had yet to return to the Alliance. But even their rooms, apart from last

season's second relegated, Team Mysterious Fantasy, couldn't compare to Happy's. Even though Team Mysterious Fantasy was a truly weak team, as a team that had been in the pro scene, they had still accumulated a number of fans. Despite getting relegated, many loyal fans still hadn't given up and still had hopes for their team. They also came to express their support, so their room wasn't any less lively than Happy's.

In the room, the competing teams flipped a coin and figured out the order of their home and away games. After the home team chose a map, the spectators would just be waiting for the two sides to start fighting. There was a limit to the preparation time. Once the map was chosen, if a team failed to press ready, the team would automatically forfeit the match.

The first round of the Challenger League had many many teams. All sorts of crazy possibilities could happen. Under the system's impartial and incorruptible decision, there was no mercy. Who knew how many teams would be forced to forfeit this round. But for ambitious teams like Happy, how could they make such a mistake?

On the other hand, their opponents Worldwide Insomnia only had four players show up at their schedule time. The four players were frantically asking each other where the other two players were. One of them said "He said he'd take a nap in the afternoon. Did he oversleep?" The crowd booed.

Aren't you Worldwide Insomnia? How ironic was it that your team member overslept!

In the end, the four couldn't wait for their two other team members any longer. The Challenger League had lax rules thought. Six players must sign up at registration, but in the actual match, it was fine for four players to participate. However, if four players participated, how could they hope to win according to competition rules?

Under the disappointed gazes of the crowd, Happy easily took their first victory.

Chapter 803: Opening Match

Not a bad start!

Chen Guo was ecstatic, but seeing how everyone else seemed so calm, she knew that this sort of easily-won victory didn't mean much. In comparison to Happy, the ease at which Team Excellent Era achieved their victory was even more absurd.

After they landed such a terrifying match, Team Excellent Era's opponent didn't seem to have any plans to back out. Instead, their members all arrived timely and enthusiastically. Yet upon opening fire, their characters seemed to just be dolls; they weren't really here to PvP, just here to meet their idols. When they went up against One Autumn Leaf, Life Extinguisher, and Dancing Rain, this was especially obvious. Happily losing while taking every chance to try and kowtow to them made the members of Team Excellent Era feel extremely awkward.

The amount of attention gained by the first round of this season's Challenger League far overtook any other round in history. But compared with the Pro League match the following day, it was nothing to write home about.

On this day, Chen Guo broadcasted the match like usual, but if the week after the free Internet event had anything to say, it was that Happy Internet Cafe's business had taken a hit. Their demand had fallen by at least a third, especially the regulars. Many of them never came back. The influence Team Excellent Era had in this area was immense.

Out of the 10 ongoing opening matches, Chen Guo chose the one between Team Samsara and Team Heavenly Sword. This was one of the league's traditions. Among the opening matches, one would definitely be fought between a new team and the defending champions. Team Heavenly Sword and Team Happy had quite a bit of history, so Loulan Slash had been coming to Ye Xiu anxiously to get advice.

Loulan Slash and his team prepared thoroughly for their match. Things like snatching bosses were allocated to others in the guild. They had become like pro players, not appearing much ingame anymore. For this new team, the Alliance also did some introducing and advertising.

Loulan Slash's team had eleven members in total. Apart from the core five, there were another six. Even though Ye Xiu had been a part of their group for so long, he had never heard of these people, and had no idea where Loulan Slash had found them. But with Loulan Slash and co as the core members, these six people were just backups, so Ye Xiu knew they wouldn't be very strong.

The match was on Team Samsara's turf. One of the major changes made for the new season was upgrading all the screens on hand into holographic projectors. Of course, this wasn't a decision made lightly, but one long planned by the Alliance. All the major teams had made an investment on this in their stadiums, and these first came to use at All Stars on Team Samsara's stadium.

This perfected technology received very positive feedback, and the plans they had made for so long finally came to fruition this season. Not just at Samsara, but the projections for all the opening matches flickered on.

With an all new method of viewing, the effect on the spirit of the audience was tangible. The lifelike Glory arena was revealed to them, eliciting the passion of everyone in the audience.

The match between the defending champions and the new team wasn't anything shocking. Team Heavenly Sword lost with a resounding zero to Team Samsara. Not long after the match, Ye Xiu received a column of tearful emojis from the Team Heavenly Sword five.

"Keep trying!" Ye Xiu could only reply with mild encouragement. Because of the difference in skill, along with nerves from their debuting match, Loulan Slash and co couldn't perform to expectations. But this first match showed Ye Xiu that there was some depth to these players that he didn't know of before. Their equipment, upon the start of the official matches, had undergone a complete makeover, including several pieces of Silver equipment. Ye Xiu had no idea how they obtained them.

With solid characters and an understanding of their ability through in-game interaction, Ye Xiu judged that Team Heavenly Sword could count as a mid-tier team in the league. He relayed this conclusion to the five, just to give them a boost in morale.

But the opening match that was the most popular wasn't this match. Chen Guo broadcasted Loulan Slash's match out of their friendship. Among the opening matches, it was usually the teams that had



undergone major adjustments during the summer transfer period that would catch people's attention. People would be curious as to how good these new line-ups were.

This, of course, didn't include Team Samsara and Team Heavenly Sword. Team Samsara simply bought an All Star character to fortify their strength. Yet what they did in the end wasn't to use the grappler Flying Drops directly, but to salvage its equipment and re-equip their own grappler. It was clear that they weren't aiming for the account in the first place, but the equipment. A character's ability was mostly determined by their equipment. With Flying Drops' undressing, this All Star Grappler would most likely fall from fame. Many fans of this account were furious at Samsara for that they did.

It wasn't as if Samsara hadn't taken this into consideration. An All Star character could sometimes bring fame. But Flying drops was, ultimately, not a God-level character like One Autumn Leaf or Desert Dust, so Samsara could make the decision to scrap it, taking its place with their own Grappler account. This sort of move to increase the influence of their own accounts revealed Samsara's ambitious heart.

But that was all Samsara had done. It was not enough to become a hot topic, especially when looking at Tyranny, Blue Rain, Tiny Herb, whose core line-up had gone through some immense changes. It wasn't very fresh.

After the end of the opening matches, people had some idea of Team Tyranny's new style.

Zhang Jiale using Hundred Dazzling Blossoms to fight for Team Tyranny was something no one had ever thought could happen even in their dreams, yet now it had become a reality. The flamboyant hundred blossom style was as eye-catching as ever; some were ecstatic, some were melancholy.

And Ling Jinyan, controlling the brawler character Team Tyranny had specially made for him, was a uniting figure in the team. The people that supported these veterans weren't small in number, with some who was just here just to see what would happen. They hoped that Team Tyranny would meet Team Hundred Blossoms or Team Wind Howl. These matches that had potential for drama were always more interesting.

Zhou Guanyi from Team Tyranny also gained much attention. In the press conference after the match, the reporters were intent on him, asking if he felt pressure when fighting alongside these Gods. But Team Tyranny was prepared for such questions, and Zhou Guanyi's reply sounded rehearsed. Obviously, their PR department had gone over this with him. Reporters hated this kind of answer the most, but there was nothing they could do about it.

Team Blue Rain and Team Tiny Herb had both lost All Stars, and had not made any moves to fortify their own strength, yet shocked every everyone in their opening matches.

The most important adjustment Team Blue Rain had made in this season was to take the young 14 year old Lu Hanwen from their training camp, using the account Flowing Clouds he used in-game, and put him down as a core member!

Instant fame.

This phrase could be used perfectly on Lu Hanwen. With one victory in the individual competition and an amazing performance in the team competition, everyone witnessed this 14 year old's technique and skill.

Everyone immediately placed titles like genius to Lu Hanwen's name, curious and hopeful about his future performance. It was a shame that he didn't attend the press conference after. It was clear that Team Blue Rain was very protective of this child.

In contrast, Team Tiny Herb's Gao Yingjie and his Kind Tree's debut in Team Tiny Herb's main roster wasn't as eye-catching. After all, Gao Yingjie had chances to fight in official matches ever since last season's All Star Weekend. This season, becoming a core member was just the next step. Though his position on the main team was rather conspicuous; he was taking the place of an All Star, after all.

But this situation was the same for Team Blue Rain. Lu Hanwen was also taking the place of the transferred Yu Feng. In comparison to Gao Yingjie whose debut was carefully planned out and revealed, Lu Hanwen came out completely unexpected, making Team Blue Rain's actions far more surprising.

The other teams that people were keeping an eye on were Team Hundred Blossoms and Team Wind Howl.

Coming to a new team, getting a new character and becoming a team leader, Tang Hao's performance in their match was admirable. Under his leadership, his other team members fought spectacularly in their opening match. Like Team Samsara, Team Wind Howl also managed to win with a full 10 points, standing currently in joint first place with Samsara, causing their fans to swell with excitement.

