

Avatar 821

Chapter 821: Terrain Features

"Team Everlasting is doing pretty well!" Chen Yehui pretended to blurt out, but he had actually thought long and carefully before attempting to start a conversation with this sentence.

"They are doing well." Tao Xuan nodded. In reality, after Team Everlasting had been eliminated from the Pro League and undergone several adjustments in players, their ability was far from being able to impress Excellent Era's boss, but since Team Everlasting was helping them deal with an annoying problem, they weren't as strict with their judgements. Seeing that Happy was at a disadvantage, they all praised Everlasting's performance.

"Ai... It's too bad!" Chen Yehui noticed a critical part, drawing out his words and expressing his pity.

Tao Xuan could no longer keep ignoring him with his attempts at making his presence known. He didn't call Chen Yehui here to watch the match, after all.

"Ye Qiu seems to have been doing well in the Heavenly Domain recently?" Tao Xuan distractedly asked as he watched the match. Even though this was an arbitrary question that he didn't seem to care for much, it revealed Tao Xuan's attitude to the situation. Ye Qiu! He had only mentioned Ye Qiu, not Team Happy. It was clear that the threat of Happy came entirely from Ye Qiu. The only thing he was concerned about was Ye Qiu's presence. Ye Qiu's very existence represented everything.

"Well... it's like this!" Chen Yehui took a moment to formulate a response. "If it was just Ye Qiu causing trouble, what he has managed to accomplish would be very impressive, but he utilized the power of four guilds along with his own. A total of five different guilds working together. So when they manage to steal a boss, they have to split their gains. If we look at it from that angle, their profits are just that."

"What do you mean, 'just that'?" Tao Xuan was a little annoyed at the use of such vague phrasing, but the way the match was going was satisfying, so he didn't get onto Chen Yehui's case, and just glanced at him, hinting that he wanted an explanation.

"Since they haven't become a strong competitor for very long, and weren't always very stable, there's no way to make an accurate estimate. If we talk about their current profits, then they get about what the top guilds get after splitting their spoils between all five parties, but we don't know how stable they'll be in the future," Chen Yehui hurried explained.

"Then what about our profits as of late?" Tao Xuan asked.

This was the question Chen Yehui was most afraid of because Excellent Dynasty's profit wasn't a pretty sight. If they were a small to mid sized guild then it would make sense, but they were a guild with glorious history. Although their team had been kicked out from the Pro League earlier this year, Excellent Era had no problems in continuing to function. If they could transfer over an All Star like Xiao Shiqing when they were eliminated, then there shouldn't be any negative effects on their guild. Yet, it was just coincidentally at this time that Excellent Dynasty was struggling with fighting for bosses. The good thing was that they weren't the only guild struggling. Chen Yehui quickly relayed what had been happening

during the summer holidays, how many pro players started interfering in the fight for bosses along with Ye Qiu active role...

Tao Xuan was speechless after hearing this. He couldn't help but think of the very first few years of the Alliance. Back then, there was no such thing as a holiday for pro players. The Alliance wasn't 20 teams like it was now, and the competitive season was much shorter as well, making the holidays a lot longer, but once the holidays started, almost all the pro players would rush to the online game, fighting to gain materials and equipment for their teams. In the beginning, Silver equipment was rare and everyone used Orange equipment as their go-to choice for matches.

Excellent Era's era of three consecutive championships was in part thanks to the foundations built through fighting for this equipment. The captain who had once spared no effort or expense for Excellent Era was now the most painful thorn in Tao Xuan's side.

Thinking about this, Tao Xuan became distracted by his upsets. Chen Yehui seemed to say something, but he didn't hear. However Cui Li went along with him, bringing over the documents that Chen Yehui had given him. Tao Xuan picked them up and quickly flipped through them, not seeming to have a care in the world. "Let's watch the match first! I don't think this round will be easy for him."

Him, not them. Team Happy. From the beginning Tao Xuan only took notice of that one person.

"Team Everlasting seems very familiar with this map." Cui Li added his opinion of the current topic.

"Using the the banners to cover their positions and movements, though they're at different places, they have cohesion between them. With a range of AoE attacks, they can cover their opponent with firepower and successfully surround them."

"Actually, they could be a little more daring. They could even switch their Cleric with their sixth member, adding another DPS. Happy's members are currently unable to focus due to the topographical features of the map," Chen Yehui entered the discussion.

"I think that's exactly what they're planning on doing." Cui Li looked towards the screen. With an omniscient view, they could see Team Everlasting's cleric moving under the cover the banners provided in the support zone, and the Cleric was switched out for the sixth member, the Elementalist. Like Chen Yehui had said, while having the upper hand, they could give up their healing and add a DPS to maximize the damage they would be able to deal to their opponents.

Five DPSers, all good with AoE attacks, Team Everlasting's firepower coverage was instantly top notch. As the attacks flew, some would definitely hit the banners, triggering the terrain effects. This way, there would be more and more springs and fire pits on the map. After these areas were uncovered, they wouldn't become hidden again. This would make it easier to tell where you could and couldn't step.

Team Happy was struggling under such a situation and had lost any semblance of teamwork. Each character was fighting to take cover for themselves. Ye Qiu's Lord Grim also had to be responsible for healing, having to send over a heal from time to time, but an Unspecialized's healing was incomparable to the healing of a class that specialized in healing. The trade off in MP for healing wasn't an affordable one for the Unspecialized class.

"This Cleric isn't very good." Chen Yehui concluded. He couldn't help but feel satisfied at how Ye Xiu was being forced to make up for his teammate's shortcomings.

"He's healing wherever Ye Qiu is. What use is he with such poor judgement?" Chen Yehui said with a smile.

Who would've thought that Tao Xuan and Cui Li's expressions would change as soon as the words left his mouth.

He healed wherever Ye Qiu healed.

Even the dumbest healer wouldn't need someone to guide him step by step. Pulling a player like that into the core position of a team wasn't possible unless Ye Qiu's brain had short circuited.

So there was only one possibility, and that was that their actions were intentional. Ye Qiu had planned for the healer to heal at his tempo.

This Cleric was, indeed, not the best, but he wasn't as bad as they originally thought. Were Ye Qiu's actions the most effective way of supporting their team?

Thinking of this, the three started to take notice Cold Hands' healing.

Positioning, healing targets, it was all following what Lord Grim did, but his choice of skill was, in the end, up to him. Maybe Ye Qiu could give him tips, but the team chat was clear of Lord Grim's words.

He could be verbally giving instructions...

Their thoughts involuntarily drifted to this. There was no one keeping an eye on everyone in an online match. Sitting together, they could treat it just as they treated the online game, yelling out hints and discussing plans.

The reason why they thought of this was because this Cleric's healing method was flawless. The choice of skill, timing, it all maximized the healing output. All the input had been converted to effective healing, not missing or wasting anything.

This Cleric was very good at calculating, or rather... extremely careful and precise.

This was the feeling that the three heads of the club had.

This support could definitely draw out the match, but what was the point of prolonging it? Just to keep struggling futilely?

None of the three believed that, because that person was in the arena.

Maybe other grassroots would be unfamiliar with this map, but how was that possible for him? Though there were many, many maps in Glory and even the most experienced players couldn't know all of them like the back of their hands, it wasn't every map that had very unique characteristics. Through the propagation of terrain effects, with other adjustments made, Glory created so many maps. For veterans, what they were familiar with wasn't every map, but each setting and the features of the different terrains. With that, even to a map they had never seen before, it wouldn't feel completely foreign to them. They could always easily figure out the map's features and how to use them, or at least how to make sure they weren't disadvantaged.

Had Ye Qiu already found a way to deal with Flame Flagged Springs?

Tao Xuan, Cui Li, and Chen Yehui hoped this wasn't true, but somehow, in the depths of their hearts, they seemed to already believe that this was inevitable. Was it even possible for that person to lose so badly?

Even if he died, that guy would definitely give his opponent a good scare before succumbing!

Boom!

Wu Chen's Dawn Gunner guided a howling rocket to its target, making another two areas collapse and creating a mushroom cloud. The mud that fell was quickly submerged by the bubbling spring water. In the other area, it was incinerated by tongues of flames, turning into lava.

Causing another two marked areas to activate wasn't surprising for the fierce offense Team Everlasting was mounting.

Wu Chen prepared to attack again, but upon taking a good look at his surroundings, he froze.

The ground was full of holes and ditches, with so many water and fire pits uncovered. The terrain was much less even than it had been before, but how come it seemed a lot more open?

Wu Chen was a real pro player with three years of experience in the Pro League. In regards to experience in high-end battles, he had much more than He An.

Something was wrong! The unease buried within Wu Chen suddenly erupted.

Chapter 822: Help Needed

Fire pits and geysers scattered the map. All of them lay bare in front of them. It didn't affect Team Everlasting in any way. They were adept at identifying the positions and ranges of the geysers by using the flag markers, but this was very helpful for Team Happy. They didn't need to waste time looking at flags. With the fire pits and geysers exposed, their locations were very obvious. They just had to avoid them.

The terrain effects didn't completely disappear, but the players didn't need to spend as much effort paying attention to where they stepped.

An experienced player like Wu Chen could see the importance of this tiny difference. As a result, he was able to instantly decipher his opponent's intentions. Team Happy was indeed surrounded, but their position was starting to transition from defense to offense. As Team Happy defended against their attacks, they were also using this opportunity to change the terrain, transforming it to something different from the original Flame Flagged Springs.

"Everyone, be careful!" Wu Chen immediately warned in the team chat.

Their team chat could not be seen by the other team, but it could be seen by the spectators. Many of the spectators were puzzled by his warning. Team Everlasting had a huge lead. They had even withdrawn their healer in exchange for another DPSer, boldly bombarding Team Happy with attacks. Why was he suddenly worried?

Let alone the spectators, even Team Everlasting's own players were confused at Wu Chen's sudden warning.

"What is it?" Someone asked.

It was quite embarrassing for the team if even the team's own players didn't understand, but during the match, they couldn't care about all that. They needed to understand what Wu Chen meant.

"The map has changed." Wu Chen said.

The spectators were still puzzled, but for Team Everlasting, even if they had no experience in the pro scene, they were still skilled players. After listening to Wu Chen's reminder, they focused on the issue and also discovered where the problem lied.

Among the spectators, people like Tao Xuan, Cui Li, and Chen Yehui also came to a realization after hearing these words. They had never thought that Ye Qiu would fall so easily. Now from the looks of it, he really did have a countermeasure in mind. It was exactly what they had expected. However... that didn't make any of them happy. It only annoyed them.

"Keep your distance. Who's closest to the support zone? Switch out for the Cleric." Wu Chen ordered.

"The closest one... is me....." He An replied gloomily.

"You too." Wu Chen ordered without any ambiguity. The sense of crisis in his heart was growing more and more intense. At this moment, it wasn't too important if the core player was on the field or not, hurry up and switch in for the Cleric.

