

Avatar 861

Chapter 861: Clear Calculation

Blood splattered out from Brother Wolf. Ye Xiu had already experienced this attack before. Even though it couldn't be said that he had completely grasped the boss's attack patterns, he had figured out the most crucial points. As for a few other issues, their team was good enough to deal with them.

The ones who had trouble, such as Chen Guo and Luo Ji, happened to be long-ranged classes who could attack from afar. As long as the situation was under control, as long as the two of them didn't cause too much trouble, they wouldn't encounter any problems.

Next, they needed to calculate whether their current team could deal enough damage to finish the boss or not.

According to general knowledge, during this period of time, the DPS would certainly be lacking. The team members needed to slowly accumulate new pieces of equipment and improve the strength of their characters before they could reduce the pressure. Right now, their team faced a five level suppression. In terms of DPS, it wasn't possible for them not to feel the pressure.

For normal players, attempting to clear a Level 75 ten player dungeon at Level 70 was extremely difficult. Team Happy didn't consist of normal players though. In the first place, the skill level of their team members far surpassed that of normal players. No matter the game, DPS depended on equipment and player's skill. Glory was a game that paid particular attention to skill. The importance of a player's skill didn't need to be said. Under a skilled player's hands, the damage output naturally couldn't compare to a normal player's.

Another point was that Team Happy's class composition could be considered extremely arrogant.

Take Blue Brook Guild's dungeon team for example. Their team consisted of two main tanks, three healers, and only five DPS classes. Pioneering required caution, so Blue Brook Guild had brought three healers, but even when the dungeon became figured out, teams rarely brought a solo healer for a ten player dungeon, unless in some extremely rare scenarios where the boss could be handled with just one healer. A vast majority of the time, two or more healers were required.

But Happy? The main tank was Ye Xiu's Lord Grim, who relied on damage output to keep the aggro on himself. He was a tank that wasn't actually a tank. In addition, the only healer was An Wenyi's Little Cold Hands. To succeed with this recklessness, they had to rely on superior skill. By having the team members defend against the boss's attacks using their own abilities, the pressure on the healer would lessen significantly. Normal players wouldn't be able to do this. When they dodged around, let alone if it was even effective, they might crash into each other and mess up their positioning.

But for Happy? Their melee classes left each other plenty of room to attack and dodge. None of them held each other back. The tacit understanding between them gained from practice could be seen. Everyone underwent professional level practice every day. This practice wasn't just individual technical practice, but also team coordination practice.

The only outlier was Mo Fan. This guy still didn't consider himself a part of Team Happy. Ye Xiu and the others usually didn't call for him during their team practices, so at this moment, Mo Fan appeared to be off-beat. Everyone else acted as a whole, but he seemed to be an outsider. The switches between attack and defense were completely done by him. His pacing was his own. It seemed quite dissonant. Fortunately, his skill level was solid. Even though he wasn't in tune with the others, he wouldn't go so far as to cause trouble for them.

Ye Xiu had considered these problems earlier. When he formed the team to the dungeon, he wasn't just here to sightsee. However, there was no information on the boss, so he needed to make an evaluation when the moment came.

After observing their efforts for a while, he felt like there was hope.

"Our DPS is a bit lacking. Everyone pay attention to your pacing and timing." Ye Xiu said.

At this point, no one here was a noob, so these instructions were clear enough. In the past, Ye Xiu needed to give Tang Rou or Steamed Bun a more detailed explanation by what he meant by pacing or timing. Now, he just needed to communicate the general concept and everyone would know intuitively. In particular, Ye Xiu couldn't help but sigh emotionally at the eye-catching performance of Tang Rou and Steamed Bun.

Under Ye Xiu's guidance and ability to hold aggro, the ensuing battle went without mishap. Everyone understood that the situation had been stabilized. Next, they would need to carefully be on guard for when the boss's health dropped into the red. After red health, bosses would always undergo a transformation. It was a feature in Glory. The transformation didn't necessarily make the battle more intense. There were bosses that tried to run away when reaching red blood. For these types of bosses, if you ran farther away in preparation for the boss to go berserk, you would be the one to suffer. The other side's big move was to run away. If you hid, wouldn't it be the same as doing all that work for nothing?

However, it was currently their first time running this dungeon. Keeping their life was the much more important. Even if they had to let Brother Wolf escape, it would still count as passing this checkpoint, allowing them to continue advancing through the dungeon.

As a result, when Brother Wolf's health was almost at 10%, Ye Xiu decisively ordered for all of the melee classes to temporarily withdraw.

"Pay attention to his health. Have a good understanding of your damage output!" After seeing Soft Mist and the other melee classes retreat, Ye Xiu reminded the long-ranged classes, who were still attacking.

"As long as your eyes don't go blurry, we'll be fine." Wei Chen said.

"Concealed Light, have your summons pull back for now too." Ye Xiu said.

Luo Ji carried out the order and immediately retracted his four melee summons.

"Get ready to place an Ice Boundary. When the boss reaches red blood, cast it." Ye Xiu instructed.

"Understood." Qiao Yifan affirmed.

"Chasing Haze, stop attacking for now." Ye Xiu calculated Brother Wolf's health. His Lord Grim needed to maintain his grasp over Brother Wolf's aggro, so he obviously couldn't retreat like Soft Mist and the others. As a result, he needed to escape as soon as Brother Wolf's health fell to 10%. Thus, once Brother Wolf's health reached a certain point, they needed to calculate the damage so he could grasp the escape timing.