In contrast, Team Hundred Blossoms' opening match was a terrible embarrassment. Their opponent, Team Misty Rain, didn't make many changes during the summer transfer; their line-up was stable, as was their performance. They took away 8 points from the match, leaving Team Hundred Blossoms with a measly 2 points. The media, of course, blew things out of proportion. Though they just messed up on the opening match, Hundred Blossoms was described as being in peril, and even being compared with Zhang Jiale's amazing return.

Among all the topics and debates, the Glory Alliance's ninth season officially began. And immediately a topic exploded among the players, being something everyone had noticed about this season: veterans and newcomers.

The veterans that had rallied under Team Tyranny's banner for victory.

The very new, but already core team member and youngest ever pro player, Lu Hanwen.

Just in the opening matches, they had caught everyone's attention, and were already looking to be the main character's of the coming season.

With the eruption of such a dramatic Pro League opening round, the spectators of the Challenger League, had decreased. The topics surrounding Happy and whatnot were immediately replaced by Tyranny, Blue Rain, Tiny Herb, Wind Howl, Hundred Blossom, etc. After all, this was where the real action was happening!

Chapter 804: Endless Topics

As the opening round came to a close, all sorts of news and topics began to trend.

Although Team Tyranny's four ace player team made them the highest trending team among players, the single pro-gamer who gained the most attention wasn't Zhang Jiale, Ling Jinyan, Han Wenqing or Zhang Xinjie.

Lu Hanwen.

Known as this season's most important transfer of Team Blue Rain, Lu Hanwen. With the departure of an All Star, he directly stepped up to take a place on the main roster. The youngest pro player in the history of Glory.

On the day of the match and under Team Blue Rain's protection, Lu Hanwen had not attended the press conference. But was it that easy to wave off the enthusiasm of these reporters? After the opening matches, each team received an application for a certain team member to be interviewed, and Lu Hanwen's popularity rocketed.

Was Lu Hanwen's ability comparable to a God? Not necessarily, but the halo of being 14 gave him a bonus. Being so strong at merely 14, if he continued improving, wouldn't his ability be terrifying when his skills matured?

Although Team Blue Rain was protecting their young participant, that didn't mean they were hiding him from public view completely. Their goal was to let him grow in the best conditions. After the opening matches, Team Blue Rain's PR department gave Lu Hanwen a few pointers on dealing with the media, and finally agreed to letting him be interviewed. However, the interview wasn't conducted like the press conference where a myriad of reporters would be fighting for a chance to ask questions. Team Blue Rain instead decided to arrange for someone from the influential ESports Home to conduct an exclusive interview. They would let the two find a quiet place to sit and talk, and Team Blue Rain would go over the draft before it became published.

With this arrangement, they wouldn't have to fear Lu Hanwen saying anything that could negatively affect his future career due to his lack of experience. And being the most influential eSports media, ESports Home wouldn't go and irresponsibly publish nonsense to catch the eyes of the people.

Not long afterwards Lu Hanwen's exclusive interview appeared on the Monday's ESports Home headlines. Through Q & A, they let the normal players better understand this young pro player.

Vibrant, optimistic, diligent!

This was ESports Home's final opinion of Lu Hanwen. The Exclusive interview naturally concluded with well-wishes for Lu Hanwen. Meanwhile, this made anticipation swell in the hearts of Glory fans. How much could this young pro player achieve?

Of course, there was plenty more to speak of in the next pages of ESports Home.

Such as those teams who had gone through major adjustments, their style and technique in the opening matches was a hot topic as well. And speaking of style, the rare combination of a class overlap appeared in the opening matches of two powerhouses.

Blue Rain, Tiny Herb.

With Troubling Rain and Vaccaria, two aces among their class, there was somehow another same-class character that appeared in their team battles.

Flowing Cloud, Kind Tree. With the same classes as Troubling Rain and Vaccaria, respectively, the two accounts were being played by the rookies of each team.

A dual class combination was very rare. Only Team Void's Ghostblade duo was currently active in the league. Sobbing Ghost and Carved Ghost were both Ghostblades. But Ghostblades had their own unique playstyle. Phantom Demons and Sword Demons could more or less be seen as two different classes. Team Void's Ghostblade Duo had Sobbing Ghost as a phantom demon, while Carved Ghost would switch up his skillset every now and then. Through this, they managed to create a variety of play styles.

For Blue Rain and Tiny Herb, Tiny Herb was alright, since Witches had many styles to choose from. But with Wang Jiexi being known as the Magician, his Vaccaria didn't use any of the typical play styles of Witch players. Instead, he used a style unique to himself. Vaccaria didn't have particular skills. He didn't favor particular skills like the mainstream Body Technique or Magic Tool users. Instead, his skill points were placed into all the different skills. With the limit in skill points, Vaccaria's skill levels were definitely imperfect, but his skill tree make-up was beyond the comprehension of most.

And Kind Tree, who fought at Vaccaria's side, wasn't one of the mainstream Body Technique or Magic Tool accounts either, yet he was also different from Vaccaria, or so the opening match seemed to reveal. From the current analysis, he seemed to uphold Wang Jiexi's Magician playstyle, but his skill tree was tailored to Gao Yingjie's personal tastes and habits.

Two unique Witches. What kind of combination would they be able to make? Everyone was trembling in anticipation.

As for Blue Rain, Blade Masters didn't have that much of a variation. Different players would simply pick different combinations of sword types and skills that were to their liking. Troubling Rain wasn't as unique as Vaccaria, and Flowing Cloud was even more of a typical Blade Master. What sparks these two class overlaps would create had been analyzed by the media for the opening matches, but it wasn't thorough; they would have to see over time.

As for those like Tyranny, Hundred Blossoms, Wind Howl.... All the teams would gain reviews from the media after the opening matches. Whether the analysis in these reviews were accurate or not wasn't something certain, but for normal players, they needed someone more professional than them to analyze the matches and tell them what was truly going on.

In comparison, the Challenger League, which had also finished its opening matches, only got a tiny, negligible place on the ESports Home. In this tiny area, half of it was used to emphasize how incredible this time's Challenger League was. Then, it mentioned which teams used to belong to the Pro League. With Excellent Era as the top priority, they were given a good bit of praise. As for Happy, they were mentioned too. Though it was just a sentence of "the recently infamous Team Happy easily defeated their opponents, a small team of players, in the first round."

Though it was just one sentence, one could tell that ESports Home was keeping a close eye on Happy. Out of 14218 teams, they were the only team to be specifically named in the small article. Even

Excellent Era had just been shoved in with the other struggling pro teams, briefly mentioned as "winning with full points".

Even with that, Chen Guo wasn't happy when she saw the article. With how hilarious their opponents were, who had two players who didn't even come, they could write much more! However, among these 14218 teams, there wasn't a lack of crazy names, Worldwide Insomnia was nothing compared to some of the others out there. As for coming with two people missing, this was a situation too common to count in the first round. Two people was actually considered few, for some teams, no one even turned up. And Worldwide Insomnia managed the same in this round. With not a single point in the first round and knowing how strong the opponent was, they simply decided to not turn up at all for the second round. With that, Team Happy had won against their first opponents.

The next day was the second round of the Pro League. The focus point was, of course, the continuation of the first round. Chen Guo originally wanted to go with the popular choice and broadcast Blue Rain's match with Lu Hanwen being a focus of the new season. But looking at the match schedule, Blue Rain's opponents were Conquering Clouds, a bottom-tier team. Going against such a team, the match didn't seem very interesting. Even if Lu Hanwen performed very well, it wouldn't really mean much.

So Chen Guo looked to the schedule again and saw that Tyranny was going up against Team Royal Style.

Royal Style had Tian Sen and his Peaceful Hermit, a big name in the Glory scene. Tyranny had four ace players.. This match seemed to be more interesting.

Chen Guo's choice didn't disappoint. The level of play shown in this match was very high. The four aces performed stably,, crushing Royal Style's hopes for victory. Though these four only got together during the summer, they seemed as if they had fought as long-time teammates. The tactical sense of veterans was far greater than what the younger generation could achieve, especially since these four were all the cream of the crop. It was like Tyranny didn't even need an adjustment period and could already function nigh flawlessly.

In this round, all the powerhouses managed to accomplish a satisfactory victory, apart from Hundred Blossoms. They didn't seem to be able to find their way yet. Going up against the weak team Clear Splendor, they only managed to get three points.

Two rounds completed. Two weeks passed by in a flash.

The goal for pro players was to win matches. Apart from these matches, there was only training and making sure they had the right attitude for these matches. As for Happy? They were much busier. Apart from training everyday, they would still be going around snatching bosses under Ye Xiu's leadership.

Loulan Slash and the others from Heavenly Sword weren't here to help anymore, but the other guilds were still the same. Really, all they had lost was Loulan Slash and the other experts. The other guilds didn't have pro players helping anymore either. Within two weeks, Ye Xiu and his alliance naturally benefitted. Ye Xiu classified and stored the materials they had gained.

Everything seemed to be going well. But after the end of the current week, came Monday and the names of their next opponents. Happy's opponent: Team Everlasting.

Compared to all those flashy names, a name like Everlasting was very inconspicuous. Yet with a standard name like this, it seemed to tell of the background of the team.