He An understood how crucial this was. He wasn't someone, who only cared about himself and not the team as a whole. Even though he wasn't happy, he still immediately rushed towards the support zone.

A flag unfurled on his screen, and a player appeared in front of him. He An saw that it was Steamed Bun Invasion. The only point that Team Everlasting had won came from this guy, some noob who got lost on the map.

"F*ck off!"

He An was not in a good mood. Seeing Steamed Bun Invasion blocking his path, he threw an Earthwave Sword directly at him.

Among all the wave swords, Earthwave Sword was the quickest. His sword slashed down and chunks of earth flew wildly towards Steamed Bun Invasion.

But the two sides were rather far from each other. Earthwave Sword had some range, but hoping to hit the opponent in this way was looking down on him too much.

Steamed Bun Invasion stepped to the side and dodged it. He raised his hands and threw sand at Go Forth.

He An had Go Forth turn his head slightly, ready to take this Sand Toss directly. If this skill didn't have a Blind effect, just the damage alone was nothing to be afraid of.

He turned his head and the sand hit him. He turned his head back... a brick.

He An was confused.

He didn't even notice that Steamed Bun Invasion had hidden a brick in the sand. He An was a bit glad. If he hadn't turned his head back quickly, just a little bit slower and that brick would have hit the back of his head, not the front. According to the skill effects, a back attack would have a 100% chance of inducing a Dizzy effect.

But the next second, He An discovered that he had rejoiced too fast.

Because Go Forth still became dizzy.

When a Brick hits a target's head, there was a 50% chance to induce a dizzy effect. Now that it had triggered, whether or not it hit the back didn't matter.

Steamed Bun Invasion seized this opportunity and rushed forward. He An could see the duration of the dizzy effect. His hands hovered over his keyboard impatiently.

Good!

The dizzy effect usually lasted three seconds, but the Spirit stat affected status effect durations. Spellblades had a 3.5 Spirit growth, higher than the 2.5 Spirit growth for Brawlers. In addition to the difference in their equipment, the gap between their character's Spirit levels was even wider. The dizzy effect from Steamed Bun's brick lasted less than 2 seconds on Go Forth.

Steamed Bun Invasion had just arrived in front of Go Forth, when the dizzy wore off. Go Forth immediately used Wave Wheel Slasher.

"You thought you could make me dizzy for 3 seconds?" The timing of this Wave Wheel Slasher was perfect. Steamed Bun didn't have time to dodge it. Grab skills could not be blocked. After this successful attack, He An taunted his opponent.

"Then how many seconds should it be?" Steamed Bun Invasion replied.

He An was startled.

What type of response is that?

I'm clearly taunting you! Did this guy think I was chatting with him?

He An didn't know how to answer Steamed Bun's question. Unable to respond with words, he could only respond with actions. After Wave Wheel Slasher ended, Steamed Bun Invasion fell. Go Forth followed up with a Fire Wave Sword. Flames engulfed Steamed Bun Invasion. Fire Wave Sword also had a powerful knockback effect.

He An didn't forget his goal. He needed to hurry over to the support zone and switch with the Cleric.

"Not bad. You're pretty good." Steamed Bun Invasion, who had been sent flying by Fire Wave Sword, praised He An mysteriously. His praise was stinging to the ear though. It sounded as if he were playing around with He An.

He An valued the big picture. He ignored him. Go Forth hastily rushed towards his destination, but before he could make a few steps, he saw Steamed Bun Invasion shout in chat: "LOOK AT MY BRICK!"

He An immediately had Go Forth roll. When he looked at the chat again, Steamed Bun Invasion laughed: "Ha ha ha, you've been tricked."

He An was furious! He couldn't bear it anymore and turned around to send over an Ice Wave Sword, but when his character turned around, he suddenly saw a hand reaching out in front of his eyes. The hand clutched Go Forth's throat, and Ice Wave Sword was interrupted.

So quick?

He An was surprised. He thought Steamed Bun Invasion should still be several units away from him. Who would have thought that the other side had already reached his back. Brawlers didn't have any sudden dashes or movement skills. When he thought about it again, the problem might have been with his Fire Wave Sword.

Steamed Bun Invasion hadn't been completely hit by Fire Wave Sword. When he was grabbed by Wave Wheel Slasher, he evaded or rolled away from Fire Wave Sword, which would reduce the knockback effect of the skill.

He An had been careless. In the end, he had looked down on Steamed Bun Invasion. After Steamed Bun lost the match because he got lost in the map, He An equated him with an idiot, but now he was being lifted in the air like a little chicken by this idiot.

Strangle. A persistent restriction skill. Because of the Spirit disparity, Steamed Bun Invasion couldn't restrict Go Forth for too long, but this strategy already let He An become aware of his opponent's intentions. His opponent was stopping him from switching in with the Cleric.

Steamed Bun Invasion might not be the only one who would come to delay him. The other side might have backup come to assist him.

"They're stopping me from advancing. Find someone else to switch with the Cleric!" He An immediately sent this message in the team chat. He was secretly delighted, when he typed out the message. He obviously didn't want to be switched out. Now, a perfectly good reason had showed up in front of him. He wasn't too worried about the other side blocking him. By attracting the attention of the other side, it would make it easier for his teammates to get the Cleric in!

"Support him!" Wu Chen immediately ordered.

"What support? I'll control them. You guys hurry up and switch with the Cleric!" He An shouted.

"You can't control them."

He An suddenly became furious. Wu Chen's reply wasn't giving him face. What do you mean I can't? Are you saying I'm not skilled enough?

Strangle didn't seal the target's attacks. After being strangled by Steamed Bun Invasion, He An had dealt Steamed Bun Invasion quite some damage. When the strangle ended, he was just about to show his might and let Wu Chen witness how he could control his opponent. Suddenly, numerous skills slammed into his back. While the effects of Strangle lasted, a chain of fierce strikes struck. Steamed Bun Invasion also timed his attack perfectly. Go Forth was sent flying away too. Even rolling twice wasn't enough to completely neutralize all of the momentum. During these two rolls, the attacks never ceased. He An

watched as Go Forth's health slid down rapidly. At this moment, he was frightened stiff. When the two rolls ended, he looked up.

F*ck, I really can't control them! Team Happy cared too much about him. All five characters had come running over to attack him. 5v1. He would be killed in the blink of an eye. Even if their team switched the Cleric back in, they would have still be down a player. It would be very disadvantageous for them. The price for having him control the other team would be too great.

"Help!" He An was decisive and immediately called for assistance.

Chapter 823: Backup Ploy

The players in the arena often were unable to understand the overall situation of the match. They had to rely on their own experience and judgement to grasp the bigger picture.

That was what Wu Chen was trying to accomplish. Upon realizing that Team Happy had guided the control of the situation from their hands, he immediately thought to get back their healer; they wouldn't be as reckless anymore.

Team Everlasting's biggest flaw at the moment was not having a healer. They understood that, and of course Happy would too. They could tell what classes were on the field by the attacks that flew towards them. So they might have predicted that Everlasting would try to switch a character out for their healer and use that to their advantage.

So, after telling He An to switch out with their healer, his Dawn Gunner sped towards where He An's Go Forth had been headed.

When He An reported that he had been attacked, Wu Chen's guess was confirmed, so he told the others to go and support. If their opponent had planned to use the fact that they would switch their healer in, they would mount a full offense, one that He An couldn't be able to cope with alone. If only he went to help, then it wasn't certain to work, so he decided to have their team regroup and switch in a healer after beating the enemy back.

Wu Chen's plans were clear.

But when he saw He An take the initiative to call for backup, he knew instantly that the problem might be worse than he had expected.

He understood He An pretty well. That guy thought highly of himself, feeling that he had the talent, but not been given the opportunity. Then he was uncovered by Everlasting and proved his ability, becoming more and more smug. With his personality, he wouldn't lower himself to ask for help unless he was really helpless.

"How many?" Wu Chen hastily asked.

"5"

He An didn't even have the time for punctuation.

When Wu Chen received his message, he was stunned. The entire opposing team had gone after He An; that was way beyond Wu Chen's expectations.

They were attacking the enemy from all sides so they weren't clueless about their positions. In the span of a few moments, all five of them managed to charge over, but he was making judgements based on his own awareness and experience. How could the situation be so unbelievable?

Their opponents had been prepared!

Wu Chen obtained this conclusion with his experience.

The advantageous situation they had managed to create from being besieged was far more complex than Wu Chen had thought.

It was no coincidence that He An's Go Forth was the closest to the support zone. This was something the opponent had planned as they turned their passive situation into an initiative. Their offense was aimed at that exact direction. This had been planned from the very start. Team Everlasting had fallen for their ploy by telling He An's Go Forth, who was closest to the support zone, to switch out for the Cleric.

As soon as Go Forth rushed towards the support zone, Team Happy could swiftly position themselves to stop him. That was how things came to this point.

"Hold on!"

Wu Chen could only give He An this sentence of encouragement. Other than that, he could only get everyone to go towards the support zone as quickly as possible.

Luckily, Team Everlasting didn't position themselves too far from each other during the siege. Backup wouldn't arrive too late for anyone.

He An managed to endure until his teammates appeared.

"Steady now, don't be too hasty in attacking. We need to find a chance to switch our Cleric in." Wu Chen was the third to arrive. The two who had arrived first were already fighting alongside Go Forth, tangling with Happy. Three versus five, the situation could only be called dismal. As soon as Wu Chen's Dawn Gunner arrived, he sent out a few shots with a boom and instantly brought the three out of a terrible situation. The four characters reunited and immediately counterattacked. All their classes had AoE skills, so they held the advantage when fighting in teams. The four attacked together, and their attacks swept over the map, knocking back the five from Team Happy for the moment.

"Nice one!"

When he had been fighting alone, He An had been a mess. Nevermind counterattacking, he had been beaten without being able to even plant his own two feet! Now that his teammates were here, his opponents weren't able to beat them down with such ease anymore. He An's morale surged, quickly erupting with a chain of attacks.

Ice, Fire, Light!

Three waves of attacks swept out one after the other. This was the Spellblade's famous technique, "Three Pulsing Waves".

The public chat channel was instantly filled with cheers for their ace by Team Everlasting's true fans. Even the spectating faceslappers felt excitement surging with this impressive Three Pulsing Waves. Some couldn't hold it in any longer, mockingly calling for Happy to surrender as the technique swept out.

It was true that He An had been a mess before, but that was in a five versus one situation. No matter who it was in such a situation, the outcome would be the same! Now, four of Team Everlasting's members made a tide turning counterattack. What was this? This was the difference in ability! With just four people, they could beat back all five of you! Just wait until their last member arrives; how will you deal with it then?

Since the team command chat channels were made public to the audience, the audience could get the gist of the situation even if they didn't understand what was happening. Though Happy seemed to have a plan, it now seemed like they were completely unsuccessful! Why? Because Team Everlasting was stronger. Being an ex-pro team, they had more cohesive teamwork and tactics.