"Old Wei, prepare a Hexagram Prison.

"Dawn Rifle, are your high-level skills off cooldown? Use Satellite Beam as the final hit." Ye Xiu continued to arrange.

"Okay." Wu Chen's grasp of the rhythm had always been very good. He checked his skill bar. Satellite Beam was already up.

"Get ready. Everyone run far away and scatter. Don't group together. Get ready to use your life-saving skills at any moment. Little Hands, take care of yourself before healing anyone else." Ye Xiu gave his final words of instruction. Brother Wolf's health had already reached a crucial point.

"Everyone stop attacking."

The battlefield instantly became empty. Only Brother Wolf was waving his spear, attacking Lord Grim. This guy had three weapons on him. Everyone initially thought that he was one of those shameless bosses with more than three classes. They had been prepared to guard against a sudden sword strike or a sudden gunshot.

But none of that ever happened. That sword and gun just seemed to be ornaments on the boss.

"Dawn Rifle!" After everyone stopped, Ye Xiu shouted.

"Understood." Wu Chen was prepared, but because he had to coordinate with Lord Grim's escape, he needed to wait for Ye Xiu's order. As soon as he heard the order, he immediately released the attack. In the sky, a mirror seemed to flash with light. The light grew bigger and bigger until a Satellite Beam descended on the ground precisely on Brother Wolf.

Ice Boundary!

Hexagram Prison!

One Inch Ash's ice Boundary and Windward Formation's control curse instantly appeared.

Ice rose from the ground. Tiny pieces of shattered ice rushed towards Brother Wolf. Because of the level suppression, the damage and the effects were greatly reduced. In addition, boss's had outstanding resistance, so many skills became ineffective. However, there was still a little bit of leeway. If not, wouldn't bosses be impossible to kill?

Vanguard Brother Wolf excelled at close combat. He had powerful attacks and outstanding defense, but his magic resistance was rather weak. Ice magic and control curses were the most effective.

These two skills chained one after the other to give Lord Grim more time to escape.

Ye Xiu wouldn't be careless. The instant he yelled "Dawn Rifle!" Lord Grim jumped away using the shockwave from an Anti-Tank Missile to fly farther away from Brother Wolf. Then, he turned around and used Shadow Clone Technique. It still wasn't enough, so he rolled several times, while adjusting his camera so he could see Brother Wolf.

What was that sound?

Ye Xiu wondered. When he ran, the instant that Satellite Beam descended, he seemed to have heard a clear sound. Was it from Brother Wolf's transformation? When he looked back, Brother Wolf was still Brother Wolf, but the spear in his hands had broken. The tip of the spear was pierced into the ground. That clear sound was probably when the spear snapped or when the tip fell. Those were the only two possibilities.

"This is...." Ye Xiu was baffled by this weird move. Brother Wolf finally didn't disappoint. He grabbed the weapons that everyone had been regarding as ornaments.

With a roar, Brother Wolf tore through the Hexagram Prison and trampled over the ice on the ground. He moved extremely quickly. His sword was pointed in Dawn Rifle's direction.

When Ye Xiu saw this scene, he had pretty much figured out Brother Wolf's Enraged mode.

Switching weapons was equivalent to switching classes. After falling to red blood, Brother Wolf's attack patterns would be completely different.

Moving quickly meant that his stats had been buffed. This type of Enraged mode was very common among bosses, especially small bosses, which liked to have these simple Enrages.

He was pointing at Wu Chen's Dawn Rifle because his aggro had been reset. The reset was there to give trouble to players, testing their ability to react to sudden changes.

These three changes weren't anything new. Everyone saw these changes and let out a sigh of relief. How could an aggro reset be a problem for a team at their level? Wu Chen calmly jumped backwards and fired. As he attacked, he had Dawn Rifle head towards Lord Grim, so he could bring the boss back under Lord Grim's control.

Who would have thought that, at this moment, a sword would flash and an extremely quick sword slash would fly out.

Dawn Rifle's artillery shell exploded in midair. Blood splattered wildly from all over his body. Brother Wolf was behind him.

Chapter 862: First Kill!

Downwind Sword Slash!

It was only after Brother Wolf executed this attack did everyone regain their composure. They recognized this skill. It was the Blade Master's Downwind Sword Slash. However, it wasn't possible for it to be this fast in the hands of a player.

Dawn Rifle had used Aerial Fire and his attention had been focused on Brother Wolf in front of him. However, when this attack came, Dawn Rifle wasn't able to react at all because the attack was just too swift. The sword light rose and fell, leaving only a straight line. As soon as the artillery shell was chopped down, he was also cut.

He was injured, but he didn't die. An Wenyi immediately had his Little Cold Hands cast a heal. He reacted quickly, but his hands couldn't keep up. In the end, Ye Xiu's Lord Grim was the first to heal Dawn Rifle.

And at the same time, Lord Grim immediately rushed forward. Brother Wolf wasn't finished with just one attack. He turned again to give Dawn Rifle another cut. Lord Grim didn't have an aggro skill like Provoke, which made things a lot more difficult at dire moments. He could only use control skills to bring Brother Wolf away, so Dawn Rifle could escape.

Unexpectedly, before Lord Grim rushed forward, someone else was even faster.

Tang Rou!

With a Dragon Breaks the Ranks, Soft Mist charged at Brother Wolf like lightning. Although her speed couldn't compare to Brother Wolf's Downwind Sword Slash, it was very prompt. When Brother Wolf's sword fell, Soft Mist had already arrived. The fairly intelligent boss made a calculation. He turned around and blocked Soft Mist's spear with his sword.