Team Everlasting, a team eliminated from the Pro League in the seventh season.

In the eighth season's Challenger League, they fell at the finals.

But they didn't give up. With the new season and a good start, Team Everlasting and Team Happy somehow managed to draw one another.

This result made many people curl their lips.

But after a while, those who wanted to see Happy humiliated cheered.

As for Happy, with Wei Chen representing them, their complexions weren't so good.

Though they had been eliminated, Team Everlasting was still a team from the Pro League. With the two years spent there, they had some experience. No matter what, they were miles stronger than Worldwide Insomnia.

Chen Guo shot Ye Xiu a worried glance. At times like these, she needed to find confidence from Ye Xiu. Ye Xiu didn't disappoint her, smiling upon seeing the matchup. "Not Excellent Era, huh? Not bad!"

Chapter 805: A Little Frivolous

Team Everlasting.

Team Everlasting became a pro team when they joined the Pro League in Season 5. They had stayed for three years before being eliminated from the league. For three years, 15th was the best ranking they had achieved, so they had never been an outstanding team.

But when they were placed in the Challenger League, they were enough to triumph over all. The resulting champions of the Challenger League were monopolized by these types of teams every year.

Even though they didn't have any God in their team, they managed to mingle around in the professional circle for three years, so at least they were qualified pro players. Although there weren't many Silver equipment for their characters, they had some. They were much stronger than Team Happy, who only had two petty Silver weapons. Furthermore, apart from the Silver equipment, every other equipment was Orange. This was something Happy couldn't compare with. Team Happy's characters still had crappy Purple equipment, which weren't up to standard placed in the pro scene.

It was only because of Excellent Era this year. Otherwise, such team would be the final boss, like how they were in the past. Team Happy was far from lucky finding them only in the second round. Perhaps only people like Ye Xiu would bring up Excellent Era to compare.

However, they couldn't underestimate Team Everlasting's strength. This round wouldn't be easy.

"At least we can get some equipment. Even though we can't get Silver equipment, we can get Orange equipment somehow." Chen Guo spoke. As for the method, she had already come up with one. There was only one way to collect a full set of equipment in a short time - using money!

Silver equipment might not be purchasable, but Orange equipment was different. This was something that circulated around normal players, so this matter was achievable if one were willing to spend money.

"Mm," Ye Xiu seemed to agree with Chen Guo's opinion and nodded. "Does anyone have any friends or relatives that could lend us some Orange equipment?"

"Huh?" Chen Guo was stunned. She never thought that they would be borrowing the equipment. Borrowing equipment for a match? Why did it feel extremely dodgy and frivolous?

"Do you have any friends that can lend us some?" Ye Xiu asked Chen Guo.

"I... don't..." Chen Guo stammered. After thinking about it for a bit,, Chen Guo realised that she didn't have any. It wasn't as if she didn't have any friends, it was because none of her close friends had any Orange equipment. For strong professional teams, Orange equipment was only used to fill in the gaps, but for the majority of players in the game, it was very rare. It couldn't be helped. They were in two different leagues, so how they viewed things would be different, too.

"I'll see if Loulan Slash has any!" Ye Xiu said and actually took action. He called for Loulan Slash on QQ. "Comrade Lou, do you have any equipment we can borrow?"

Loulan Slash was now an official pro player, so his name would be revealed to the public. His full name was Lou Guanning. He was both Team Heavenly Sword's boss and captain. After the first two rounds of the season, Team Heavenly Swords received lots of criticism. People believed that Team Heavenly Swords was merely the toy of a rich person. Normal players only played Glory online. However, the temperament of rich people would be different. They could just spend money to create a team and send themselves into the pro scene to play.

But wouldn't this method bring humiliation onto themselves? Did they really think money was all powerful?

Many players mocked them in such a manner. This was because judging from the two matches, Team Heavenly Sword's performance was kind of terrible. They only got one point and was ranked last in the team ranking.

Lou Guanning was frustrated about it! After Ye Xiu's lesson, they had adjusted their mindset. Their goal was no longer exaggerated and unrealistic. But the current drop in expectations was too great. Putting the ranking aside, it was even hard to gain one point. It just so happened that no one had a clue or idea for a solution.

The five members of Heavenly Swords gathered together for their Monday meeting in order to discuss about how they should digest the pain they received in the past two weeks. After the introduction to the meeting, all five became silent. Lou Guanning had nothing to say himself, so he got bored and logged onto QQ. The moment he logged on, he saw God messaging him.

"Borrowing equipment? What equipment?" Lou Guanning replied with no spirit.

"Pro equipment! Our opponent next round is a bit troublesome." Ye Xiu replied.

"Every opponent we are up against is troublesome." Lou Guanning said absent-mindedly. Evidently, he didn't think much about Ye Xiu's words, so he carelessly chatted with Ye Xiu to pass the time.

"I saw your match. The first step is always the hardest!" Ye Xiu said.

"We have made mental preparations, but we never knew it would be this difficult." Lou Guanning replied.

"Your first two opponents were quite strong. That's a fact." Ye Xiu said.

Team Heavenly Sword's first opponent was Team Samsara. This had been set up intentionally this season. Sure enough, Team Heavenly Sword was annihilated. As for their second match, they faced off against Team Misty Rain.

Even though Team Misty Rain was never counted as a powerhouse, they were able to eliminate Team Tyranny and become one of the top four last season. It would be easy for them to deal with a team that have just joined the league.

However, Team Heavenly Sword had a good start in the first match. They had won the first round in the individual competition and received their first point ever. This helped increase their momentum and boost their morale. But soon, they were brought back to their original shape and returned to the situation of their first match. They failed to win any of the following nine points.

The victory of winning the first point from the single match was completely forgotten due to their miserable mood. But Ye Xiu just had to bring up that match at this moment. "Didn't you guys win a round? It shows that it's not because of your skills, but because you're not used to it. The feeling of fighting in a professional match is different from fighting with players in the regular arena, right?"

"Different indeed." Lou Guanning admitted.

"Feeling a bit nervous is unavoidable, it will get better when you grow used to it. Everyone experiences this stage." Ye Xiu said.

"Were you nervous when you fought in your first match?" Lou Guanning asked.

"Of course." Ye Xiu said.

"But your performance was still so good." Lou Guanning was pretty clear about Ye Xiu's record.

"Mm... That was because everybody's human, so I reckon my opponents were more nervous than me." Ye Xiu said.

"Haha..." Lou Guanning didn't reply, but actually laughed out loud. The other four immediately gazed at him with puzzlement. Their eyes carried all sorts of blame, expressing how could he possibly laugh at a time like this? He wasn't focused at all!

"It's God!" Lou Guanning turned his computer's screen around for the other four to see their conversation.



The four knew who Lou Guanning meant as "God". Countless of people were called "God" in the professional circle, but for the people in Team Heavenly Swords, if one simply said "God", they definitely meant Ye Qiu.

In the chat, Ye Xiu didn't say any comforting or encouraging words, he merely pointed out their current problem. Even though he didn't give them any helpful solutions, they learned that this was something every pro player would have to experience. They were just like everyone else. There were no exceptions. Just because there was no exception, it made it seem as if they didn't need to feel crestfallen about it.

The mood unexpectedly turned better. Lou Guanning finally realised that Ye Xiu didn't find him to talk about this matter. He hastily went back to the original topic on his own initiative. "God, you mentioned that you needed to borrow equipment?"

"Pro equipment, as pro as it can be!" Ye Xiu said.

"Are you telling me that you would like to borrow our current Silver equipment?" Lou Guanning asked.

"If I can, I wouldn't mind!" Ye Xiu said.

Lou Guanning almost planted his face into the table, he was stupefied before replying. "Would the rules allow us to?"

"As far as I know, there are no terms prohibiting it." Ye Xiu said.

"Outside of the transfer window, it is prohibited to transfer characters, but I think equipment can be." Evidently, Lou Guanning had done his research.

"Mm, speaking of this, where did you get your Silver equipment from?" Ye Xiu gossiped.

"I bought it!"

"How secretive." Ye Xiu said.

"Thanks for the compliment."

"Then quickly give it to me to use." Ye Xiu didn't have any reservations. At the start, he didn't plan to borrow their Silver equipment. He only thought that if they had any Orange equipment in their guild's storage, he could borrow and return it after this match. But Lou Guanning brought up this topic himself, and Ye Xiu thought that the proposal wasn't bad, so he happily accepted it.

Chen Guo, who watched beside him, was stupefied. Ye Xiu was just borrowing equipment! But now he managed to get Silver equipment, without having any reservations at all! She didn't know if Team Heavenly Swords would lend them the equipment or not.

Chen Guo was kind of looking forward to it. They wasn't any competition between the two teams, and their competition dates weren't the same. It wouldn't affect Team Heavenly Swords too much if they lended their equipment, unless Team Heavenly Swords was a faceslapping group who felt uncomfortable towards Team Happy and wanted Team Happy to be tormented. But Team Heavenly Swords was not only not a faceslapping group, they were quite close. To lend their equipment at this time... seemed, quite possible?