The four fought side by side, attack after attack, and not long after, the fifth member of Team Everlasting arrived as well. Everlasting's true fans and the spectating faceslappers were all at a high, believing that this face-off was going to make their decisive victory. So the encouragements and mockery flew from them. It seemed like they could already start celebrating their victory.

But as for the players on the field?

Wu Chen's unease had yet to disperse. Maybe it was because he had always been a part of a weaker team and was used to defeat that developed an acute sense of danger in Wu Chen. The situation at hand started to seem fishy to him once more.

"Don't just focus on attacking, break through and get the Cleric out!" He An exclaimed in the channel. Wu Chen nodded upon seeing it.

Was that it? Wu Chen thought to himself, in this face off, they may have gotten the upper hand, but if they didn't have a healer, then there was less room to make mistakes. A single opening could cause damage that they couldn't afford to take. Go Forth didn't have much health left. In a chaotic battle like this, he might get taken out by a wave of attacks. It was better to get their Cleric here pronto.

"Ch-charge through them!" He An wanted revenge for the mess that he had been put through before. Without a healer, the offense of five AoE DPSers were imposing and ferocious. Any opponent would have a hard time dealing with this with their healer unless they had the ability to instantly upset this offense. Otherwise, everyone's health would be falling simultaneously with the attacks from five AoE characters. A single healer would have a hard time keeping up. Even if they were skilled enough, the cost was high, so it would be very inefficient.

Under Team Everlasting's bombardment, Team Happy retreated step by step and reached the support zone first after a little while.

It was at this moment that Wu Chen's fluctuating sense of danger erupted with a warning. He suddenly realized what the problem was.

"Disperse!" Wu Chen's abrupt command had both the audience and his own teammates puzzled. Two of them even asked at the same time, "Why?"

"It's a backup ploy! Quick, go!" Wu Chen yelled.

Backup ploy?

Everyone who had a good grasp of knowledge of Glory only had to hear this noun and look at the situation to realize what was happening. A real backup ploy couldn't be launched under the current circumstances, but if Team Everlasting didn't retreat and continued to exchange blows with Team Happy, then that would equal to helping Happy achieve a backup ploy.

With even some of the audience understanding, Team Everlasting wouldn't be so oblivious, even if they didn't have much experience.

"Retreat, retreat, retreat, quick!" He An started to yell in their chat as well.

But it seemed like Team Happy had heard it, since Lord Grim suddenly typed a sentence into the public chat: "It's a little too late to retreat now, isn't it?"

"Come on, let this senior open a door for you!"

Another sentence followed Lord Grim's. It was Windward Formation, Team Happy's sixth player who had been called over through the support zone. Team Happy's Cleric, Cold Hands, was switched out.

This was a backup ploy.

Using the support zone, the healer and sixth player would switch frequently. Once a rhythm was established, they could increase their firepower without sacrificing healing, like there were six people fighting at once.

But since this scheme needed them to be within a support zone, there was a limit to how it could be used. If one side stood in the support zone and their opponents never approached, then there was no point. So in most maps, a backup ploy's effects were greatly limited. Only in a few maps where the support zone was placed in a special position, could you corner your opponent and use the backup ploy to crush them.

The current map, Flame Flagged Springs, didn't have this feature. If Team Everlasting had thought of this before, there wouldn't have been any harm in just letting Happy retreat, but since they wanted to get their Cleric on the field so badly, they were even more impatient to get to the support zone than Team Happy and forgot the existence of such a ploy. By the time they remembered, Team Happy had already gotten the terrain advantage. They, on the other hand, had been too excited, had charged too fiercely, and were going to pay for it when they retreated.

As Windward Formation spoke, he had already raised his staff. Wisps of dark energy swirled around him. Seeing this, Wu Chen was shocked, hastily making his Dawn Gunner run and shouting, "It's Death's Door, interrupt it!"

A Laser Rifle blasted out from the muzzle of Dawn Gunner's gun, but Lord Grim, who was at Windward Formation's side, stepped over and opened up the Myriad Manifestations Umbrella.

Laser Rifle had a knock back effect, but these effects would be reduced in the face of a shield. Seeing that the opponent had a shield covering them, Wu Chen quickly turned Dawn Gunner's gun towards the sky, preparing to release a Stinger, but at that moment, there was a flash and the Laser Rifle he shot came streaking back...

Chapter 824: Are They That Strong?

Reflect Attack!

Wu Chen choked on his surprise. He hadn't expected that at all. Laser Rifle was a very fast attack and he wasn't prepared for it, instantly taking a hit from the reflected Laser Rifle. He definitely wouldn't be able to fire that Stinger.

The others had only tried to interrupt upon hearing Wu Chen's call, sending their attacks half a beat too slow onto Lord Grim's open Myriad Manifestations Umbrella. They were all preparing a second attack when their eyes caught a flash of blue light and an icy aura appeared...

Ghostblade skill: Ice Soul Protection Boundary, otherwise known as Ice Boundary.

Team Everlasting's members were all focused on the Death's Door Windward Formation had been chanting. With this powerful skill, they couldn't escape their fate of being controlled. They hadn't expected Qiao Yi Fan to use One Inch Ash and successful sneak attack them. With the appearance of the ice boundary, the five were all frozen with the sounds of crackling ice. Now the result was set. Don't even think about escaping, if they didn't interrupt that technique, they were all ducks sitting at Death's Door.

Team Everlasting's players paled as one. Lord Grim's Myriad Manifestations Umbrella shield was still open and in their way! If they were all frozen, how were they to interrupt it?

The chant for Death's Door quickly came to an end and it was summoned in front of the five. At such a distance, they would have trouble escaping from Death's Door, even if they weren't frozen by the Ice Boundary.

"Fire Wave Formation!" Wu Chen yelled anxiously into the chat.

This was a hint everyone understood. Ice and fire were opposing elements, so if they could activate a fire element Fire Wave Formation, the Ice Boundary would disappear quicker. He An's Go Forth hadn't been completely frozen, only slowed, so he could still activate his skills.

But they soon saw a helpless message from He An. "I'm dizzy!"

Go Forth was dizzy again...

Team Happy wasn't made up of just one or two players!

As Qiao Yifan's One Inch Ash sent out an Ice Boundary, Steamed Bun's Steamed Bun Invasion had also been silently approaching. He expertly threw a brick and it struck Go Forth perfectly in the back of his head. Everyone else had only been frozen, but poor He An; not only was he slowed, but he was also dizzy thanks to a brick.

The five trapped by the Ice Boundary were helpless in the face of Death's Door, and the dark energy from within quickly grabbed all them. Tang Rou's Soft Mist had long since charged over as well. All that aggression she had been holding in erupted, swinging her spear and giving the five tangled in dark energy a beating. Her combos were stacking rapidly, causing the golden light from her Battle Spirit to intensify. Her attacks became faster, her damage rose, and the chasers from her skills became larger, flying out and exploding. The mere sight of all the health being blasted away was enough to make anyone's heart ache.

Lord Grim, Windward Formation....

These two characters charged over as well. With Death's Door holding them all in, these five had been tormented for quite a while. Wu Chen carefully considered the situation at hand, suddenly noticing that their opponent's were rushing to deal damage, but this offense wasn't without clarity. For example, no one was attacking Go Forth anymore. That was because his health was low enough and they had no healing skills. They didn't need to continue their offense on him, since Death's Door still had a spectacular ending!

Gradually, Team Everlasting's five characters were pulled into Death's Door by its death force, and then Death's Door suddenly imploded, as if trying to banish the five characters into a parallel world.

Amongst the wildly pulsating death force, the five characters were thrown out by the blast, and He An's Go Forth lost the remainder of his health in this blast, being the first character to fall in this battle, but the other four had their health chipped away at a steady rhythm by Team Happy's orderly attacks.

Wu Chen's Dawn Gunner had the second lowest health. With Death's Door's explosion, he hadn't been taken out, but Lord Grim's Sky Strike caught the falling Dawn Gunner and sent him towards Steamed Bun Invasion, who jumped up and greeted him with a Strangle.

With a 50% reduced in physical defense, Dawn Gunner didn't last long under the following assault, becoming the second to get taken out.

The remaining three had their health intentionally reduced. After Dawn Gunner had been dealt with, the Team Happy five turned heel together and instantly surrounded them, taking them out.

Although Team Everlasting seemed to still have three people, their core class and reliable captain had also been wiped out. The battle was over.

The encirclement of the remaining three was done in silence. No one talked in the match chat channels or in the audience public chat. Everyone watched on in silence, sitting in front of their computers.

On this side was a team eliminated from the Pro League, on that side was a grassroots team originating from an Internet cafe. Two teams like this wouldn't be able to play any kind of high end competition, and wouldn't gain any fame, but, this team competition was definitely a textbook example.

How to use the map to turn the tides when disadvantaged. That was what this match had shown.

The players weren't the most skilled.

Their equipment wasn't the best.

Even the tactics that were used weren't flawless. If Team Everlasting had been a little more on guard and noticed the backup ploy faster, then they wouldn't have lost the upper hand and been wiped out in one counterattack.

Unfortunately, there were no "if only"s in tactics. Plus, even if Team Everlasting had managed to guard against the backup ploy, that didn't mean Team Happy didn't have any other tricks up their sleeve.

Reality was the only way to judge tactics. And from the results of this match, Team Happy's tactics were extremely successful.

"Team Happy is so strong!!!"

As Team Happy sent the last last member of Team Everlasting out of the competition, the person who had been publically supporting Team Happy before jumped out again.

After flooding several pages of the chat with a fwoosh, the person left again without waiting for a response.

The spectating faceslappers were depressed! How is that all their efforts came back to slap them in face? What kind of team would it take to eliminate this Team Happy? Even a team that originated from the Pro League like Everlasting wasn't enough; could they really be a team strong enough to go against Excellent Era?

Thinking of this, more or less everyone shook their heads involuntarily.

A team strong enough to go against Excellent Era? With that sort of equipment! Though they didn't know where these guys had gotten all of those pieces of silver equipment, just that wasn't enough to match up with the subs for Team Excellent Era.

Suddenly, it became a trial to try and estimate Team Happy's strength! The cons of not having a full understanding of the team's ability was something the faceslappers had experienced over and over again.

From when they thought this team was arrogant and personally tried to shoot them off their high horse, their actions came back to bite them again and again, because they always thought: this should be enough to defeat Team Happy, right?

So when they cheered and jeered about Happy losing, when they were ready to finish an essay on Happy's defeat, Happy always sent back a solid slap to face, punching the words from their mouths.

It was painful! The faceslappers had been holding this grudge for so long and never got a chance to unleash their anger; the effort of holding it in was killing them.

In comparison, Team Everlasting's fans were truly depressed.