Dragon Breaks the Ranks had an extremely high priority, but a boss was still a boss. That simple slash was able to block Soft Mist's spear.

Grinding sounds could be heard from the collision between the sword and spear. The spear may have been blocked, but the momentum from Dragon Breaks the Ranks hadn't stopped. Brother Wolf's feet didn't move, but he was still pushed back by the assault. His two feet left two deep grooves in the ground.

Clouds of dust billowed. Dragon Breaks the Ranks was finally stopped. Both Soft Mist and Brother Wolf stood still. Suddenly, a person flew out from the clouds of dust directly towards Brother Wolf's neck with a glint of light.

Underground Tunneling Technique!

This person was Deception, of course. However, NPCs could not feel fear or surprise. A normal player would have certainly had trouble defending against such a sudden attack, but for a boss, it was no different from an attack from his feet. Brother Wolf retracted his sword and blocked Deception's ninja blade. Then, he pushed outwards and sent Deception flying backwards.

Mo Fan refused to give up. Deception used a Shadow Clone Technique in the air. His clones continued to fly outwards, while his real body moved to Brother Wolf's side.

The effects of Shadow Clone Technique towards NPCs were different. Players could deduce the real one depending on the circumstances, but NPCs were different. NPCs that could distinguish between the clones were extremely special. Brother Wolf clearly didn't have this capability. He was tricked by the Shadow Clone Technique and ignored the real one behind him, which resulted in him eating Deception's Bird Fall.

But for a boss, even if he was already at red blood, eating one or two skills didn't matter too much. After taking damage, Brother Wolf turned around and slashed. Mo Fan reacted quickly. As soon as he saw that the situation wasn't looking good, he immediately withdrew. Deception didn't continue attacking and retreated instead.

During this time, Ye Xiu's Lord Grim had arrived. The Myriad Manifestations Umbrella transformed into a spear and attacked three times followed by a Circle Swing, throwing Brother Wolf to the ground.

Wu Chen's Dawn Rifle was finally out of the danger zone. He still felt some lingering fear after recalling what had just happened. That attack had been too fast. Even if he had been on guard against that attack, Wu Chen didn't have the confidence that he would have been able to dodge it.

Now, who knew if Brother Wolf would use that skill again. Ye Xiu hastily asked Wu Chen how much damage he had taken from that attack and then rearranged their formation. Those with the possibility of being instantly killed were placed outside of this attack's range. As for those inside range, the Cleric would need to keep their health up.

As expected, after fighting for a bit, Brother Wolf once again used the same move. His sword light flashed in a straight line and blood blossomed from Steamed Bun Invasion.

This time, Steamed Bun Invasion took the attack. Steamed Bun also wasn't able to dodge it, and from the looks of it, the target for this skill was random. It wasn't according to who held the aggro.

But now that the team was prepared for it, they didn't panic. Little Cold Hands cast an Emergency Heal onto Steamed Bun Invasion. The others rushed forward to protect him, blocking Brother Wolf's attack.

They had now experienced that Vanguard Brother Wolf had to offer. Apart from a bit of trouble from this extraordinary Downwind Sword Slash, this boss battle progressed without any suspense. 10% health was quickly reduced almost to zero.

"He's almost dead. Everyone pay attention to surviving. Heal everyone to full health. Little Hands, focus." Ye Xiu said solemnly. There were bosses which liked to explode in their final moments. If they were going to die, they would bring others with them. These bosses were especially disgusting, particularly in a dungeon because it directly affected a player's progress.

"Understood." An Wenyi replied. He carefully healed everyone's health back to full and prepared to use Emergency Heal at any moment.

"Okay, everyone retreat!" Just like when the boss was about to reach red blood, everyone withdrew ahead of time, creating a buffer for when the boss fell. Ye Xiu's Lord Grim faced it on his own, while Wu Chen's Dawn Rifle prepared to make the last hit.

"Get ready!" Ye Xiu yelled.

Wu Chen wound up his high-level skill.

"Release!"

As soon as the order came, a final Satellite Beam descended. Lord Grim hastily ran back. Everything was the same as before. Brother Wolf's health fell rapidly from this Satellite Beam, but when his health fell to 1 hitpoint, it stopped.

It was unlikely for Satellite Beam to be a tad bit off. Everyone instantly understood the implications.

"Everyone, find cover! He's about to make a move!" Ye Xiu shouted.

Everyone found a rock or a tree to hide behind. They had been on guard, so they were naturally prepared. Everyone instantly found cover. It only seemed dangerous for Lord Grim, who was still the closest among them. However, Ye Xiu was the most experienced and skilled among them.

On the verge of collapse, Brother Wolf dropped his sword to the ground and pulled out the gun on his waist.

Sure enough, everything on Brother Wolf had their uses. Was he going to use this gun for his final attack? What would the attack be like? Because they had no information on it, Ye Xiu chose to use this kind of defensive strategy. If not, he would need to figure out how to shrug off the boss's final move.

Everyone watched Brother Wolf attentively. He didn't seem to have intentions of chasing after anyone, letting them relax a bit. Then, they saw Brother Wolf struggle to raise the gun high into the air with his right hand and with a bang, a bright signal flare shot into the sky. The signal flare exploded into fireworks and Brother Wolf fell.

Before anyone could comment on it, a system announcement came: Congratulations to Guild Happy for the First Kill on Sealed Mountain Thief Hideout's Vanguard Brother Wolf.