Chen Guo was a bit excited, she waited with Ye Xiu for the reply while she spoke with excitement. "Hey... If it's like this, can you find other pro teams to borrow equipment from? You know all of them!"

"I do know them, but not their boss." Ye Xiu said.

Chen Guo understood at once. Lou Guanning was both the player and boss, so he was able to make the decision. As for other teams, the pro players obviously didn't have such power, so making such a request would be difficult for them.

In actual fact, wasn't it the same for Team Heavenly Swords? When Lou Guanning told the other four what Ye Xiu had said, they were at a complete loss. They weren't mentally prepared for such request! By rights, judging from with their relationship and that there weren't any conflicts, there wouldn't be a problem in lending them the equipment. But... why did it feel a little frivolous?

Borrowing equipment to play a match... Did they just make history in the pro scene.

"What classes do you guys have?" Lou Guanning finally started to take practical action.

"Don't mind about that, just give us everything! Lord Grim could wear what's left over." Ye Xiu replied.

Lou Guanning's face was covered in tears at once. Unspecialised was truly great!

Chapter 806: Equipment Finalized

Team Heavenly Swords was indeed wealthy. Relying on money, they were actually able to purchase 20 pieces of Silver equipment. Their five characters equipped them all. Not a single one was hidden, but because of their classes, the equipment was not evenly distributed among each character. In the end, their Berserker Loulan Slash had 5, their Battle Mage Homeward Bound also had 5, their Grappler Night Tide had 4, their Cleric Thousand Falling Leaves had 4, and their Elementalist Ocean Ahead only had 2.

Relatively speaking, 2 or 5 Silver pieces of equipment on a character wasn't a lot. In Glory, characters could equip a total of 12 pieces of equipment. Loulan Slash and Homeward Bound had the most Silver equipment in the team, but it was still only five. It wasn't even halfway to a full set.

This type of Silver equipment coverage was considered lacking in the current pro scene. According to last season's statistics, the average number of Silver equipment on a character was 5.23. Team Heavenly Swords only had a maximum of five on each character, let alone six other characters not having even a single piece.

Team Heavenly Swords wasn't the only team lacking Silver equipment. In reality, for a new team in the Alliance, obtaining 20 Silver equipment was already very impressive. Silver equipment was not something that could be bought simply with money.

Take Team Heavenly Sword's 20 Silver equipment. Lou Guanning let Ye Xiu take a look. Ye Xiu knew that these weren't considered top quality goods in the pro scene.

During the process of creating a Silver equipment, there would be many that would fail to meet expectations. These pieces of equipment would still be used to continue to perfect them. After perfecting them, the earlier unsatisfactory prototypes would be removed. These prototypes might be

given to characters in the team that needed equipment or sold to other teams. It depended on how each team wanted to do business.

Ye Xiu did not ask where Team Heavenly Swords obtained these pieces of equipment. Lou Guanning had laid the equipment out for him to see, implying that he agreed to let Ye Xiu borrow them temporarily.

20 Silver equipment.

3 weapons, 12 armor, and 5 accessories.

Ye Xiu checked the stats on each one and got a rough idea of how he should distribute them.

"Apart from the Grappler glove, lend the others to me!" Ye Xiu said.

There was a Battle Mage, Cleric, and Grappler weapon.

Team Happy had a Battle Mage and Cleric, so those could not be missed. For the Grappler glove, Steamed Bun's Brawler could also use it, but gloves didn't suit Brawlers. Gloves were specialized weapons for Grapplers, so to a Brawler, a Silver glove might not be as good as an Orange claw.

Of the 20 Silver equipment, Ye Xiu wanted to borrow 19 of them. It would be a lie to say that Lou Guanning didn't hesitate to lend them out, but in the end, he trusted Ye Xiu. As a result, these equipment were lent to Ye Xiu just like that.

But Lou Guanning said that they still needed to use them during practice, so they would give them to Happy on Friday before their match.

"This..... Could you lend them to us a day before to give us time to familiarize ourselves with them?" Ye Xiu negotiated with Lou Guanning. Equipment undoubtedly affected a character's strength. A character with different equipment would feel different to play on. Thus, it was best to practice using the equipment that would be worn in matches. That was why when a player switched to a new club and received a new character, he needed to get used to the character.

When Happy borrowed these pieces of equipment, the strength of their character's would increase, but if the player wasn't used to it and couldn't play properly, that would be disastrous. Ye Xiu wanted everyone to try out the equipment first. If the equipment wasn't suitable, it would be better to wear their original equipment. No matter how powerful a character was, a player needed to be able to use their equipment to the fullest potential. If the player couldn't even utilize their equipment, even a God-level character wouldn't be of help.

Lou Guanning didn't need Ye Xiu to explain this type of logic to him. He had already agreed to lend them the equipment. If he insisted on lending the equipment to them at the final moment, he would seem too selfish and insincere. As a result, Lou Guanning happily replied, concluding this matter by saying that it was a must.

After making this decision, Lou Guanning did not wait for Ye Xiu to say anything and asked: "There's only this many Silver equipment. What about Orange equipment? Do you guys need anything?"

"Yeah... if we could get a full set for each character, we would be most thankful." Ye Xiu said.

"Okay....." Lou Guanning felt a bit speechless. He had lent out Silver equipment though, how could Orange equipment compare to that? Speaking of which, Lou Guanning was a little curious. What made Ye Xiu feel like he needed to borrow equipment?

"Right, who's your opponent?" Lou Guanning asked.

"Team Everlasting." Ye Xiu said.

"Oh! That's the team that was relegated two years ago, right?" Loulan Slash had an impression of this team.

"Yeah." Ye Xiu said.

"Good luck!" Lou Guanning's Team Heavenly Swords had only 1 point. The team sat at the bottom of the Alliance. He couldn't really be looking down on relegated teams. Even more so when considering the fact that Team Everlasting had survived in the Alliance for three years. Lou Guanning felt like this team might have even more Silver equipment than his own patched together team. He just didn't know if this team was the same as before after being outside of the Alliance for two years.

"Wasn't I the one who came here to wish you luck?" Ye Xiu replied back with a smiley face.

"Which classes do you need? I'll help you take a look." Lou Guanning was quite a hero.

The equipment was settled after a few minutes.....

Relying on the power of money, Team Heavenly Swords was truly quite impressive. They had accumulated numerous pieces of orange equipment. A full set for each player in a team was not a problem. Even if their guild didn't have any, anyone in their team could have their equipment peeled away! In any case, it was just borrowing.

"Done!" Ye Xiu let out a sigh of relief, after finalizing all of the equipment with Lou Guanning.

"We..... can't keep borrowing the entire way through, right?" Chen Guo was speechless.

"Yeah, when we face Excellent Era, we're going to need more. Once we enter the pro scene, we might not even be able to borrow any." Ye Xiu said.

"Then for now, is this enough?" Chen Guo asked.

"Let's get a read on our opponents first before trying to decide anything!" Ye Xiu said and immediately searched for information on Team Everlasting.

As a team that had been in the Alliance for three years, there was plenty of official match recordings to look through. Some of those were a bit outdated though and might not be as valuable now. Fortunately, Team Everlasting had reached the finals of the Challenger League last season. Once the Challenger League reached the later stages and the offline matches started, the Alliance would also do some marketing. Some teams might even be streamed online. A team that had reached the finals would certainly have a lot of data accumulated. Ye Xiu searched around and found quite a lot of information. He began taking a look.

Wei Chen didn't need to be called over. He had come to Ye Xiu. The two studied the material and quietly discussed it with each other. All of the VODs on Team Everlasting were watched.

After dinner, everyone gathered together. Ye Xiu was planning on saying a few words about Team Everlasting.

The living room in their residence was arranged in the same way as their practice room at Happy Internet Cafe. Everyone was familiar with the orientation. The projector screen rolled down, and clips of Team Everlasting's matches in the Challenger League began playing.

"These are Team Everlasting's six main classes: Spellblade, Elementalist, Qi Master, Warlock, Cleric, and Launcher." After what seemed like a short trailer showcasing their classes, Ye Xiu introduced each of the six characters that appeared, which comprised of Team Everlasting's main roster.

"What are your thoughts on this team composition?" Ye Xiu wasn't going to tell them everything. These rookies needed to learn how to think for themselves. They couldn't keep relying on Ye Xiu and Wei Chen.

"They don't have a single completely melee class. All of them have strong long-ranged AoE skills. For a dungeon, this type of team composition is quite good for a One Wave Rush strategy..." An Wenyi replied. He was more familiar with Glory than Tang Rou and Steamed Bun. He had strong observational skills too. He could easily see things as simple as this.

Ye Xiu nodded his head: "That's their team's specialty. They like clumped-up fights. Last season, the core attacker of their team was this player."

Ye Xiu said. Another clip was played. In this clip, everyone in the team coordinated with the Spellblade to attack.

"Next, these types of map coverage attacks are clearly something that they practice. I'll let you guys see it for yourself. In a bit, I'll explain it in more detail. This type of attack is most likely what we'll need to be ready to face." Ye Xiu said. This time, the opponents were different. A pro team would develop their own unique style. At this moment, undergoing practice specifically to counter it was the most effective for the rookies.