There was no record of turning things around after losing with a 1 to 8.5 lead while having the home advantage. Was Team Everlasting's journey this year coming to an end so soon?

Next year? Would there even be a next year for them? They had nothing to do now, not even the Challenger League, so what could they use to keep themselves and the confidence their players and fans had afloat.

There wasn't a lack of disappointed people tonight.

Team Everlasting's fans were crushed and disappointed and their players were obviously no better.

Such a large difference in points was enough to make them as lifeless as the dead.

The match was over, and everyone sat in their chairs as if they had been paralyzed. No one spoke, and no one could squeeze out even the smallest of smiles. Though they knew it wasn't over, there was another round, this result made their morale plummet.

Everyone stayed silent, no one moved and no one spoke until the door was pushed open. They all subconsciously turned to look, only to see the boss of Club Everlasting standing in the doorway sadly.

Club Excellent Era.

"Fuck!"

When Team Everlasting's five characters had been caught by Death's Door, Tao Xuan had already hurled the documents to the ground. Then as Team Happy wiped out Team Everlasting one by one, Tao Xuan's mood had gone from sunny to cloudy, then those clouds darkened with rain, ready to storm at any time.

Especially the end, seeing the public chat flooded with "Team Happy is so strong!!!", it got to his nerves.

"Is Team Happy really that strong?" Tao Xuan spoke darkly.

"With Ye Qiu, their strength is definitely above normal teams," Cui Li forced himself to speak.

"Then is Team Everlasting a normal team?" Tao Xuan asked, pointing at the screen.

Chen Yehui looked at Cui Li with sympathy. This question wouldn't be easy to answer, but who would've thought Cui Li would easily say, "Though Team Everlasting was eliminated the year before last, their ability has declined greatly since they were a part of the Alliance. They sold their core character that year, and their Captain and core players also left. A year later, they lost the Challenger's League which put them into a terrible situation. Now their team only consists of one player from the original team. All the others were found in a rush, and even their manager is a player. Their strength is far inferior to a real pro team!"

Chen Yehui was surprised by this logical analysis. This was truly a man who deserved to be manager; he had really done his homework!

As Cui Li finished his matter-of-fact speech, he was sweating internally! He hadn't really done much research on Team Everlasting. It was just that when he saw the tides turn, he did a quick search on his phone and formulated such a speech.

"Actually, this victory might be a good thing. When they really start believing in their own power is when they'll meet a dead end." Cui Li added on.

Chapter 825: City H Interview Station

Happy won!

This match didn't receive an incredible amount of attention, but it didn't receive too little either. But in any case, it was the one match that the media did notice.

After all, one side was currently the talk of the town, while the other side was a former pro team. The strength of both sides was noteworthy. No matter how famous Team Excellent Era was, just fighting against normal players wouldn't receive much attention.

In the match between Team Happy and Team Everlasting, if Team Everlasting had won, the news reports might have simply written over it with a single stroke, but with Team Happy winning 8.5 to 1, that was certainly something worth writing about.

Esports Home, the most reputable eSports media platform. Glory was currently the most popular eSport right now, so news on Glory would undoubtedly be their most important focus. Eighty percent of their paper, which released twice a week, consisted of Glory related news. Every city with a major Glory team had an eSports news station. A few top teams even had their own special reporters that followed the teams around, establishing a good relationship between them to be that team's sole interviewer.

City H was Team Excellent Era's home city. It could even be said that the news station located there was their oldest one. It was also where the first sole interviewer for a team came, but as Team Excellent Era gradually declined, the City H news station declined as well. It had only been busy last season because of Team Excellent Era's miraculously disgusting record, which had become such a good topic to report on. After being busy all of last season, City H's Esports Home news station discovered that it was as if they had overdosed.

Because Team Excellent Era had actually been relegated!

That was admittedly a huge topic, but after reporting it, even for a powerhouse like Team Excellent Era, a relegated team wouldn't receive much attention in a paper dedicated to the Pro League.

City H's news station would become marginalized into an awkward spot.

During the summer, when the various teams were trading players and equipment, the Esports Home also prepared for the new season.

The first step was to adjust the number of employees at City H's news station.

City H only had Team Excellent Era. After being relegated, it wasn't necessary for so many dedicated employees to be there. As a result, the employees of City H's news station were sent out to different areas. Didn't the Alliance have newly added teams too?

In the end, only two people remained in City H's news station. If it wasn't because they were certain that Team Excellent Era would return to the Alliance and their purchase of Xiao Shiqin and Life Extinguisher, City H's news station might have even closed down.

Leaving just two employees couldn't be considered much. They were just there to be prepared when the time came. The end of the Challenger League would have some topics to report about. With Team Excellent Era this year, there would be more to talk about than usual, but for the reporters, they had been with Team Excellent Era when they reigned over the Glory scene and were even familiar with the big names of the various teams. Now, they had suddenly dropped to such a position, where they needed to follow the Challenger League. They didn't feel any better than those relegated players.

Cao Guangcheng was currently responsible for City H's Esports Home news station. He was also formerly the interviewer who followed Team Excellent Era. During Team Excellent Era's reign, he had undoubtedly been Esports Home's most famous reporter. Every year, he would have who knew how many lead stories on the front page.

But in the blink of an eye, he had become a phoenix without feathers. With Team Excellent Era relegated, a famous reporter like him also fell to an awkward spot. He could also do work with other teams, but as the team's reporter, his network couldn't be ignored. All of Cao Guangcheng's relationships lay in Team Excellent Era. If he ran to another team, he might not be able to outcompete his fellow reporters. Cao Guangcheng knew that many were already laughing at him behind his back! After all, there would be no lack of people who had been jealous of his fame for so many years.

In the annual summer Esports Home conference, Cao Guangcheng had heard quite a few insidious greetings, but he could only hold back his anger! The current powerhouses already had their own established team reporters. If he switched teams, he would be sent to a new team. A team with the goal of not getting relegated could only have so much to talk about. When the time came, that team might even get relegated and he would once again fall with them. The cycle would continue and he might never be able to return to his former glory.

Cao Guangcheng had a good understanding of his situation, so when Team Excellent Era was relegated, he didn't hurry to find another path. After all, this was still Team Excellent Era! Their relegation was considered a miracle. No one doubted that Team Excellent Era would return to the pro scene next year. Moreover, even after being relegated, the team was able to trade for Xiao Shiqin and Life Extinguisher. Such a trade was rarely seen during the summer transfer window.

Cao Guangheng stayed, waiting to return to the Alliance together with Team Excellent Era. However, for this season, his days would be unfortunately leisurely.

Speaking of which, when he was usually busy and had to stay up to finish his report, he would always curse his profession for being so exhausting. Now that he was suddenly idle, he was reminiscing about those busy days. He missed those days so much that he was even losing sleep.....

He had time to sleep, but he couldn't sleep. Cao Guangcheng felt a little depressed towards this lifestyle that he led.

Saturday morning.

Cao Guangcheng opened his eyes. He looked at the time and subconsciously began wondering if today was Team Excellent Era's home or away match. After realizing what he was doing, he laughed bitterly. The third round of the Pro League was about to start. He still wasn't used to Team Excellent Era not being in the Alliance. He didn't need to follow their team!

Helpless, Cao Guangcheng got up and left his bedroom to go to the bathroom.

Their news station was really just them living in City H and being closeby to interview the team on a moment's notice. The company would provide the reporters with an apartment. Their everyday life consisted of going over to interview the team and then writing a draft. They didn't need to a specific office location. If you insisted on it, then his his bedroom and living room could be considered his workplace.

When Cao Guangcheng went out of his bedroom, he passed by the living room and saw the other person, Chang Xian, staying in City H with him. He was currently on his laptop, busy typing.

Compared to Cao Guangcheng requesting to stay, Chang Xian had been told to stay. This young man was a new graduate last year. After being hired by Esports Home, he was directly sent to City H's news station, a location with many Glory fans. Unfortunately, City H's Team Excellent Era had been relegated and he was set aside as a new hire. This summer, headquarters didn't change their mind, and he stayed there with Cao Guangcheng. However, Chang Xian didn't have as many thoughts as Cao Guangcheng. He readily prepared for work with youthful energy. He looked as if he were going to write a long report on the Challenger League. To Cao Guangcheng, it was quite funny.

Challenger League? What's there to write about?

Cao Guangcheng, who had written news stories on four finals, had trouble lowering himself to following the Challenger League. Because of this he was quite thankful for having a young guy like Chang Xian. He at least had a partner!

Seeing Chang Xian busily working early in the morning, Cao Guangcheng couldn't help but be curious about what this fellow was writing so busily about. Didn't a round of the Challenger League just finish yesterday?

Before he could get closer, Chang Xian saw him from the reflection of his monitor and hastily got up to give him a greeting: "Morning, brother Cao! You're up!"

"Mm, what are you up to?" Cao Guangcheng had noticed that Chang Xian had quite a few web pages opened up as if he were organizing something.

"Oh! Last night in the Challenger League, Team Happy beat Team Everlasting!" Chang Xian excitedly said.

He hasn't seen the world yet!

Cao Guangcheng muttered to himself, but calmly said: "Really?"

"Brother Cao, don't you think we should interview Happy? From what I've heard, Ye Qiu should be a part of Team Happy, right?" Chang Xian said.

Cao Guangcheng smiled. This brother knows a hundred times more than you about that. I obviously know that Ye Qiu is in Team Happy, but you asking for an interview was a joke. Who was that? Ye Qiu! In the entire Glory scene, he was the media's number one enemy! He was the only public figure in the Alliance with special privileges. No one in the media could reach him even if they wanted to.

Cao Guangcheng was Team Excellent Era's reporter, but he had only been able to get an interview with the captain three times!

Three times!

Cao Guangcheng had been with Team Excellent for eight years, yet he had only been able to get a total of three interviews across those eight years. Another team reporter might meet their team's captain more than that every week. Even more depressing was that those three interviews had been through f*cking QQ.....

Yes, up until now, Cao Guangcheng had never even seen Ye Qiu in person. It was something he had always felt depressed about.

Thinking of this, Cao Guangcheng felt grief and indignation again. Seeing Chang Xian in high spirits, Cao Guangcheng felt like he needed to show this young guy how deep the waters were in this industry. Young people nowadays thought that interviewing Zhou Zekai was difficult! F*ck. Have you guys ever followed the team eight years, never seen the team's ace player in person, and only got three interviews with him on QQ?

"Little Chang, that's a good news point. Team Happy is a popular team right now. We can trail them. Let's go. I'm optimistic about your future!" Cao Guangcheng said.

"Yay!" Chang Xian immediately began packing up his equipment. After packing up, he turned his head to say: "Brother Cao, you're not going?"

"Oh, I won't go. You should try going by yourself. Train your ability to work independently! If Team Happy is actually able to go through the entire way, won't they be your resource? You have to grab onto them well!" Cao Guangcheng said.

"Okay. Then I'll be heading out, brother Cao." Chang Xian called out.