The system announcement wasn't given to just the people in Team Happy. From the astonished expressions that popped up all over the global chat, they could tell that this announcement had been made in the global chat.

For a Level 75 dungeon, announcements wouldn't only be made for just the First Clear. A system announcement would also be made for every boss, including minibosses. According to Glory's rules, extra rewards would be given out for this achievement.

But players didn't even have time to be envious of what these rewards were. It was only 1:21 AM. Only an hour had passed since the update. Because there were so many players, people were having trouble receiving quests and even hitting a new monster yet someone had actually complete a First Kill?

This... had to be the fastest First Kill in Glory history right? In the past, the entire dungeon needed to be cleared before a system announcement would be made, while this time it was just for killing a boss. Even so, no player thought that this had ever happened before.

Even for the elite club guild teams, they had entered the dungeon, but all of them carried with them a mentality of feeling out the dungeon and cherishing the cooldown for each run. No one actually thought that anyone could get through the dungeon or even kill a boss.

But now, such a bloody thing had happened in front of their eyes. A team had actually killed the first boss in one of the ten player dungeons already. An achievement that they had never imagined had been completed in front of them.

All of the Club guilds felt their faces drain of color. The First Clears and dungeon records had always been theirs. Normal players would never even think about touching them, but now, they had yet to even get a good grasp of the dungeon, when a First Kill had been achieved.

And it just so happened that Guild Happy had sent out a recruiting notice, which matched the timing of this system announcement, attracting many eyes.

The club guilds were so angry that their noses were askew.

If it was another team, then it was fine, but who didn't know about Happy's situation? Happy had Ye Qiu and was currently participating in the Challenger League, daring to face against Excellent Era. They had to be at a pro level, no? Pro-level players running to dungeon? Wasn't that just bullying them? Their pro players were disciplined and didn't stay online overnight to play the game! If not, did you think that if these dungeons could be beat by your team, then these dungeons would trouble top teams like Blue Rain, Tiny Herb, Tyranny?

The club guilds were furious! They could do it too, but they had no way of doing so. And these guys did it without knowing their places and were actually using it to advertise themselves! It was just too improper!

The club guilds cursed silently, but they had no way of stopping players from discussing the matter fervently. The club guilds saw it as an improper First Kill, but the players regarded it as the most stunning First Kill in all of Glory history. The club guilds wanted to write all sorts of slander in order to vent their anger.

God, can you just deal with the Challenger League! Can you not keep running to the game and messing up the balance of things?

Chapter 863: DPS Chart

The club guild leaders assembled once more, but this time, they could only vent their frustrations. They had no way of solving the problem. Happy's team was in the dungeon. Apart from the system itself, who could stop them from conquering this dungeon? Within the first hour, the first boss had been killed. What about two hours later? Three? Four... if this continued on unhindered, tonight would become Happy's day of celebration. It was the busiest night of the year. Who knew how many people would remember Happy's name?

Jealousy and envy!

The guild leaders gnashed their teeth. According to the recent reports, as soon as the First Kill record announcement and the recruit notice came out, Guild Happy, as well as their subordinates, Guild Everlasting, quickly reached the maximum guild member application limit.

To some players, the attractiveness of the First Kill could be considered as even more tempting than a beautiful performance by a team.

When a team performed well, players would at most be delighted in spirit, but when a guild claimed a First Kill, apart from pride, it also proved their guild's superior strength. Being inside this kind of guild might provide opportunities for them to surpass other players. Even if they couldn't squeeze into that level of a team, if that superior team obtained equipment from a dungeon and didn't need it, it would be placed in the guild storage.

It would take time for normal players to have the opportunity to challenge ten player dungeons. They needed to level and find level 75 equipment from five player dungeons. But with these conditions, they could directly get ten player dungeon equipment from the guild storage. The temptation was enormous for numerous players.

The main leaders of Happy were still in the dungeon. The recruit notice had been announced, but the work needed for accepting applicants wouldn't immediately begin. A system announcement after killing just the first boss also surprised them at first. Afterwards, they remembered to check the boss's corpse for the loot that he dropped.

Compared to a five player dungeon, the equipment quality in raids would always be better. Even for Purple and Blue equipment, the stats of raid equipment were more outstanding. In addition, five player dungeons had a higher Blue equipment drop rate, while raids had a much higher Purple equipment drop rate. As the number of participating players increased, if the equipment drop rate was too low, many wouldn't get anything. As a result, the overall equipment drop rate in raids was far higher than in five player dungeons.

In ten player dungeons, it was normal for a boss to drop two pieces of equipment. In 20 player dungeons, every boss was guaranteed to drop at least three pieces of equipment. It was even possible to get four with enough luck. In 50 player dungeons, every boss could drop between six and eight pieces of equipment. In 100 player dungeons, if every boss didn't drop twelve to sixteen pieces of equipment, how could a 100 player dungeons be worth the effort?

Sealed Mountain Thief Hideout was a ten player dungeon. The probability of a boss dropping two pieces of equipment was quite high.

After reflecting on the First Kill announcement, everyone realizing that they could check the loot that dropped, which was undoubtedly very fun to do. Chen Guo was already asking impatiently "Who's going who's going?" By her tone of voice, she was clearly waiting for someone to say "You can go." She prepared to immediately go forward and check.

But Ye Xiu wasn't in a hurry. He suddenly posted a chart in the team chat.