On the projector screen, the battle continued. As Ye Xiu said before, he did not immediately start to analyze it. When this part of the video stopped, he chose a random part in the middle and played it, while asking everyone: "Do you guys have any thoughts?"

"Over here... the core doesn't seem to be the Spellblade?" Qiao Yifan had the most experience in the competitive scene out of all the youths here. It was just that in Team Tiny Herb, he had a habit of being cautious with everything he said. However, after being with Team Happy for so long, especially playing with everyone every day, he realized how improper a lot of their ways were, so he gradually began having more courage to speak his opinions.

"Who is the core then?" Ye Xiu asked.

Qiao Yifan immediately felt like he had said too much and felt too scared to answer. But seeing how Ye Xiu wasn't looking at him with reproach, he finally mustered up the courage: "Is it... the Launcher?" He still wasn't confident.

"Yes, that's correct." Ye Xiu nodded his head, "The Launcher is leading the attack here. Tactics are flexible to some extent. If a tactic is so rigid that only a single core could execute it, that would be too easy for the opponent to beat."

Just the comment "that's correct" made Qiao Yifan feel excited. Just when he was about to say something more, someone suddenly said: "That Team Samsara. Aren't they being led by a just a single core?"

Everyone was astonished hearing this voice because it belonged to Mo Fan!

Chapter 807: Team Everlasting

Mo Fan had joined Happy for over a month now, and he was still the same as he was when he came. During this time, only Su Mucheng could cause him to change his attitude. And now that Su Mucheng had already gone back to the Club, Mo Fan just sat in front of a row of laptops, not speaking to anyone. He seemed very isolated.

But here, he had food, water and shelter, computers to game on, and no intentions to leave. With Happy being challenged by all sort of people, and now with the official matches, he hadn't even participated once.

The Challenger League was critical to Team Happy. For it, An Wenyi hadn't even checked in with his school yet, and it was already late September. Not soon after Su Mucheng returned to her team, Luo Ji also returned to school. In contrast, An Wenyi remained at Happy, telling them that there wasn't anything he had to do at school anyways.

Everyone was focused on and high-strung about the Challenger League. Although Luo Ji wasn't there personally, he knew with his ability that he wouldn't be of any help, but he was still very concerned with how things were progressing. Only Mo Fan never seemed to care. If it wasn't for the fact that there was an extra set of cutlery on the table at mealtimes, most people would probably forget that he existed.

And now, the tactics meeting regarding Team Everlasting, in the practice room also known as ex-first floor common room, began. Who would've thought that at such a time Mo Fan would speak up, and ask a very much legitimate question. But when on earth did this guy start paying attention to the Pro League? He could even not only name Samsara's team name, but also their play style!

Chen Guo's heart soared. She believed that with him being here day after day, he finally was influenced by the atmosphere. Something he originally had no interest in, he was finally starting to take part.

Ye Xiu, like everyone else, was surprised by this turn of events. He glanced at Mo Fan and asked, "You actually know Samsara?" Mo Fan lips thinned, refusing to answer such a useless question.

Ye Xiu smiled and then said, "What Samsara is like, you have to find out from watching their matches, not just through the media." "..."

"By the way, do you know who's at the core of Samsara?" Ye Xiu then asked.

"Zhou Zekai." Who knew where Mo Fan managed to learn this information?

"And his account?" Ye Xiu continued to ask.

"..." Mo Fan once again stopped speaking. Whether it was because he didn't know or felt like Ye Xiu's question was an insult to his IQ, they didn't know.

"Cloud Piercer." Ye Xiu didn't care if he knew or not, introducing this character to him anyways. After that, he dismissed the topic and returned to Team Everlasting.

Towards Mo Fan, when he hadn't wanted to join, Ye Xiu was very persistent. Hunting him down and killing him in game all the time, and even getting Tyranny's Zhang Xinjie to help him, backing the guy into a corner.

Yet when Mo Fan actually came to Happy, he was completely let go of. Ye Xiu barely even talked to him. Most people would just leave out of boredom facing this lack of presence, but Mo Fan was used to this lonely lack of interaction and stayed for all this time. The only thing Ye Xiu did was give him a training plan to help him improve his playing abilities. After doing this training, he was constantly improving.

Apart from that, no one went to care about his will, but being in this environment everyday, Mo Fan witnessed and heard all sorts of things about Glory. He wasn't someone who was completely isolated from his environment, he had thoughts and ideas, he just didn't express them.

But there was one thing that Ye Xiu knew for certain he was right about: Mo Fan loved Glory. Though the path he chose in the game diverged from the typical player, it was still a part of this game. The Pro League was also another way to play Glory; it was a way of showing off your skills on a higher stage.

It might seem like Ye Xiu had zero interactions with Mo Fan, but this didn't mean he wasn't keeping an eye on him.

Mo Fan's daily practice was something that he often paid attention to. With the attitude Mo Fan held towards this practice, it could be seen that he definitely wished to improve his skills. With better skills, the online game wouldn't be able to hold his attention for much longer and becoming interested in the Pro League was inevitable. And now, the idea had been planted in his head, so Mo Fan started paying attention to this topic. He could understand and pose questions to the topics Ye Xiu discussed.

But Ye Xiu didn't give him a direct answer. Compared to being lectured, fighting for what you wanted was far more interesting, especially for Mo Fan whose interest had just started to appear.

Ye Xiu then introduced Team Everlasting's techniques and combinations to everyone. After that, he sent everyone the recording for this part.

"There's not much time left, so work hard, everyone." Ye Xiu said at last. He knew how to counter Team Everlasting's tactics and combos and explained it to the best of his ability, but how much they understood was all on them. The tides of a match could change in a split second. To understand someone's tactics was to understand their ideas and adapt to fight back against it, not memorize the form of attacks that you saw.

Having Tang Rou and Steamed Bun accomplish this was a bit too much; their tactical understanding wasn't that good yet!

After explaining the team battle, something also had to be said about the individuals in the team. The only problem was, were Team Everlasting's team members the same as the season prior?

From the information they found on the registered accounts, they had two that were different from last year. Clearly, some changes had been made over the summer, but a change in accounts didn't necessarily mean a change in players. If the player changed, then talking about how to deal with them was a fruitless task.

So in the end, Ye Xiu didn't talk too much about any of the individual styles of the players, and just analyzed the characters that were still in the team from last year.

Not long after, this pre-match strategy meeting came to an end and the others rushed off to prepare. Ye Xiu, on the other hand, was still looking over Team Everlasting's match recordings, trying to find anything that he might have missed.

A day passed, only three full days were left until the match on Friday.

Yet on this Tuesday afternoon, Chen Guo received a call from the Happy Internet Cafe. They said that there was someone here to see the boss, something about talking business.

"What business? The Internet cafe isn't lacking anything right now. Let them leave a business card, if we need anything we'll find them later!" Chen Guo had thought that they were some sort of salesmen and had no heart to be concerned about that kind of thing.

"They said they're from Team Everlasting, and that we just had to tell you this name." The employee manning the counter relayed to his boss.

"Team Everlasting?" Chen Guo paused, looking to Ye Xiu and pointing at her phone, "Team Everlasting came knocking."

"What arrogance! Steam Bun, let's go deal with them!" Ye Xiu hadn't even had a chance to reply when Wei Chen jumped up. Steamed Bun immediately put down his computer and swiftly charged into his room. After a while, he came out empty-handed and charged into the kitchen to find "them".

"At the Internet cafe?" Ye Xiu ignored the idiots making a ruckus.

"Yeah!"

"I'll go with you to check it out!" Ye Xiu stood.

"Do you need us to come with you?" Wei Chen stood, too.

"Don't worry and continue training. We only need me to go and take a look." Ye Xiu said.

"If anything happens, tell us," Wei Chen replied with an air of severity.

"Heheh," Ye Xiu laughed shortly and left with Chen Guo.

Happy Internet Cafe. As soon as the two arrived, an employee immediately came to meet them. There were two visitors in total, and they had been taken to one of the rooms on the second floor under Chen Guo's command.



Chen Guo asked the employee a few more questions, but didn't get any important information. The two then went up stairs, and pushed open the door to the room. The people sitting on beanbags, talking, stopped at once and turned their heads to look.

Ye Xiu and Chen Guo hadn't even looked closely at these people when they simultaneously stood up. The one closer to them greeted them with a smile, directing his words mostly at Chen Guo. "I assume you're the boss, Ms. Chen? Greetings, I'm the team leader of Team Everlasting, He An."

Team leader referred to the manager of the club, an outdated sort of title. Those who were used to being called such usually had some experience in the Pro League. When He An referred to himself as team leader, anyone could tell he felt superior. It was clear that he wasn't here to boast about his position, but happy that he could use this title to tell the person standing in front of him: I'm no rookie, I'm an experienced veteran.