"Be careful! I'll be waiting for your draft!" Cao Guangcheng said.

"Okay!" Chang Xian nodded his head enthusiastically.

Chapter 826: Interviewing Happy

The weather wasn't bad on Friday, and Excellent Era gave their players the day off, allowing them to rest.

This was a tradition that had been around since the beginning of the Pro League. The day after a match was a day for rest, but now that they were participants in the Challenger League, Friday, their original match day, had become a holiday. Those who were used to the Pro League felt a little unused to this change.

It wasn't just the players, but even the manager, Cui Li, felt a little lost when waking up to a day where he had no match to prepare for.

Uncertain of he should do, Cui Li eventually decided to go for a walk.

Cui Li was something of a workaholic. He was married to noone but his work, so he more or less lived in the club. Stepping out of the club this morning, the first thing that he saw was Happy on the opposite side of the road. Instantly, his mood went from bad to worse.

This really wasn't a good season! Cui Li couldn't help but lament. A powerhouse like Excellent Era had to fight in the Challenger League this year. Even if they won, there wasn't anything to celebrate since it was expected, right?

Therefore, there would be nothing happening this season that Excellent Era could be proud of.

Cui Li stood outside Excellent Era with his hands on his hips, thinking about where he should go. Suddenly, a moped passed by precariously, and came to a stop after some struggle. The rider scratched his head awkwardly and greeted Cui Li, "Morning, manager Cui!"

Cui Li cheered up a bit upon realizing that he recognized the boy on the bike. Chang Xian, an intern from Esports Home that had been sent here to H City just last year. He had come along to many interviews with Excellent Era. Now that a year had gone by, he should be a full member, but his electric bike riding skills still had much to improve! Cui Li silently thanked the fact that he had yet to cross the road, otherwise it was completely possible that he would be under those wheels at this moment.

"Hey hey, Little Chang!" Cui Li laughed as he teased the other, "It seems like, compared to your writing skills, your biking skills are still in need of a lot of improvement!"

Chang Xian scratched his head, smiling in embarrassment.

"Where are you heading off to, so early in the morning?" Cui Li asked.

"To do an interview," Chang Xian replied honestly.

Hearing this, Cui Li lit up. As the club manager, what he needed to consider wasn't just the results of their matches, he had to take care of the functioning of the club as a whole. With Excellent Era out of the main competition, the attention they received this year was at an all time low. Offers for sponsorships and ads were more or less stagnant. They didn't care about what a glorious history you had, after all. If you weren't going to be in the public eye this season, then there was no point in making a big investment. Excellent Era's situation wasn't too bad, all things considered, since the public still had expectations for them, some sponsors didn't pull away immediately, but talked with them about future plans. How they would be executed had to wait until Excellent Era returned to the Pro League.

If Excellent Era could gain attention from the media and appear in public eye more, it would definitely benefit them from the economic perspective Cui Li stood in, as the manager. More attention like this could give sponsors more confidence in Excellent Era!

Cui Li's smile didn't shift and he prepared to welcome Chang Xian, but Chang Xian had already gotten back onto his bike, waving at Cui Li and saying, "I won't take up any more of your time, manager Cui, bye!"

Cui Li's smile froze on his face, hurriedly stifling the words on the tip of his tongue. His confusion slipping onto his face.

This brat wasn't going to interview Excellent Era? It was lucky that he hadn't said anything yet, otherwise that would be really awkward.

Cui Li knew that though Glory was the hottest topic in eSports, there were other games as well. Esports Home was a comprehensive esports media, so they also reported happenings in these other games, but since Glory was the main focus, the interview station in City H was placed close to the only club in City H, Excellent Era.

Was Chang Xian going to interview teams from other games? That was what Cui Li thought, until Chang Xian's bike started to move, wobbling. He had a bad feeling. Around here, there were no other pro

teams from other games. The electric bike wasn't that good of a tool for travelling such distances, right? Then if Chang Xian wasn't going to interview Excellent Era, he was going to

As he thought of this, Chang Xian's bike finally got properly onto the road, turning and heading directly for Happy Internet Cafe.

To interview Happy.

In this moment, Cui Li's heart was filled with all sorts of emotions that couldn't be put into words, standing stunned on the side of the road.

Chang Xian rode his electric bike and crossed the road unevenly and then rode onto the pavement. He seemed to want to stop in front of the door of Happy, but his terrible biking skills couldn't handle even that. The bike came to a sudden stop half inside the Internet cafe....

Cui Li vaguely heard screams coming from the Internet cafe. They must have been startled by an electric bike charging inside.

Then he saw Chang Xian hurriedly jump off the bike, scratching his head again in embarrassment and quickly backing the bike up to be parked properly. Then he rushed into Happy Internet Cafe.

Happy....

Though Cui Li was displeased, he had to admit that defeating Team Everlasting was quite a feat for Happy, and would make people curious about them. Getting interviewed wasn't entirely unexpected, but watching one of the workers from the the team working specifically for Excellent Era go to interview their enemy made Cui Li's heart twist.

Out of sight out of mind!

Cui Li thought furiously, whirling in the other direction. Though it was out of sight, his thoughts still lingered on it. What kind of article would be written on Happy?

Happy Internet Cafe.

Chang Xian had rode his bike straight into the Internet cafe, almost startling the employee into calling the police. He quickly explained what happened and why he was here. The employee manning the counter hurriedly called his boss after hearing Chang Xian's words.

Chen Guo now often lived at the rented house in the compound. Last night, they celebrated their victory over the ex-pro team Everlasting, and now in the morning Chen Guo got a call from the Internet cafe. At first she thought something had happened, but actually someone was here to interview them, and they were someone from Esports Home too. Chen Guo was shocked.

"One second," Chen Guo quickly said before turning to tell Ye Xiu to go.

"Esports Home wants to interview us? Not bad, it's a good chance to raise our fame," Ye Xiu nodded in approval at her words.

"So, we should accept?" Chen Guo asked.

"No reason not to!" Ye Xiu said.

"But what about you?" Chen Guo knew, of course, that Ye Xiu never accepted interviews, not even the mandatory press conferences after matches. The Alliance wouldn't ban you from playing if you broke these rules, but you would get fined.

But Ye Xiu never cared. If he was fined, then he'd pay the fine and still not go. They came to an understanding in the end. Ye Xiu was more clear about the fines from the Alliance than even his own balance, making sure to pay them every month. The Alliance was didn't know whether to laugh or cry at this stubborn guy. In the end, the Alliance even felt a bit sorry for fining him all the time, but the rules were there. If they changed them, how would they face those who adhered to them? So in the beginning there was some debate, but in the end it was just so. One side would pay the fines and the other wouldn't say anything about his actions.

"Me? They wouldn't know who I am anyways, right?" Ye Xiu said.

"So you're just going to say you're Ye Xiu?" Chen Guo questioned.

"Yup!" Ye Xiu nodded.

"Then, you're going to accept the interview?" Chen Guo asked.

"It doesn't matter," Ye Xiu smiled, "They won't write that much anyways."

"Why won't they write much?" Chen Guo was a bit disappointed.

"Because I don't have time left!" Ye Xiu said.

"..." Chen Guo hadn't thought that would be what he meant and didn't know how to respond. When Ye Xiu avoided the media, it was first because he was afraid his parents would find him after he ran away from home, and force him to go back. Later on, though he didn't need to hide from his family, it became a habit. Ye Xiu had thought he would be able to use his brother's ID to play until he had to retire. He never thought that something like this would happen before then.

He regained his identity as Ye Xiu, and when he returned he wasn't planning on using Ye Qiu's name any longer. After experiencing all that once, he was too lazy to go over it again.

Chen Guo respected Ye Xiu's wishes and simply picked up the phone, telling the guy at the Internet cafe to tell the reporter to come over.

"Uh, shouldn't you ask the others if they're okay with being interviewed first?" Ye Xiu asked.

"Oh yeah, you're right!" Chen Guo immediately realized that was something she should probably do after hearing Ye Xiu ask. And, as they exchanged a glance, they knew they were thinking the same thing.

After living in the Internet cafe for so long, Chen Guo had never poked into Tang Rou's background, but anyone would realize that she definitely wasn't someone who had to work in an Internet cafe to keep herself afloat. With her beauty, her composure, a few pictures would earn a lot.

Tang Rou's background definitely wasn't simple, so maybe she wouldn't want to be exposed to the public?

Chapter 827: All Rather Impressive

Ye Xiu and Chen Guo had thought of Tang Rou, but reality was very different from their expectations.

Hearing that there would be a reporter coming to interview them, Tang Rou had no intention of avoiding it. Instead, it was An Wenyi who shook his head furiously at the news. Everyone curiously inquired as to why and was struck speechless by his response. This guy hadn't gone to his school to check in since school had started. It would be fine if he was inconspicuous about it, but if he went and accepted an interview and appeared on news, it allowed his school to know that he had skipped to play games, they would definitely have a hard time accepting that.

"Okay then, do as you wish, Little An. Everyone else should wait here for a while, the reporter is coming soon," Chen Guo ordered before going outside to welcome the reporter.

Not long after, Chen Guo came back, but she was limping as she pushed open the door and came inside. Everyone stared in shock, Tang Rou running up to help her. "What happened?"

"I'm very sorry about that! My biking skills are... Not the best." Not far behind Chen Guo was a young man, scratching his head in embarrassment as he walked in timidly. After getting the address that Team Happy was at from the Internet cafe, he had rushed over.

Chen Guo had, of course, asked after what Chang Xian was like so she could take him up from downstairs. Seeing the electric bike, she more or less knew that this was who she was waiting for. She had been walking into the road to greet him, but didn't think there could be someone so terrible at biking. Seeing someone walk out, Chang Xian had anxiously yelled out a warning, but even as one of them tried to dodge and the other tried to swerve, Chen Guo had still gotten hit....

"This is Little Chang from Esports Home...." Chen Guo was still in quite a bit of pain! But she still gritted her teeth and introduced Chang Xian to everyone.

"Boss Chen... I'm really sorry, are you sure you're okay? Should we go to the hospital first?" Chang Xian chattered nervously at the side. Though Chen Guo had been hit by Chang Xian's bike, they hadn't wasted any time in introducing themselves to each other.

"I'm fine, let me introduce you first," Chen Guo said.

"I think you should sit down first!" Tang Rou helped Chen Guo make her way over to the sofa, so Chen Guo went ahead and introduced her first. "This is Tang Rou, the player behind the Battle Mage Soft Mist."

"Ah!" Chang Xian expressed in surprise. He had, of course, done some research before coming to conduct an interview. The more he understood, the more topics he could bring up. And in the match against Everlasting yesterday, she had defeated two players in the group arena. She was definitely the most famous player in Team Happy. Now, she had turned out to be a beautiful woman in real life as well. Did he really need to write anything? Just a few photos were probably enough to create waves.