Everyone took a look. It was the DPS chart for this section. In the past, these statistics could only be checked after clearing the dungeon. However, it seemed like Level 75 dungeons had made some changes to the base of the game itself. Not only was there a First Kill record for just the first boss, it seemed like the DPS chart could be checked at any time.

"The DPS chart can be checked in between stages!" Ye Xiu immediately brought up the topic. It couldn't be checked at any time, but in stages after a boss was killed.

"Everyone, take a look." Ye Xiu said, "Usually, I would tell everyone to learn from whoever's first, but today, I don't need to say anything further."

In first place, it was obviously Ye Xiu's Lord Grim. He relied on DPS to establish aggro, so how could his DPS not be the highest? Lord Grim's current Level 55 Myriad Manifestations Umbrella was equivalent to a Level 60 Orange weapon. The stats were ten levels lower than everyone else's weapon. Unspecialized didn't have any single hit high-damage skills. Under this condition, Lord Grim still being number one was simply a display of his skill.

After Ye Xiu, number two was Wu Chen's Dawn Rifle and then Wei Chen's Windward Formation.

In terms of equipment, Wei Chen's Windward Formation was number one. He had a Level 70 Silver weapon and three pieces of Silver equipment from Everlasting. In the Challenger League, he could be considered a cockroach. However, Warlocks weren't high DPS classes to begin with, so in the DPS charts, he couldn't compare to a pure DPS class like Dawn Rifle's Launcher.

Soft Mist and Steamed Bun Invasion followed next.

There was a fair gap in the DPS of these two compared to the three in front. Because of the team composition, melee classes needed to dodge attacks in order to reduce the pressure on the healer, so they naturally couldn't focus purely on dealing damage like the long-ranged classes. Ye Xiu could dodge while outputting damage, but Tang Rou and Steamed Bun didn't have the skill.

At sixth place was Qiao Yifan's One Inch Ash. He wasn't far behind Soft Mist and Steamed Bun. For a supportive Phantom Demon, that was quite impressive.

These three were in the second group of the DPS chart. The players in the third group appeared as if they were leechers. Then again, Concealed Light and Chasing Haze were sandbagging in order to coordinate with the team. Ye Xiu had instructed Luo Ji to only use four summons to deal damage. Under this command, no matter how skilled the player might be, his damage would definitely be limited. As for Chasing Haze, Chen Guo was scared of messing up the team's rhythm, so she often took the initiative to sandbag, so her performance was naturally subpar.

The most surprising was Mo Fan's Deception. This guy's skill was solid. Deception's equipment wasn't bad either, but he was actually in the third group along with the sandbaggers Concealed Light and Chasing Haze. Everyone stuck their heads out and looked at him. They wanted to see what kind of expression this usually cold and indifferent guy had.

Especially after Ye Xiu said in a serious tone: "Ahem. For those with a low DPS and without any particular reason, try harder!"

These words were obviously directed at Mo Fan because Luo Ji and Chen Guo had "particular reasons", but for Mo Fan's Deception, with his skill and eagerness, it was quite surprising to see such depressing damage output.

Everyone looked at Mo Fan. Sure enough, Mo Fan's expression was especially gloomy, but he still didn't say anything. His two eyes were filled with confusion though. He wasn't sure why his DPS was so low.

Mo Fan was the only person sitting alone. No one could see what he was doing. After Ye Xiu said these words, he didn't expand on it and asked: "Who wants to check the loot?"

"Me me!" Chen Guo eagerly jumped up. Chasing Haze ran over. She quietly prayed to herself, even though she didn't really know what equipment this dungeon dropped.

"Two pieces!" Chasing Haze crouched and searched the body. Chen Guo could already see what the equipment was and first reported the number.

"One purple, one blue!" Then, she reported their quality.

Even though it was a raid, it still wouldn't be easy to get Orange equipment to drop.

"What are they?" Everyone was already getting impatient and started asking questions one after the other.

"Uh, not good..." Chen Guo could see what had been dropped and said gloomily. Then, she posted the stats of the two pieces of equipment in chat for everyone to see.

The pieces of equipment were obviously Level 75. Getting a Purple one was already quite lucky. Chen Guo said not good because none of these pieces of equipment suited any of the classes on their team.

"It's no big deal. We can just throw it in the guild storage!" Ye Xiu didn't care. Their team all had a set of Orange equipment. Level 75 was a higher level, but the color mattered. Level 75 Purple equipment was at the same level as Level 70 Orange equipment. So for Level 75 equipment, they needed Orange ones for them to be upgrades. For Purple equipment, it would depend on the stats. As for Blue equipment, there was no need to look at it at all! To normal players, Blue equipment just passed the minimum standard. For competitive teams, it was definitely too lacking.

"Okay, let's continue! Everyone, work hard at dealing more damage!" Ye Xiu announced loudly. Everyone heard his words. Wasn't he still pointing at Mo Fan? After all, apart from him, everyone else had performed quite well. Chen Guo and Luo Ji had certain restrictions, yet they were still on the same level as Mo Fan's Deception.

As a result, everyone couldn't help but glance at Mo Fan again. This quiet guy looked very determined now as if he were holding back a burst of energy.

The ten players advanced deeper towards Sealed Mountain Thief Hideout. Before the second checkpoint, more Sealed Mountain Thieves that hadn't been seen before appeared, but with the team's skill level, they quickly figured it out and passed through it. The more they got used to these monsters, the easier it became. Only An Wenyi was nervous. He had never healed an MT like Lord Grim before! This guy kept dodging around. He did evade large amounts of damage, but the problem was that even so, An Wenyi had to watch him attentively. What if he suddenly made a mistake?