Yet this "veteran" was very much a stranger to Ye Xiu. In contrast, it was the person next to him that seemed much more familiar to Ye Xiu. He just couldn't seem to remember his name. There were over 200 people in the Pro League, and those were just the ones currently active. With all the players who came and went, joining and leaving, the number of people involved was far more than that. How could you expect him to remember all of them? But if he felt like this person was familiar, then it was probably someone that Ye Xiu had personally met. He could guess that this was probably a member of Team Everlasting and they had probably played each other in a pro match before?

Thinking of this, Ye Xiu suddenly remembered. He didn't know the guy's name, but he knew his identity, so he smiled and said, "Hey, I recognize you! Aren't you Team Everlasting's vice-captain?"

"It's captain now." It was the team leader who spoke up, taking a closer look at Ye Xiu. Then he looked back at the captain. "You know each other?"

That person's expression had twisted a little. He understood his team leader's little problem, but today your boasting of your experience has dug yourself a pit.

"He's God Ye Qiu." The vice-captain introduced with a hint of exasperation.

That's right, God Ye Qiu.

Boasting about being experienced in Glory in front of God Ye Qiu, that wasn't being an old veteran, that was being senile!

Chapter 808: The Feeling of Superiority of a Pro Team

After this introduction, the original cheerful mood had disappeared and Captain He An's mouth hung wide open. For a moment, he didn't know what to say. He obviously knew what a huge embarrassment this was.

Fortunately, he had only flaunted with body language and not with words, so it was easier to salvage the situation. He An coughed lightly, adjusted his appearance, and calmly greeted Ye Xiu.

"Hi, have a seat!" Ye Xiu smiled, but didn't say too much.

Everyone took a seat. Chen Guo spoke first. She didn't make any excessive small talk and directly went to the point: "What business do you two have with us?"

"Haha." He An laughed. Facing Ye Xiu, he had retracted his previous aura of superiority. But when facing Chen Guo, a trace of disapproval and disdain flashed across his face. He just happened to let the other side see. He clearly didn't think much of a grassroots owner like Chen Guo.

"God Ye Qiu, are you really part of Team Happy?" This guy actually ignored Chen Guo and directly started talking with Ye Xiu.

What's up with this guy?!

Chen Guo often had to interact with other people. How could she not be able to discern what he thought of her through his body language? He An's undisguised contempt made her furious. However, He An was very polite to Ye Xiu. Chen Gou really wanted to flip a table for the other side to think it over, but she could only quietly endure it.

"Yeah." Ye Xiu replied bluntly to the other side's question.

"What a shame." He An slapped his leg.

"Oh? Why do you say that?" Ye Xiu already knew the answer, but seeing how He An was treating them like bugs, he could guess what He An was going to say.

Sure enough, he said in an arrogant tone: "For someone of your skill, staying in a place like this is truly a pity!"

"Hey, what did you say?" If Chen Guo could still endure it, she wasn't Chen Guo.

He An just laughed. His expression indicated that someone of his status didn't need to heed the words of someone of low status. He ignored Chen Guo and said to Ye Xiu: "This season's Challenger League is different than the past. With a giant like Excellent Era, it really is quite troublesome. In times like these, shouldn't we consider putting our strength together?"

"Oh? What are you saying?" Ye Xiu asked.

"I've been paying attention to your recent performance. There are few players who are quite good. I believe all of them have been coached by you, but please forgive me for speaking bluntly, your players have the skill, but your characters are too lacking, no?"

"Then what are your thoughts?" Ye Xiu asked.

"This is the reason for us coming today. Even though our Team Everlasting isn't considered a strong team, our resources are still much greater than Happy's. If our two sides join hands, it would be as if a tiger had grown wings, a win-win situation for both sides. Competitive Glory is like horse racing and auto racing. Having a good rider or a good vehicle isn't good enough. Both a good rider and a good vehicle must be present. God Ye Qiu, you're being held back by your characters! Why not join our Team Everlasting? Over here, we can definitely provide resources far surpassing what Happy can provide. If you want to topple Excellent Era, this is a necessary move!"

He An was a talented person. His pitch was excellent in voice and in expression. Even Chen Guo was nervous after listening to it because his words were very logical. Chen Guo could not provide the team with too many resources. Everything required Ye Xiu to manage from the ground up. It would be much more convenient if he directly joined a team.

The format of the Challenger League could not prevent teams from running over to recruit people from the opposing team. Once she thought about the other team's background as a pro team, Chen Guo couldn't help but feel lacking in confidence. For a moment, she forgot her anger.

"Ha ha, you're too right." Ye Xiu nodded his head. His high praise gave Chen Guo a fright. He An was already smiling exuberantly. He gave a glance to his partner, implying: "Look, just what I expected."

But Ye Xiu continued: "But in order for a tiger to grow wings, why not have your Team Everlasting join our Team Happy?"

"Hahaha, of course... yes... hm? God, you're not joking?" He An quickly responded. Fortunately, he realized what had been said midway and was stumped.

"In either case, a tiger would still be growing wings, no?" Ye Xiu smiled.

"Yes, like a tiger growing wings! Hurry and join our Team Happy!" Chen Guo regained her composure faster than He An. She was actually able to stifle a laugh and speak in a serious tone!

He An's expression turned ugly. At this point, there was really no point in talking any further. The other side had already expressed his refusal in a mocking manner at that. He An couldn't understand. With Team Happy's current circumstances, did he really think the team had much of a future?

"God." He An shouted. His tone became tougher. In his eyes, Team Everlasting was the stronger side. Coming over on their own accord to talk about matters was already a sign of respect. So what if you're a God? You've never heard of the saying, a featherless phoenix is no better than a chicken? Without a powerful character, you're not a God.

He An felt like he had given the other side an opportunity, but not only did the other side not treasure it, he mocked them. He couldn't bear it. He shouted solemnly and his tone turned heavy: "I hope that you'll carefully consider this opportunity. You'd better not regret it."

"Honestly, that's what I should be saying to you." Ye Xiu replied.

"You!" He An was furious. Ye Qiu was worthy of his title as one of the Gods. However, did he really think that his status was enough for Team Everlasting to bow down? Isn't that too arrogant?

Who would have thought that Ye Xiu would look at him seriously: "I'm not joking. I'm very serious. Carefully consider it!"

"After next week, you'll be regretting today's decision." He An continued to say.

"After next week, you can still continue to consider today's proposal." Ye Xiu laughed.

"We're leaving!" He An got up and called out to his team's captain.

This poor captain. Apart from introducing God Ye Qiu to He An, he didn't seem to be of any use. He had come over to recruit, but he didn't think it would end so quickly. The captain got up helplessly and followed after He An. From beginning to end, he wasn't even able to introduce himself.

"Take care! We won't be seeing you out!" Chen Guo was feeling great! She didn't forget to give the other side another kick. When He An heard her words, he turned his head around, gave a glare, and humphed. His sense of superiority and contempt was still there. However this time, he had included Ye Xiu into it. He didn't feel like he had done anything wrong. He felt like Ye Xiu valued himself too highly and actually ignored his win-win proposal.

"You'll regret it." He An finally threw out. When he said "you", he always referred to Ye Xiu alone and not anyone else. From start to finish, he never took Chen Guo seriously.

He An and that captain left just like that. Chen Guo let out a sigh of relief and was beaming with joy when she looked at Ye Xiu. She really liked today's Ye Xiu. It was too unexpected.

"Boss, what's with that expression?" Ye Xiu felt his blood run cold, seeing Chen Guo's sweet smile.

"You made a fool of that arrogant guy. That was too beautiful!" Chen Guo expressed.

"Oh? I did?" Ye Xiu said.

"You're still pretending!" Chen Guo gave Ye Xiu a punch.

"No, no. I was being serious." Ye Xiu said.

"Serious about what?" Chen Guo didn't understand.

"I was really hoping that they would consider joining Team Happy." Ye Xiu said.

"How could that be possible?" Chen Guo cried out.

Yes. Even though that guy's condescending gaze disgusted Chen Guo, she had to admit that, in the Challenger League, a pro team had the qualifications to be arrogant. He was even quite polite to Ye Xiu in the beginning. It was only when Ye Xiu started mocking him did he become impolite. That type of team join Team Happy? Chen Guo wouldn't dare to think of it even in her dreams.

"Nothing is impossible." Ye Xiu said and headed out.

"Hey hey, what do you mean? Speak clearly!" Chen Guo chased after him.

When they returned to their gaming house, Chen Guo obviously told everyone about their encounter with Team Everlasting.

"So, we definitely can't lose. If we lose, we'll be laughed at." Chen Guo tried to boost everyone's morale.

"If we lose, everything will be over. Who cares if we're laughed at?" Wei Chen followed up. Chen Guo's encouragement was clearly a bit amiss. For those participating in the Challenger League, not losing was much more important than not losing face.

"In short, keep working hard everyone." Ye Xiu's closing statement was very brief.

In the following few days, both teams practiced hard. This week, Ye Xiu and the others didn't bother fighting for wild bosses. Tang Rou and Steamed Bun also now understood why pro players were so busy preparing for their matches every week. There was too much to prepare if they wanted to win a match.