And Boss Chen was also a beauty! He was pretty sure the Glory circle had yet to have such a beautiful lady as a boss.

He had, of course, also brought his camera to this interview. It was currently held in his hand, but Tang Rou was busy taking care of Chen Guo, who he had unfortunately injured. He wasn't shameless enough to ask them for a few photos first. By then, Chen Guo was already introducing the next person.

"This is Qiao Yifan," Chen Guo was just introducing them by who she saw first, "Little Qiao was originally from Team Tiny Herb. After his contract expired, he came over. He plays the Ghostblade, One Inch Ash."

"What?!" Chang Xian, who had been waiting for a chance to take pictures of the two attractive ladies, suddenly heard Chen Guo introducing the next person. He was instantly thunderstruck.

Team Tiny Herb! A member from a team that had been two time champions had joined Team Happy? What was this?

Chang Xian stared in shock. Information on One Inch Ash was rare. He only knew that it was an account for the tenth server and the second under max level character to reach the Heavenly Domain in the tenth server, after Lord Grim. He hadn't appeared much during the time where Happy was accepting challengers, but in yesterday's match against Everlasting, he had won them their first point, giving a calm and mature impression. He hadn't thought this person would be from the Pro League, and Tiny Herb too!

Chang Xian didn't hide the shock on his face as he gazed at Qiao Yifan. Qiao Yifan became nervous with all the staring. He had been someone without presence in Team Tiny Herb, and wouldn't have had the chance to be interviewed. Now, seeing Chang Xian's shocked gaze, Qiao Yifan was also a little startled. "I... I..." he stuttered for a while before suddenly blurting out, "I'll go pour some water," and fleeing.

"That's Wei Chen, maybe you've heard of him?" Chen Guo was still making introductions, "He's currently our Warlock, Windward Formation."

Wei Chen?

Chang Xian considered this name, feeling a little lost. It was completely unfamiliar to him, but Windward Formation was definitely someone who had ability. However this guy.... Chang Xian looked at Wei Chen, taking in the stubble that hinted at his comparatively old age. Wasn't he a little... too old?

"Hahaha, young people these days wouldn't have heard of me." Wei Chen, of course, wouldn't nervously run away like Qiao Yifan. Seeing that Chang Xian didn't recognize him, he shamelessly started to introduce himself. "The former captain of Team Blue Rain and the original owner of Swoksaar, that's me."

"Ah!" Hearing this, Chang Xian jumped once again.

He might not know who Wei Chen was, but the captain of Team Blue Rain, the owner of Swoksaar, he understood what these two identities meant. This middle aged man was actually that impressive a character?

"Hahaha, calm down, kid, don't get so nervous upon hearing someone's reputation. Look at you, how are you going to interview us like this?" Wei Chen shamelessly started lecturing.

"I... I..." Now it was Chang Xian who was stuttering like Qiao Yifan. It was a good thing that Chen Guo had started introducing the next person already. "This is Bao Rongxing, we all call him Steamed Bun, he's the Brawler Steamed Bun Invasion."

Chang Xian listened with both ears perked, but didn't hear anything after "owner". Chang Xian hastily ran over the introduction in his head again. It seemed to be just as he had heard. That's weird! Something seemed to be lacking! Did this Steamed Bun have no impressive sort of background?

With there being beauties and ex-Team Tiny Herb members and Team Blue Rain captains, Chang Xian immediately expected each of the members of Happy to have some sort of impressive background. Yet Steamed Bun seemed to be a normal person, making Chang Xian a little disoriented. As he gazed at Steamed Bun, he heard Steamed Bun speak. "Good thing that you seem like a honest little reporter, otherwise I would have your leg for injuring the boss."

Holy crap!

Chang Xian felt his legs turn to jelly. What kind of person was this! What kind of response was that! Seeing Steamed Bun seriously considering his leg, Chang Xian couldn't take it as a joke. He wouldn't really lose a leg upon leaving, would he?"

"Don't mess around, Steamed Bun" Then, a guy with a cigarette in his mouth told Steamed Bun off. Chang Xian looked over and Chen Guo was already introducing him, "This is our captain, Ye Xiu, the player behind Lord Grim."

Ye Xiu!

Chang Xian had listened carefully. It was Xiu not Qiu. And, as a member of Esports Home, he knew for certain that in the registered players for Team Happy, Lord Grim's player was definitely not Ye Qiu, but many people were suspicious that even if Ye Qiu hadn't registered, he was still hiding in Team Happy, playing for them, and were therefore suspicious of who was the player behind Lord Grim.

But now, this player was introduced to him just like that, and as the captain, too. Chang Xian suddenly didn't to dare suspect his identity.

"There's also a Cleric, Little Cold Hands, but he's busy today," Chen Guo continued.

Chang Xian nodded, going over the names and faces of each person he had been introduced to so far, but as he counted the people present, he suddenly realized there was one extra. This person kept his distance from everyone else, leaning against the wall stoically and watching on.

This person... was he the legendary god Ye Qiu!?

Chang Xian thought he had definitely managed to make a right guess, but saw how Chen Guo seemed to have no intentions of introducing him, but this was god Ye Qiu! That topic far outstripped anything like beautiful ladies, or Tiny Herb members or Blue Rain captains. In the media circle, nobody had managed to interview him except for Cao Guang. And even for Cao Guang, the interviews had been done over QQ.

Now that God Ye Qiu was in front of him, he couldn't let go of the opportunity given to him, or else he couldn't be called a reporter.

Chang Xian gathered his courage and stepped forwards without any prompting.

"Excuse me... are you God Ye Qiu?" Chang Xian greeted this cool guy. In his heart, god Ye Qiu who always refused to be interviewed was definitely someone who was aloof and proud like this.

"No." But the other person coldly denied it.

Chang Xian was waiting for him to speak again when Chen Guo introduced him as well. "This is Mo Fan, Ninja, Deception. He's still considering whether or not he wants to join."

"Ah?" Chang Xian startled, disappointed upon knowing that this person wasn't Ye Qiu. If Ye Qiu was really at Happy but didn't want to come out for an interview, then he probably wouldn't get a chance today.

Chang Xian turned his focus back to the others as he thought over this, but the name Chen Guo had given him flashed through his mind and he turned suddenly. "You're Deception?"

Mo Fan glanced at him. He wouldn't respond to a useless question like that.

"You... Give me back my equipment!!!" Then, Chang Xian said something that made everyone a little taken aback.

Chapter 828: I Once Had a Friend

Chang Xian wasn't just an eSports reporter. He was also a fan of Glory. His work revolved around Glory. Outside of work, he spent most of his free time on Glory too.

In the Heavenly Domain, Chang Xian had a Striker account. He was a normal player in the game. As a result, he had suffered under the hands of the most infamous scrap picker in Glory, Deception.

When he had prepared for his interview, Chang Xian had seen the name Deception among the registered members in Team Happy, but from the time Team Happy accepted challenges to the recent three matches in the Challenger League, Deception's character had never appeared a single time. Chang Xian thought that he wasn't with Team Happy. Who would have thought that Deception really was a part of the team? Suddenly, Chang Xian's grievances towards Deception exploded. At that time, he had lost the PK and died. His weapon dropped and before he could call over his friends to get it back, he saw Deception nimbly blend back into the chaotic crowd. After stealing his weapon, he just swaggered off without a second thought.

Chang Xian had seen everything clearly from his ghost's view. That Thunder Fist was a weapon that he had spent who knew how much time and effort to obtain, but in just a quick PK, a scrap picker snatched it away. Chang Xian felt so disgusted that he stopped playing for a week.

He had thought of taking revenge on Deception, but in the vast Heavenly Domain, finding a single person wasn't something that could be done with just patience and perseverance. Chang Xian persisted for a period of time, before finally giving up out of helplessness. Even though this incident had passed a while ago, seeing Deception among the members of Team Happy stirred up his previous anger. However, facing Team Happy, he needed to be professional. It wasn't good to mix his personal emotions with his work. Deception may have been among the list of registered team members, he had never

appeared on stage before. It wasn't certain if he was actually in the team or not! The Challenger League rules were truly lax.

Chang Xian didn't take the matter of Deception to heart up until now. When he heard the sudden introduction and realized that the cold, arrogant guy he thought was Ye Qiu actually turned out to be Deception, Mo Fan's expression made him extremely annoyed. Impulse overcame him. He suddenly turned around and got into a fighting position in front of Mo Fan.

Everyone was astonished. To think such a coincidence would happen! Everyone clicked their tongues in wonder, but no one said anything. Mo Fan no longer had his expressionless face. He was somewhat dumbstruck. He probably wasn't prepared to meet a victim of his in real life.

"Who..... are you?" Mo Fan finally asked.

"I'm called Death Reaper. My Lightning Fist was stolen by you. It seems like you don't remember me?" Chang Xian shouted.

"Yes." Mo Fan said.

"Now that I've helped you remember, return it to me!" Chang Xian demanded. In reality, he already had a similar weapon now, but his arguing wasn't over the weapon itself, but rather because of the grief he felt when he watched as his beloved weapon was stolen away. Chang Xian was already fairly calm at this point. After all, it had been awhile since that incident had occurred. If this meeting had happened within a week of that incident, he might have had the courage to physically kick him down.

"It's gone." Mo Fan replied honestly, but it drove Chang Xian mad. He didn't really want his equipment back. Now that you've been caught in real life by one of your victims, shouldn't you at least have some sort of reaction? What is this?

"You you..." Chang Xian didn't know what else to say. He wasn't seeking his lost equipment, but looking to vent his anger. But now he realized that he didn't know how the other side could make it up to him. Allow himself to get beat up? Chang Xian knew that wasn't realistic.

The two were in the middle of their confrontation, when Qiao Yifan came back with water. He had no idea what had happened. When he saw Chang Xian over there, he delivered a cup of water to him under the gazes of everyone.

"Have some water." A fellow had popped up next to Mo Fan to give him some water. Chang Xian didn't know how to respond.

Everyone had their hands to their foreheads. What type of scene was this!

"Cough, Little Chang, it looks like Mo Fan took your equipment. Today you've gotten a chance to meet us. How about we call it even? Arguing is pointless." Chen Guo revealed the air of a big sister and resolved this matter. In reality, her logic made no sense. However, Chen Guo could see Chang Xian's anger. It wasn't as exaggerated as his reaction had been. It had probably been a long time since that incident, so he wasn't that angry anymore. That scar would still remain in his heart though. Someone more sociable might have even said a few words and ended up friends with him! Unfortunately, Mo Fan wasn't that type of person. He replied with an earnest: "It's gone." It was as if he were deliberately provoking him.

Chang Xian found himself facing such a person and found himself in an awkward spot. Chen Guo gave him a suitable excuse to get over this matter.

Chang Xian had been a reporter for a year. He was clever. He immediately understood that this was Chen Guo handing giving him a way out of the awkward situation between him and Mo Fan. He seized the opportunity, taking the water and thanking Qiao Yifan, while politely responding to Chen Guo.