The path to the second checkpoint progressed faster than the path to the first checkpoint. Around thirty minutes later, the group reached the second boss.

Defense Commander Sand Leopard.

This boss was once again unfamiliar, so the team employed the same strategy as before. Ye Xiu's Lord Grim went forward to probe it out. After everyone observed the boss's patterns, they would immediately swarm it.

Mo Fan's Deception was positioned towards the front of the pack. Compared to before, he was a lot more active. He clearly wanted to use the second checkpoint to prove his worth. In the path towards here, he had been especially diligent, but everyone knew that in dungeons, the hardest part was the boss. The stats for DPS mainly came from the boss. The damage dealt to small monsters wasn't much. It wasn't possible to deal enough damage to small monsters to become part of the team's main force.

Even though Mo Fan operated alone, it wasn't like he had never dungeoned before. There was no way he didn't understand this reasoning.

Chapter 864: Defense Commander Sand Leopard

The second boss, Defense Commander Sand Leopard, didn't have three different weapons hanging on him to make players worried like Brother Wolf. Sand Leopard held a sword in one hand and a shield in the other, a typical set of equipment for a Knight.

This class was one of the most annoying NPCs for players to deal with.

For one, Knights were very tanky, and their Spirit wasn't shabby either, giving them a well-rounded defense. For another, a Knight's aggro pulling skills, like Provoke and Roar, was an immense disturbance on the field. Uncontrolled attacks and movements while working in a team could easily cause the situation to slip from their grasp. In addition, bosses often had more than one class, and the Healer classes Cleric and Paladin were both under the same class type as Knights. If the boss had healing skills, that would be even more devastating for players.

It was especially so under the current circumstances. It was already very difficult since it was a new dungeon and they were coming in with very little knowledge and a large gap in levels. This kind of boss put a lot more pressure on their DPS.

After having Lord Grim go up to try the boss out, it was evident that this Sand Leopard was definitely a Knight class. Lord Grim's attacks seemed to do nothing, especially when that shield was used to defend.

"We'll have to take this one slow." Though it might be hard to deal with, with Ye Xiu's skill, he easily found a solution. "Compared to the last one, we'll have to carefully note the quality and efficiency of our DPS; we can't let our guard down for a second."

"One Inch Ash has a large responsibility this time. Stat boosts should be precise to get the maximum effect; try to not waste even a moment." Ye Xiu began to order.

"Understood," Qiao Yifan agreed.

"Soft Mist and Steamed Bun Invasion should take care to cooperate with the support from the Ghost Boundaries."

"Chasing Haze has to be more open with her attacks. As for Concealed Light, summon some creatures with powerful offensive capabilities, but considering efficiency and mana consumption, limit your summons to five or less. Otherwise, it might cause unnecessary waste."

"Don't worry, we're going slow. Efficiency is key. We must be efficient," Ye Xiu emphasized in the end.

"What if he has healing skills? We would need rapid DPS to suppress that. If the pace is too slow, we might not be able to hold on," Wei Chen asked.

"Let's see if we can interrupt them first! If we can't, then we'll cross that bridge when we get there." Ye Xiu had obviously not missed that point, but only just estimated a possibility. If there was a possibility, then they should prioritize interrupting his heals.

"You'll do the interrupting?" Wei Chen asked.

"I'll do it." Ye Xiu accepted the responsibility.

Soon enough, the battle officially began. When Ye Xiu was testing the boss out with Lord Grim, Sand Leopard had only revealed his immense defensive capabilities. As for aggro and healing skills, they never appeared so far, probably because it was just a one on one and there was no reason to use them. Now that everyone had joined in, the situation might change.

Aggro skills could only be dealt with via a character's spirit or a counter-skill. This sort of skill wasn't something that Team Happy's current line-up possessed, so there wasn't much to say. If he really used an aggro skill, then they'd deal with it once they figured out who the victim was.

In the end, the situation was better than Ye Xiu had dared imagine. Aggro skills never appeared, and heals did, though they could be interrupted. With Ye Xiu's skill, Sand Leopard's heals might as well have been nonexistent. The biggest problem Ye Xiu ran into was steadying the aggro through DPS while attacking from the front, where Sand Leopard held his shield.

This sort of DPS method of pulling aggro would put great pressure on him if the boss OTed. Since they didn't have any aggro skills, they would have to create another OT if he wanted to force the aggro back onto himself. However, OT situations had requirements. It wasn't as if an OT would follow immediately once one character had pulled more aggro than another. If that actually happened then all they had to do was use similar DPS to control the aggro and then just see-saw. If two ranged characters attacked one after another with this sort of pace, then they would be able to get the boss to just run around aimlessly between them.

So under normal circumstances, to cause an OT, one needed to pull a certain percent more aggro than the current target. If you wanted to use an OT to negate an OT, you would need quite a while to accomplish it, even if the OT target stopped attacking. Ye Xiu's caution was because he didn't want something like that to occur, otherwise who knows what would happen during the chaos.

Everyone took their own role seriously, attacking according to the instructions Ye Xiu had given. Ye Xiu controlled the situation very well, too, holding the boss's aggro steady. Seeing the boss' health fall and everyone's mana consumption, Ye Xiu was a little apprehensive. It seemed that it might be a bit of a stretch.