In the show business, there was the saying "Ten years of practice for one minute on stage". Didn't this apply to Glory pro players too? Winning and performing was inseparable from hard work and bitter practice.

On Thursday, Loulan Slash delivered the equipment that Ye Xiu had picked. Ye Xiu had purchased a batch of equipment from the in-game market and gaming studios. Everyone's character improved tremendously. Today's work would be to familiarize themselves with their upgraded characters.

In the game, the conflict between Team Happy and Team Everlasting produced quite a few waves. Team Everlasting originally had fans. Team Happy was being closely followed. This Challenger League match was given as much attention as a match in the Pro League.

Chapter 809: Riverside Veranda

If not for the colossus Excellent Era, Team Everlasting would have been the peak existence of the Challenger League this season. Meeting them in the second round was definitely not a blessing. However, very few pitied Happy. Instead, an enormous wave of ridicule crashed onto them. The original faceslapping group spread the news, telling their friends to witness their downfall. This time, Happy would definitely lose.

Chen Guo checked the forums everyday, so she saw these discussions. She didn't tell it to the team though, afraid that it would affect their emotions. Everyone was working hard to familiarize themselves with their new set of equipment. They didn't have time to be distracted.

That day passed quickly. On Friday night, room 117 in the Glory Arena's Challenger League area was packed with players. The vast majority of the players, who followed Happy's journey, saw Happy as the villains. At this moment, they were all supporters of Team Everlasting, which left Team Everlasting's actual fans somewhat confused.

Everything in the Challenger League was audited automatically by the system. The special area for the Challenger League had its own custom settings for this purpose. 8:00 PM marked the official start of the matches. Before 7:55 PM, both sides needed to finish flipping their coin to determine who was the home team and who was the away team. The home team would also need to choose a map. The two teams would also be required to arrange the order of their team's lineup. When the time came, the Challenger League would automatically select the chosen teammates and place them onstage. Before that happened, the two teams would not know each other's lineup. It was the same as in the Pro League.

At 8:00PM, the second round of the Challenger League between Team Happy and Team Everlasting officially began. The first match was Team Everlasting's home game. As a former pro team, they wouldn't make a stupid mistake like forgetting to choose a map before the time limit ended.

When the time came, the first two competitors for the individual competition were automatically selected into the competitor's seat.

For Team Everlasting, their team's Launcher appeared: Dawn Rifle.

The Launcher wasn't Team Everlasting's core, but he was the character used by the team's captain.

When He An paid a visit that day, He An had come with another visitor. Ye Xiu felt like this visitor seemed familiar, but he couldn't remember who he was. After some investigation, he figured it out.

Wu Chen. He had been the vice-captain of Team Everlasting during the team's three years in the Alliance. The character that he used was this Launcher, Dawn Rifle.

In season seven, he was demoted along with the rest of the team. What happened afterwards might only be known by his fans. After all, Wu Chen wasn't anyone famous.

From the looks of it, Wu Chen had stayed on Team Everlasting and had now become the team's captain. Usually, the team captain would not be switched when the original team captain was still there. If Wu Chen was promoted to captain, it was likely that Team Everlasting's original captain, core player, and the owner of the Spellblade Quentinkin, Yu Hongliang was no longer with the team.

The team captain was not always the best player on the team, but rather the most reliable player. Now Wu Chen was undoubtedly Team Everlasting's most trusted player. By placing him in the first match of the individual competition, Team Everlasting expressed that they wanted to gain the upperhand with a show of strength.

For Team Happy, Steamed Bun was up first. The first person to fight would be under a lot of pressure. Even a strong-willed and determined player would feel this pressure. Someone with a personality like Tang Rou may actually become worse the more they thought about doing better. In comparison, a nutjob like Steamed Bun couldn't be more suited to this position.

Pressure? Did that word even exist in Steamed Bun's dictionary?

When the characters stepped onto the stage, the chosen map was announced: Riverside Veranda. The match would begin as soon as the two players pressed start. If any of them didn't press start, the match would automatically begin after five minutes.

"This map..." Ye Xiu mumbled after seeing this map.

"What's important to know about it?" Chen Guo hastily asked.

"Steamed Bun." Ye Xiu called out.

"Here." Steamed Bun, who was currently warming up by stretching, replied.

"Be careful not to fall into the water." Ye Xiu said.

"Understood." Steamed Bun nodded his head.

Riverside Veranda was a partly water map. The gap between pro players and normal players was even more pronounced in an aquatic battle. This was because players could simply avoid this kind of situation

and choose not to fight in the water, but if pro players acted in the same way, their opponent might utilize that to their advantage.

Truthfully, pro players did not like to fight in the water either, but they had no choice but to practice doing so. Team Everlasting choosing this map was clearly to bully this grassroots team. However, it wasn't very thorough. A partly water map meaning there was still a portion on land. This type of map required more on-the-moment adaptation.

The match started. The characters were loaded into the stage. Once the countdown ended, the two characters were on opposite corners of the map as usual, except between these two characters was a winding corridor on top of the water.

Steamed Bun couldn't care about all that. As soon as the match began, his character rushed forward. Wu Chen seemed very calm, moving neither quickly nor slowly.

The individual competition maps wouldn't be too large. It wasn't necessary and it was pointless. The two characters neared each other. Steamed Bun Invasion looked ferocious. He held his new Orange weapon, Poison Marsh Point. The poisonous gleam looked horrifying. It was clearly a weapon that increased poison damage. That sharpness looked as if it could tear an opponent to pieces.

Wu Chen still remained calm. While moving, he closely watched his approaching opponent, calculating the distance between them and planning his opening move. The Launcher's advantage was in having the longest range of any class. As a result, Launchers usually made the first move, especially when facing melee classes. There was almost no possibility of a counterattack. If a melee character could attack back, then the opponent was already too close. That would be very disadvantageous. The hunter might end up becoming the hunted.

Brawlers had a few mid-ranged attacks, but the majority of the skills leaned towards melee attacks. Wu Chen decided not to give his opponent any opportunity to approach him. When he was at about the right distance, he would start attacking.

The distance between them grew closer and closer. His mouse was already targeting Steamed Bun Invasion. For gunners, their mouse would be the direction in which their bullets flew towards.

"That's about right!" Wu Chen checked the distance. Right when he was about to attack, he suddenly saw Steamed Bun Invasion stop.

With this sudden halt, the attack that Wu Chen had been about to make was now useless. Wu Chen was also astonished.

What sharp eyes!

Wu Chen didn't think this player from a grassroots team would have such perception. He actually noticed that I was about to attack?

However, he had already readied his gun. He might as well attack. Wu Chen was just about to attack, when he suddenly saw Steamed Bun turn around and run.

As a result, the distance between the two sides became farther and farther away.....

"What is he up to?" Wu Chen was puzzled.

Even if his opponent saw through his intentions, there was no need to run away. If he was running because he saw that he was going to attack, this match might as well not be played. Launchers had longer range. Wouldn't he get hit first because of a range disadvantage? The opponent of a Launcher should be figuring out how to get closer, not farther away from the Launcher.

If the other side wasn't going to come, then he would have to go himself.

Wu Chen thought to himself. He continued to move forward, closing the distance between him and Steamed Bun Invasion. At the same time, he didn't relax his guard towards Steamed Bun Invasion, but the other guy just kept on going round and round. Wu Chen couldn't guess his opponent's intent. However, the distance between the two sides was closing. Wu Chen finally made the first attack of the match.

Three Anti-Tank Missiles flew over. While shooting, he swiped his mouse horizontally, so the three missiles lined up, restricting Steamed Bun Invasion's next movements.

Steamed Bun Invasion didn't try to dodge. He swung his arms and a brick flew out towards those missiles.

Bang.

The brick exploded into pieces, but so did the missiles. This type of weird interaction wasn't rare in the game.

As a pro player, Wu Chen wouldn't just attack once. He already had plans for his follow-ups and sent a barrage of attacks towards Steamed Bun. After Steamed Bun smacked down those missiles with his brick, he didn't do anything flashy anymore. Facing the opponent's bombardment, he scurried around like a housefly.

Wu Chen was a bit confused. His opponent didn't look like he planned on fighting back! Was his bombardment really so fierce that he was completely overwhelming him?

However, as the team captain, this thought only briefly crossed his mind. If he didn't even have a clear understanding of his own strength, how could he be the most reliable on the team?

It wasn't that he was strong, but the other side was too weak. That Steamed Bun Invasion couldn't even get through this level of firepower..... He didn't seem as impressive as before!

Could it be... the previous Steamed Bun Invasion was actually Ye Qiu playing and this is the real one? But that shouldn't be the case. If that had been a trick, it wouldn't make sense for Ye Qiu to be so upright facing a difficult opponent like Team Everlasting.

Wu Chen was doubtful, but he didn't dare to relax for a second. As he continued to attack, he continued to watch Steamed Bun Invasion's movements. Wu Chen suddenly understood, but at that moment, he became confused again.

Because he discovered that the reason that Steamed Bun Invasion had been passive and never rushed towards him was because he couldn't figure out his way around the corridor!