Qiao Yifan had gone to get water for the guest, so he didn't know what had happened. He asked Mo Fan, next to him: "What's going on?"

"He's asking me for equipment!" Mo Fan replied with a simple answer. Chang Xian almost dropped his cup. He wasn't asking for equipment! He wanted him to return his equipment. A single word made all the difference!

Chen Guo didn't have a good impression of Mo Fan either way. Hearing his sharp and concise answer, she wasn't happy. She said to Chang Xian: "Little Chang, how about we get down to business first. You two can talk about your private grievances later. No one will stop you."

"Oh oh, sure, sure. Then let's start now? Speaking of which, I don't have a good understanding of you guys. If I say something wrong, please forgive me!" Chang Xian spoke methodically.

"Haha, ask away." Chen Guo said.

"I really want to know if Ye Qiu, Team Excellent Era's former captain, if God Ye Qiu is in Team Happy?" Chang Xian started off with the question he wanted to know the answer the most.

Chen Guo looked at Ye Xiu. Everyone looked at Ye Xiu. They also wanted to know how he would answer this question.

"Ah, him! You could say he's here. You could also say he's not here." Ye Xiu said.

"What does that mean?" Chang Xian didn't understand.

"You'll understand when the time comes." Ye Xiu smiled.

How crafty! Everyone gasped in surprise. So he's dodging the question? The reporter won't pursue it, right?

Chang Xian didn't pursue the matter. For an exclusive interview, he needed to pay attention to propriety. If he insisted on asking a question that the other side didn't want to answer, he would bring the mood down. It would be very bad for the following questions. From this point, Chang Xian wasn't experienced enough. If an experienced reporter like Cao Guangcheng had come for the interview, the reporter would not have let this opportunity pass. The reporter would not have asked this question first either. Asking this question last would not have been any better. If no valuable answer came, the reporter could just laugh it off and end the interview on a high note. If a juicy hint appeared, the reporter could pursue it relentlessly. Even if it irritated the other side, it at least wouldn't affect the overall interview.

Chang Xian had been too impatient and started the interview with this question. He knew he couldn't press too hard in the beginning of the interview, so when Ye Xiu dodged the question, he had to let this question go.

Afterwards, Chang Xian naturally asked about their thoughts on people denouncing them as being arrogant.

Ye Xiu smiled again: "The following match will prove everything."

"I can see that you guys are very confident. Do you think that your team is good enough to topple Team Excellent Era?" Chang Xian asked.

"As long as it's a competitive match, anything is possible." Ye Xiu smiled.

Everyone wanted to boo in their hearts. There was no way Team Excellent Era would be a breeze to fight! If they had to fight against Team Excellent Era right now, Team Happy wasn't confident in their chances. Ye Xiu was relying on the hope that the players on Team Happy would have a lot of time to improve. The current them and the future them would be completely different.

Ye Xiu had said these words to them, but facing an interview, he shut his mouth and didn't mention it. He made it sound like they were very confident in their chances against Team Excellent Era.

"Uh, could I ask about your unspecialized? From what I know, your unspecialized Lord Grim possesses a unique Silver weapon that can switch forms."

"Yes."

"This weapon seems to have been created especially for unspecialized. Could you talk about how you came up with the idea for it? I feel that you must have exerted a lot of effort designing this weapon, right?"

Everyone looked at Ye Xiu.

Especially Chen Guo. This question very likely brought out a lot of emotions for Ye Xiu. Ye Xiu said that that youth, who had passed away already, was the most gifted talent he had known. Chen Guo had followed Ye Xiu and Su Mucheng to sweep his tomb. She didn't doubt his words.

"I once had a friend..." Chen Guo heard Ye Xiu said.

Chapter 829: This is Enough

"I once had a friend..." Ye Xiu's tone was severe, a smoking cigarette between his fingers. Everyone went silent, thinking that this would be a very unique, heart touching story. Chang Xian hurriedly moved closer with his recording pen, afraid of missing even a single word.

"Who was good at Glory." Ye Xiu said.

"And then, he died." Ye Xiu sighed, flicking ash from his cigarette and looking back at Chang Xian.

Having done some interviews and being quite a social person, Chang Xian wasn't unfamiliar with this sort of look, but it's appearance now was odd. It said that they were done speaking, and "it's your turn to speak". Chang Xian doubted his understanding of the look and couldn't help but ask, "That's all?"

"That's all." Ye Xiu said.

Everyone exchanged glances. It sounded like a randomly made up joke! Was this guy messing with that poor reporter?

That was what everyone including Chang Xian thought, but what could he do about it? He couldn't point at the other party and say that it was bullshit. As a reporter, he had to interact with all sorts of people. He had to be able to tolerate them. Chang Xian had been on the edge of his seat with anticipation, and then he heard a story of "I once had a friend who was good at Glory and then he died," his emotions instantly changing to tearful.

"Ehem...." Chang Xian coughed lightly, self-consciously retracting his recording pen. The story made his brain short-circuit a little, unsure of how to continue.

Chang Xian pretended to sip his water, taking the chance to organize his thoughts. It wasn't until there was only a quarter left in his cup that he recovered fully.

"To play as an unspecialized character, you need a lot of experience in Glory, or so I understand. How long as big brother Ye been playing Glory for?" Chang Xian asked. "Ten years," Ye Xiu said.

"Ten years...." Chang Xian was startled by this. A Glory player with ten years of experience had to have started from when the game was first launched. Even in the pro circle, only Han Wenqing and a few other veterans had experience like that. Players who could play a game for ten years like that were few and far between.

"What's so impressive about that? I have ten years of experience, too!" Wei Chen cut in.

"Amazing!" Chang Xian continued to exclaim. Wei Chen being the ex-captain of Blue Rain was a great topic, but Chang Xian hadn't known anything about this beforehand, so he hadn't done any research. Ex-Blue Rain captain? Wei Chen? These names were unfamiliar to him. As a worker in media, this wasn't supposed to happen, but Chang Xian had only officially started working last year, so his research wasn't that broad or deep. So when he spoke to Wei Chen, Chang Xian was very careful, afraid that he would anger the other.

"Um....Senior Wei, I'm a newbie in this line of work, so I haven't read up on your background. Is it okay if you tell me about it?" Chang Xian hesitated, but eventually decided to be honest in his curiosity and ask.

"Hahaha, you want the tales of Glory of my youth? I could talk about that for days on end. You planning to stay the night?" Wei Chen said.

"No, no," Chang Xian sweatdropped, "Why don't you pick a few interesting parts to tell?"

"Interesting? Then I would have to mention some big names. Like Ye Qiu, you know him, of course?" Wei Chen said.

"Of course!" Chang Xian hastily nodded. He was especially happy if these stories could allow him to further understand the other Gods; that information was very valuable. Chang Xian was so focused on listening to Wei Chen, that he didn't notice everyone glancing at a certain someone when Ye Qiu was mentioned. "I'm not just talking behind his back, but Ye Qiu really isn't anything great!" Wei Chen said. "Ah...." Hearing this, Chang Xian's hands shook a little. Though pro players were enemies on the field, there were rarely any that would speak about another pro player like that. Chang Xian felt like he had struck gold.

"You know why he always refuses to appear in public eye?" Wei Chen asked. "I don't!" Chang Xian was excited! This was one of the great mysteries of Glory; would he be the one to solve it after all these years?

"The reason is.... That guy is very despicable, very shameless, very immoral. If he came under public eye, there's no telling if he'll survive the aftermath." Wei Chen said seriously.

"Um...." Chang Xian paused, "Why do you say that?"

"Because that's the kind of person he is." Wei Chen said.

"How do you know this?" Chang Xian asked

"Thinking back to that time...." Wei Chen looked to be in deep thought, his other hand motioning towards Ye Xiu, asking for a cigarette. How shameless! Asking for a cigarette from the very person whose name you were blemishing!

The representative of justice, Chen Guo, was annoyed, standing up, even with the pain in her leg from the collision, "Don't listen to his nonsense, Little Chang."

"N....nonsense?" Chang Xian stared in disbelief.

"This poor reporter came all the way over here, so be serious, don't make things up," Chen Guo said.

"Make.... Make things up?" Chang Xian cried. He had thought he had gotten valuable information, but it was actually just a made up story. In comparison to this wretched looking older dude, Chang Xian was one thousand percent more willing to believe Chen Guo's words.

"Eheh, I was just trying to make the interview contents more interesting! This way he could write a draft that would become the center of attention. We can let the readers try to figure out what's true and what's not," Wei Chen said.

Chang Xian turned away decisively. It was better to interview someone other than this old guy. He had to do some more research and formulate some more specific questions; this guy's bullshitting skills were just too damn good.

Turning his attention, Chang Xian's gaze fell onto Qiao Yifan and his eyes lit up. A player originally from Tiny Herb, wasn't that also a great topic? He hurriedly started to chat with Qiao Yifan.

Qiao Yifan was such an honest person! In an interview, he was quite uneasy, but only said what was true. Chang Xian ended up a little disappointed by what information he had obtained. Though Qiao Yifan was from Tiny Herb, his story wasn't that soul-stirring. He was a player who hadn't gotten his contract renewed by a champion team or received any offers from other teams. A person who had been eliminated by the pro circle. In the end, he had found his place in a grassroots team like Happy. This... could be described as persistence, but if he really wanted to write about something inspiring, Happy hadn't gotten any real accomplishments yet, so that wasn't really possible.

Though there wasn't anything soul-stirring about the contents, he could still write about his identity as a once-member of Team Tiny Herb. Chang Xian comforted himself with that before turning his attention to Tang Rou.

Her beauty made Chang Xian feel nervous as a budding young man, so he sipped his water and organized his emotions before speaking, "Before coming here, I had been wondering what kind of player the Battle Mage Soft Mist was. To be honest, I hadn't expected them to be someone so beautiful."

"You flatter me," Tang Rou smiled.

"So, how long have you been familiar with Glory for?" Chang Xian asked.

"If we're talking about just trying out the game, I had fought a few matches before. I only started seriously playing when the tenth server opened." Tang Rou said.

"You've only played seriously for half a year!!!" Chang Xian was shocked. What was up with Team Happy? If it wasn't a monster from the early days, then it was a newbie from the new server. Were they purposefully trying to walk the extremes?

He hadn't managed to digest his shock when Steamed Bun cut in like how Wei Chen had after "Ye Xiu's ten years", interrupting them and further shocking Chang Xian with a "I started in the tenth server, too!"

"You, too..." Chang Xian was a little dumbstruck.

He suddenly realized that he didn't need to get stories from these members of Team Happy in this interview. Just some background info was good enough to introduce them. How these people started playing Glory, got together, these topics were dull in comparison. Chang Xian knew that no tales of serendipitous meetings that would be more eye catching than their backgrounds.

This was just the beginning....