"Keep an eye on your pace of mana potion usage," Ye Xiu said. Unlike the Arena, the best thing about dungeons was that item usage was only limited by their cooldowns. With a good rhythm, potions could give an immense boost to their endurance in battle. Knowing that they were going into an all new dungeon levels above them, Ye Xiu and co had naturally prepared well for it, stocking up on potions for everyone. Now, chugging them down without hesitation wasn't an option; they had to watch the efficiency of their potion usage as well.

Time slipped by and Sand Leopard's health was also slipping away. This sort of endurance match was a test of the players' stability and focus. After everyone had focused calmly and efficiently dealt damage for almost forty minutes, Sand Leopard's health finally approached ten percent.

"As always, temporarily scatter, everyone. Dawn Rifle is going to be responsible for the last hit again." Facing an equally unknown Enraged State, they would naturally have to use the same tactics.

Seeing Sand Leopard's health about to hit red, everyone retreated. As Wu Chen's Dawn Rifle landed the last hit, Ye Xiu's Lord Grim had to swiftly retreat as well.

It was the Satellite Beam just as it was before. Sand Leopard raised his shield to block, but this defensive move had already been considered. Even with the shield reducing its damage, the Satellite Beam would still deplete Sand Leopard's health to under ten percent.

Crack!

The sound of something shattering rang out.

The Satellite Beam had somehow managed to shatter the shield after hitting it. Everyone watched on, dumbstruck, recalling how the first Boss' spear had also shattered upon reaching red blood. Was this dungeon using signals like this to tell the players that the boss was about to enter an enraged state?

What would Sand Leopard's Enraged State be like?

Everyone's eyes widened and saw Sand Leopard roaring. His now empty left hand gripped the hilt of his sword with his right hand. Red light flashed in his eyes as his body also glowed with red light; even his hair seemed to be lit up.

"Berserker?" Wei Chen's experience wasn't just for show. He had already made a judgement upon seeing the pose. This state seemed akin to the activation of the Berserker's passive skill, Blood Awakening, when a Berserker's health was low and entered a berserk state. "I want to test it out first." Ye Xiu didn't rely solely on this estimation, playing safe once more. After Lord Grim charged forward, what met him was a Sand Leopard whose speed and attack had been greatly boosted, as expected. With a few wild slashes, even Ye Xiu had to hurriedly get Lord Grim to roll around, becoming especially passive.

Ye Xiu was unphased, continuing this for a while. Seeing that Sand Leopard really didn't have any other tricks up his sleeve, he immediately called for the others, "It's a Berserker. Don't hold back, everyone!"

Under this sort of circumstances, a Berserker's offensive capabilities would be greatly improved, but their defensive capabilities would immensely suffer. This second boss had gone from one extreme to the other. At first, his defense was immense, but after reaching red blood, his offense had exploded.

Though they never encountered anything like Season Wolf's last Downwind Sword Slash, this second boss was much harder to beat than Season Wolf. However, since most of the problems were dealt with by Lord Grim, the others weren't too hindered. If it was someone else who was the MT, Sand Leopard would be tough enough to make someone's heart stop.

With the boss' defense greatly reduced, Sand Leopard's wild style didn't allow it to live very long. Under everyone's furious attacks, his health was quickly depleted.

"Careful, hold your attacks!" Ye Xiu hastily yelled. Everyone simultaneously stopped, but Mo Fan's Deception didn't manage to, landing two skills on Sand Leopard and ending the battle.

Seeing Sand Leopard's health empty, everyone let out a breath of relief. This boss luckily didn't have any dirty last resort moves. Even so, Mo Fan's mistake wasn't overlooked. No one really liked this guy in the first place, so when something like this happened, not many showed sympathy, only scorn.

Mo Fan was clear about this as well. When everyone threw scornful looks his way, he didn't look back at them, but he could feel it. He lowered his head subconsciously and his expression became a little awkward.

The system announcement rang out again, declaring that the second boss Defense Commander Sand Leopard had been defeated. The global chat exploded again and the heads of the big guilds gritted their teeth once more, cursing wildly, but helpless to change reality.

Chen Guo took the initiative in going forward to collect the dropped equipment. Once again, it was a blue and a purple piece, but they were of classes they could use. However, after checking their stats, they didn't seem to be very worth it, compared to the Orange Equipment they already had anyways.

"Ai, why is there never any Orange equipment!" Chen Guo lamented, clearly knowing that this equipment wouldn't help them increase their strength.

"We'll get an Orange equipment soon enough," Ye Xiu chuckled.

"It's not that easy!" Chen Guo rolled her eyes.

"We got two First Kills! For these types of rewards, orange equipment and rare materials aren't uncommon," Ye Xiu said with a smile.

Chen Guo immediately realized what he was saying. Wild Boss rewards were a level above dungeon Bosses, or even Hidden Bosses, but dungeon record rewards were on the same level as Wild Boss rewards. Now that each Boss had a First Kill record, the real rewards would come when they cleared the dungeon!

Chen Guo was excited, but Ye Xiu didn't linger on the thought any longer. He sent out the DPS Chart again, calmly saying, "Let's have a look at the DPS chart for the second section."

Chapter 865: Tactician Snow Eagle

The DPS Chart could be viewed according to each specific sections. Usually when using this to estimate ability, it would be focused on the Boss fights, and disregard the damage dealt to normal mobs. If the normal monsters in the section were rather difficult to deal with and required some level of teamwork, then they might pull it out for a look as well.