What's going on?



Wu Chen was truly puzzled. This corridor was a bit confusing to navigate through, but it wasn't so complicated that you could get lost. It wasn't designed to be a maze. Moreover, if you're lost, you can just jump in the water and then swim to your destination!

"It's all your fault..." Chen Guo glared at Ye Xiu, "You told him not to go into the water."

"It's over. D\*mn..." Ye Xiu felt sorry too.

Chapter 810: One Hit One Kill

Due to an embarrassing reason, the first individual match concluded with an undignified loss for Steamed Bun. During the match, he wasn't able to close in on his opponent, and lost without landing a single hit. This result immediately ignited the passions of the spectators. They had been waiting for this day for a long time.

As this passion was expressed, the fans of Everlasting were completely stunned.

Their team leader won beautifully in this first match, and at a time like this, the fans were all cheering for him! And then these people started spamming, but their words were all directed at the opposing side. All sorts of mockery, sarcasm and insults filled up the chat channel. With that imposing manner, a passerby would probably think that Team Everlasting had a major bone to pick with Happy! Unless it was towards an archenemy, fans rarely banded together to attack the opposing side when their side had the advantage. Most fans had reason and composure, and were good sports.

For these spectators who focused their anger on Happy, it wasn't that they had no composure or manners, it was just that they had been holding in their anger for too long.

"Those noobs from Happy, did you see that? That's a real pro team, real pro players! Hahahaha!"

"Getting KO'ed like that, you sure have some skill!"

"Yah understand how terrifying pro players are now?"

The reason for Steamed Bun's loss was quite embarrassing, but for normal players, it wasn't unheard of. With just the skill they had, normal players couldn't tell Steamed Bun Invasion merely got lost. A Launchers style was to use firepower to prevent an opponent from getting close. Wu Chen had a solid foundation, and he was very much familiar with these routines and techniques for offense. In the average player's view, Steamed Bun seemed to be helpless against his assault, but they wouldn't realize that in reality, Steamed Bun himself met with some problems.

"Wow, pro teams really are strong," Steamed Bun said with some frustration as he took off his headphones, "Picking such a complicated map. They really are strong."

"Mmh," Ye Xiu didn't say anything more. Choosing to go through the veranda in Riverside Veranda did make the map a little hard to wrap your head around. Steamed Bun didn't know the way and with Wu Chen's firepower oppressing him, it was natural that he was unable to perform at his peak. Going into the water wasn't necessarily a critical point. Steamed Bun wasn't very familiar with aquatic battles either, so he might have just gotten cornered in the water by Wu Chen. It was Team Everlasting that chose this map, after all.

Everyone came over to comfort Steamed Bun, who was a little bummed out by his loss. Even Mo Fan opened his mouth, seeming to have something to say, but in the end he didn't speak.

The second individual match started shortly. Team Happy sent out Qiao Yifan and his One Inch Ash. For Team Everlasting, it was a sharpshooter who took the stage, character name Shoot Here.

This sharpshooter wasn't one of the six characters for Everlasting's team battles. However, healers like Clerics rarely appeared in individual or group competitions, so there had to be more than just six core members in one team who would fight in the individual or group competition. This was how the Number Seven Ace Backup came into existence.

That was the role that Shoot Here played.

The match started, with Everlasting still choosing Riverside Veranda for the map, and the opponent already began moving towards One Inch Ash, seeming much more eager than Wu Chen in the first match.

Though the spectators didn't know what had gone wrong with Steamed Bun, but Wu Chen had realized. After relaying this to his teammates, they were all struck dumb.

Although this wasn't a pro match, if it was a team that wished to enter the Pro League, then their attitude towards the Challenger's League would probably be even more serious than the Pro League itself. In the Pro League, losing a match wouldn't have too much of an effect on the final score, but in the Challenger's League, one mistake could mean another year lost for the team.

Under these circumstances, they actually sent up a newbie who didn't even know the map. Was this disdain, or did they just have no one else to send?

Speaking of, the reason Everlasting chose this map was just so they could get an advantage on how inexperienced their opponents were, compared to them, but getting lost was a bit overkill. The map gave them an advantage they hadn't expected, which gave them these new thoughts.

The player who was sent up in the second match didn't want to waste his time with this strange team, so he actively charged forth, but Qiao Yifan was very decisive as well. One Inch Ash turned and jumped into the water with a splash.

Riverside Veranda's water wasn't very deep, but after the spindrift from One Inch Ash's jump dissolved, the water was calm without a ripple.

This... either meant that One Inch Ash wasn't moving, or if he was, then it could only mean one thing: he was a professional!

Unless he were a pro player, it was rare that a player could master how to move under the water without causing fluctuations in the water's surface under such circumstances. Learning how to sneak underwater was something only pro players would learn how to do!

One Inch Ash was Qiao Yifan

It was likely that only Team Excellent Era knew this information due to the coincidence that occurred at the time when Tao Xuan had come over to Team Happy with Sun Xiang and Xiao Shiqin. Apart from them, not even Qiao Yifan's original Team Tiny Herb knew where he had gone after his contract expired.

If not even Team Tiny Herb knew, then how on earth could Team Everlasting know that their opponents had a member from a champion team? Though he was an inconsequential member of the team, Qiao Yifan had been under their strict training all this time. He changed his class, but a technique like playing underwater wasn't affected by a change in class. With Qiao Yifan's diligence, his execution of this skill was flawless.

The current One Inch Ash was slowly walking underwater, preparing to close in on his target silently.

Seeing how his opponent knew how to sneak around underwater, the player from Everlasting knew that this wasn't a weak enemy and didn't dare to make decisions lightly. He slowed to a stop, carefully watching the area where Qiao Yifan had disappeared into.

There were no ripples on the water's surface, but the water in this map was quite shallow. If a character was walking along the bottom, they couldn't hide their silhouette.

But, if you wanted to find their silhouette, you couldn't do it at this angle from a distance. Everlasting's player carefully watched the water as he moved his character, Shoot Here, towards it. His impatience had long since evaporated, so he was walking rather slowly.

As he was watching the water for any movement, he was also taking note of how much time had passed. A character couldn't stay under the surface infinitely, they had to come up for air too. However, on this map and for such a professional player, he probably wouldn't be seen even when coming up for air. Under the Veranda, there was plenty of space for a character to come up without being found out.

As expected, Team Everlasting's player knew that time was up, but he didn't see One Inch Ash coming out of the water.

Where was this guy hiding?

Team Everlasting's player became a little impatient. This map was meant to give him the advantage, but now it was being used against him, putting him in a passive position. This turning of the tides caught him off guard.

Should he go into the water, too?

It wasn't as if he didn't think of this before, but he wasn't very good at aquatic battles either. He wasn't a pro player who had truly experienced pro matches, but a person who joined after Everlasting had been eliminated and most of their players walked out. People like him naturally lacked confidence in this area. Seeing how familiar One Inch Ash seemed to be when sneaking around underwater, he didn't dare go down himself.

Let's try it out first!

Team Everlasting's player thought for a moment before deciding to probe for his opponent. Shoot Here raised his guns and started shooting randomly at the water in front of him.

Normal attacks didn't cost mana, so he could be unrestrained with how he shot. The calm of the water's surface was broken, and foam erupted all over the place, spraying the veranda with water.

But this wasn't a scene Team Everlasting's player would pay attention to. His eyes never left the areas he was shooting at. If he hit, or was dodged, there was be visible movement.

There!

Among the ripples the bullets made, Team Everlasting's player found an abnormal surge. He unhesitatingly unloaded all his skills in that direction while swiftly approaching. He needed an angle where he could clearly see the opponent's figure in order to further his advantage. Sharpshooters had an advantage in range. Cornering a target in the water was much easier than on land.

Shoot Here's movements were light and easy, traversing the veranda with familiarity. He had finally locked onto his opponent. His attacks didn't seem to give his opponent too much trouble, but being able to lock onto the approximate whereabouts of his opponent, he believed, he would soon be able to see them.

Pop!

Suddenly, with a quiet noise Shoot Here's movements stopped involuntarily. A ray of blue-white light flashed. Everlasting's player realized something and turned his view in shock. He immediately saw the Ice Soul that had been refracted from under the water, and continued to refract with the movement of the water.

Ice Boundary!

It was the Ghostblade's Ice Boundary that had been placed in the water, but it could reach all across the veranda. Team Everlasting's player was so focused on his target that he hadn't thought he would walk into such a trap.

Ice Boundary's damage and control effects had only just begun. Everlasting's player could see the light shining off the sword in the hands of an underwater figure.

Sword Soul, Plague Soul, Blood Soul...

Ghost Souls were called out one after another, who knew how many Ghost Boundaries were stacked there? Shoot Here's body had been possessed by so many Ghost Souls that he had become an encyclopedia of negative status effects.

The water surface suddenly split open, and One Inch Ash leaped out. The Blade of Calamity in his hand shone with a dark purple light, encircled by blade qi made from Ghost Souls, and struck out towards Shoot Here.

One Hit One Kill!