The phrase suddenly surfaced in his mind's eye. No matter what, Team Happy had only gotten to the second round of the Challenger's League so far. Though they had defeated the ex-pro Team Everlasting, no one could be certain of how far they would go. There was no need to look into it any further before they established their strength. Just the simple information he had gotten today was enough.

"May I take a group photo of you all?" Chang Xian was satisfied of his gains today after making that realization. He thought that Happy had potential, so he shouldn't try to dig up everything he could get. Some, he should leave for the future, allowing for them to establish a stronger, longer relationship. Chang Xian was learning new things as he went.

"A group photo.... I don't think that's necessary? Some of our members aren't even here today!" Ye Xiu said.

"Uhn, Cold Hands and Concealed Light, right?" What Chang Xian had looked into he had looked closely at.

"That's right!" Ye Xiu nodded.

"Then.... How about a photo with just the owner?" Chang Xian asked.

No one here was stupid, they all knew that a topic like "beautiful boss" was a good one, so Chang Xian probably had such plans. Ye Xiu wouldn't decide on his own for something like this, looking towards Chen Guo for her decision.

"Heheh, that's fine, take one if you want!" Chen Guo didn't mind. The title of beautiful boss was something she had in the Happy Internet Cafe too. Chen Guo didn't boast about it or refuse. After all, she really was a beauty!

Chapter 830: Temporarily Not Publishing

Chang Xian had only been in this line of work for a little over a year and hadn't had many chances to do exclusive interviews, but he had taken many photos over the past year, even when he had worked with Cao Guangcheng on an interview.

Chang Xian was rather skilled at photography. Chen Guo almost asked for a few copies of the photos he showed her, but she pushed down the urge; she couldn't act like she was completely naive, right?

After the photos had been taken, the interview came to a close. Overall, it hadn't taken very long. Chang Xian left after bidding them goodbye. Thinking back to it now, he knew he still lacked experience, which was why he had felt like he didn't know where to start. And he had done so much preparation, too! If it had been Cao Guangcheng instead, he would be able to do much better at interviewing even someone he had met by coincidence and hadn't prepared for. Difference! This was the difference in skill between them. To make a comparison to Glory, this was the difference between a rookie and a God.

Chang Xian lamented about this the whole way back.

"You're back?" Cao Guangcheng was sitting in the living room, boredly watching TV. Seeing Chang Xian come in, he first glanced at the clock on the wall.

How much time it took to get to Excellent Era was something Cao Guangcheng was very clear of. Happy was across the street from Excellent Era, so the distance was about the same. The time that Chang Xian had used was, if his experience didn't betray him, barely enough to familiarize himself with his targets.

"Yeah, I'm back," Chang Xian responded.

"Did you get to see Ye Qiu?" Cao Guangcheng asked with false nonchalance. He had originally believed that Chang Xian definitely wouldn't get to see Ye Qiu, but he started to doubt that after Chang Xian left. Times had changed! Ye Qiu was no longer the same Ye Qiu that was a part of Excellent Era. He had since left the pro scene. If he had changed his attitude and was now willing to be interviewed, wouldn't that mean Cao Guangcheng had missed a great opportunity?

But Cao Guangcheng was a veteran interviewer in the Glory circle; he wouldn't lose it for a big interview. So, even if he worried about it internally, he still sat in the room, peacefully waiting for Chang Xian to return.

"I didn't."

Chang Xian's answer was a huge relief to Cao Guangcheng. Though, if his experience as a veteran reporter was correct, there was no disappointment in Chang Xian's words. That meant that Chang Xian had obtained satisfying results from his interview.

"Oh, then what did you manage to get?" Cao Guangcheng didn't bother guessing and asked directly.

"Team Happy's current captain, the one who applied with Lord Grim, is named Ye Xiu. He's also a ten year veteran of Glory," Chang Xian started to introduce.

"Ye Xiu?" Cao Guangcheng was taken aback upon hearing this name.

"Yup, Ye Xiu. Xiu, not Qiu," Chang Xian said. "That can't be a coincidence, can it?" Cao Guangcheng had a sharp intuition. He immediately thought that Ye Qiu might have changed his name to apply for the Challenger League.

But, thinking over it again, Ye Qiu didn't seem to have any reason to need to change his identity. It wasn't as if he was doing some sort of top secret mission for the country. What did it matter if his identity was exposed? If it was, he would even be able to draw more attention. Cao Guangcheng had personally interviewed the Alliance's representatives, knowing that the year in which a player couldn't return after their retirement was only in regards to the Pro League. There were no similar rules for the Challenger League, since the Challenger League didn't exist when the rules had been made. Even after the Challenger League was created, nothing like this had ever happened, so it was completely ignored.

So if it really was Ye Qiu, there was no problem with directly participating in the Challenger League under his own name. In addition, if he really wanted to hide his identity, then why did he choose a name that made people think of Ye Qiu? And if he used a fake identity, how was he going to deal with the offline matches? He would definitely be exposed there!

Thinking of this, a fake name didn't seem reasonable at all.

"Ye Xiu, has he been the player behind Lord Grim this whole time? What is his relationship with Ye Qiu?" Cao Guangcheng asked.

"Ah..." Chang Xian was stunned upon hearing this.

Difference! This was the difference in experience between them! How come he hadn't thought to ask that before? This was a question that definitely should have been asked! Chang Xian became crestfallen upon realizing his mistake.

Cao Guangcheng could understand what he was thinking upon seeing his crestfallen look. He didn't say much; he just smiled and said, "Don't worry, take it slow!"

Speaking seriously, Cao Guangcheng was quite a good senior colleague to have. He often gave Chang Xian many useful tips, and although he had thought that this interview didn't have much value, he didn't stop Chang Xian from going. Even if this interview couldn't be published, going out and trying for himself was a good learning experience for Chang Xian and could give him some experience. Later, when he realized Chang Xian might have the chance to interview Ye Qiu, Cao Guangcheng didn't go and try to steal the opportunity from him.

"Ai, why didn't I think of such an important question?" Chang Xian slapped himself on the head.

"Don't worry about, there'll be many more opportunities in the future for you. Tell me what you managed to find out first!" Cao Guangcheng said with a smile.

A beautiful boss, the strikingly attractive female player Tang Rou, Cao Guangcheng dismissed these topics with a smile after hearing them. This was esports, not entertainment, so beauty was only a

peripheral advantage, not foundational. You had to have skills to earn achievements and survive in esports. Everything else was just on the side. For a team in the second round of the Challenger League like Happy, there was no reason to pay attention to how good the players looked.

"Is there anything else?" Cao Guangcheng asked. If that was it, there was no need to continue. "Tang Rou only started playing when the new server was released," Chang Xian said.

"Oh?" This was definitely something much more interesting to Cao Guangcheng. Soft Mist was a character that had caught his eye a while back. If she had only started playing upon the launch of the new server, then the ability she had now was rather impressive. Only a person who had skill like that to back them up was worth the attention.

"Also, Bao Rongxing, Steamed Bun Invasion's player, is also a player from the new server," Chang Xian said.

"Interesting, I didn't realize that Team Happy had such good talents!" Cao Guangcheng said.

"They don't only have newbies. Qiao Yifan, the player of the Ghostblade, One Inch Ash, used to be a member of Team Tiny Herb last season. He's a real pro player." Chang Xian said.

"Team Tiny Herb? Qiao Yifan?" Cao Guangcheng took a moment to process this. Though he was the team reporter for Excellent Era, he wasn't clueless about the other teams. In fact, he was much more familiar with them than normal players and spectators were. He did rely on this to put food on the table after all.

But this Qiao Yifan.... Cao Guangcheng thought back through what he knew and vaguely had an impression of him. Using the process of elimination, he realized it might be the kid that joined Tiny Herb with Gao Yingjie.

"Tiny Herb didn't renew his contract and he didn't receive any offers from other teams, so he joined Team Happy," Chang Xian said.

"So it's like that!" Cao Guangcheng nodded. Pro players like that weren't very rare, but it was rare for one from a champion team like Tiny Herb to have fallen to joining a grassroots team. Even if they had to joined a team in the Challenger League, they would usually find a place in a team like Everlasting.

"There's another person, called Wei Chen. He's apparently the ex-captain of Team Blue Rain and...."

"Wei Chen?"

Chang Xian was about to say he didn't know much about this person, but then Cao Guangcheng actually jumped out of his seat. He was an old reporter, so how could he not know who Wei Chen was? This was about a God from the first generation of Glory players. Starting with him, Team Blue Rain's current captain Yu Wenzhou was the third successor of Swoksaar. Why would an old God like him, who had left the Glory circle for so long, suddenly return to participate in the Challenger League?

Cao Guangcheng was pretty sure he had met Wei Chen before. It was just that it was too long ago, so he only had a vague idea of what Wei Chen was like. At that time, Esports Home wasn't comparable to other sports media like the way it was today! It was Glory that pushed the development of eSports to higher heights, allowing Esports Home to grow into the corporate giant that it was today.

The name Wei Chen really brought back memories!

"This Team Happy is very interesting," Cao Guangcheng nodded.

"Yeah, so I thought we could pay more attention to them in the future," Chang Xian said.

"Yeah, you should follow them!" Cao Guangcheng said.

"Then, I'll go and organize the content for this," Chang Xian said.

"There's no need to rush it. Just take it slow," Cao Guangcheng said.

"Oh yeah!" Chang Xian slapped his own forehead, "It's only Saturday. I have over a day to do this!" Esports Home's weekly papers came out every Monday and Friday. Since the Glory match days were usually held every Saturday, the reporters were used to organizing their information into drafts on Sunday, and Chang Xian had gone to interview a team from the Challenger League, which had its matches on Friday, leaving him with two days time to finish his article.

"You have plenty of time, don't worry. The paper on Monday wouldn't possibly publish your interview," Cao Guangcheng said.

"Why?" Chang Xian was startled.

"Because the match isn't over," Cao Guangcheng said.

"Ah?"

"Do you think, with a hundred percent certainty, that Team Everlasting can't turn the tides in the second round?" Cao Guangcheng asked.

"Well...."

"Only by completely claiming victory can Happy earn a place in the article for the Challenger League. For this issue, one sentence about Team Happy's victory over Everlasting is the most you'll be able to get," Cao Guangcheng said with certainty.

"In the second round of the Challenger League, Team Everlasting took a huge blow. Facing off against the recently popular Team Happy, they lost 8.5 to 1.5 on their home field. Their future in the Challenger League has become clouded. Team Everlasting began a closed training session after the match, planning on wiping away this shame in the second round."

Chen Guo flipped through the Monday issue of Esports Home, but didn't find any other mention of Team Happy, and this article even had Everlasting as the main character. Chen Guo was confused.

"Where's our interview?" Chen Guo began to suspect that her paper was missing pages.

"If we defeat Everlasting in this round, then it'll appear," Ye Xiu understood the mechanics behind this.