The DPS Chart Ye Xiu had pulled up was in regards to the Boss fight against Defense Commander Sand Leopard. On the chart, Wu Chen's Dawn Rifle held the lead with Tang Rou's Soft Mist following and then Steamed Bun's Steamed Bun Invasion. Ye Xiu's Lord Grim who had been pulling aggro with DPS was, in the end, only ranked fourth on the chart. Under these circumstances, these three hadn't caused an OT, clearly because despite their high DPS, their aggro wasn't enough to cause an OT. As for Ye Xiu, if he could raise his DPS he would. However, since this boss hid behind a shield for a majority of the battle, he had met some problems facing the boss head on. Yet, these problems didn't affect his aggro pulling at all, so he didn't tell the others to hold back. With the chart in open view now, Wu Chen felt a moment of worry. His DPS was almost at the point of causing an OT. He hadn't watched out for it and Ye Xiu hadn't said anything either. Was it because he had carefully calculated that an OT wouldn't happen? This god's calculation and awareness was just too terrifying.

Ye Xiu didn't care about this and didn't say anything about it. After a glance, he said, "Ahem, what's this? Deception, your DPS is even worse than last time!"

It was truly worse. This time, not counting the Cleric Little Cold Hands, Deception was ranked second to last, only above Chasing Haze by a little and somehow slightly worse than Luo Ji's Concealed Light.

Everyone was clear on Luo Ji's skill. No matter how bad Mo Fan was, it shouldn't be this bad. With the chart out, everyone was shocked. Wei Chen, who was always willing to see the worst in Ye Xiu, even sent Ye Xiu a private message, "What did you do?"

"F*ck off!" Ye Xiu replied without hesitation.

"That's not possible!" The ever silent Mo Fan actually yelled out with disbelief.

"You can take a look for yourself." Ye Xiu didn't elaborate. The DPS Chart was something the game had built in and calculated by the system, so it wasn't like Ye Xiu was the only one who could see it. Everyone opened the DPS chart and clicked on the section for the Boss battle against Defense Commander Sand Leopard, seeing how it was exactly the same as the one Ye Xiu sent. Deception was ranked second to last, not even above Concealed Light. Though the difference was minimal, he had been a league above Concealed Light and Chen Guo in the first Boss battle, despite all three of them seeming to be relying on others to carry them. This time, he had taken notice to improve, yet he hadn't managed to improve at all, and had fallen to their level! No wonder he was so incredulous. However, this was the system's calculations and a harsh truth that they could only accept.

"You can't continue like this, loner! You gotta find a way to improve," Ye Xiu said with a hint of mockery. However, anyone with a brain could hear the hint given. Loner? Was this saying that Mo Fan's Deception was unable to keep with the team?

Thinking of this, an experienced veteran like Wei Chen immediately understood what was happening. The reason he hadn't noticed before was because he wasn't paying attention to something like that. Now hearing Ye Xiu mention it, he immediately understood what had been happening.

"So that's how it is," Wei Chen sent Ye Xiu another private message. "That's indeed how it is," Ye Xiu said, not bothering to clarify what they were saying.

Mo Fan wasn't stupid. Hearing Ye Xiu insult him with the word "loner", he paused. Was that the reason? Was it because of this that no matter how hard he worked to deal damage, his output was still crap?

"Let's continue." Ye Xiu didn't say anymore, not willing to waste anymore time on him, and led them further into the Hideout. They met nothing but normal monsters along the way and soon arrived at the third boss without much suspense. It was the Sealed Mountain Thieves Hideout's Tactician Snow Eagle. Snow Eagle's long cloak fluttered, his hands empty and not giving a hint at his class. However, looking at his attire, it seemed more likely that he was some sort of Mage.

Everyone knew the routine by now. They didn't need Ye Xiu to order them, standing their characters to the side and waiting for Ye Xiu's Lord Grim to go up and feel out the boss.

Ye Xiu, of course, did as expected. As soon as Lord Grim entered the aggro range of the boss, Snow Eagle immediately welcomed him warmly. He flicked his sleeve, not even showing his hands, and a star

appeared in midair, shooting forth with a streak of light. A Witch skill, officially known as Magic Ray, that would create a star when fired, causing players to nickname it "Star Ray".

A mage, just as expected.

Ye Xiu was already on guard when Lord Grim stepped into aggro range. Though the Magic Ray was fast, it didn't damage him. Lord Grim turned his body and the Magic Ray missed.

Sprinting forwards, Lord Grim was already closing in on Snow Eagle. Yet, Snow Eagle's next actions were shocking. He flicked his sleeves again without exposing his hands, seeming to grab something from under his cloak, but then his feet left the ground, having perched on a broom.

The broom sparkled, showing that this wasn't any ordinary broom, but a Witch's most important tool.

Leaving behind a trail of sparkles, the third Boss Snow Eagle, turned and left.

"What the hell?" Everyone gathered over, asking.

"It's just as you see," Ye Xiu said.

"Are we still in combat?" Wei Chen asked.

"We are." "Something's fishy," Wei Chen commented.

"Of course," Ye Xiu responded. "What do we do?" "This is the most shameless thing about dungeons. They're bullying players by forcing them to walk into what they know to be an ambush so that they can clear the dungeon," Ye Xiu said. "You go first, we'll provide support," Wei Chen was blunt with his words.

Ye Xiu agreed to this blunt suggestion and had Lord Grim chase after Snow Eagle. The other nine kept their distance as they followed behind.

Not long after, Snow Eagle appeared once more. The area around him was filled with forestry, an obviously good place for an ambush. The system was using the fact that players had to advance, making these schemes so rough and inelegant. Snow Eagle turned his head and, seeing Lord Grim, flicked his sleeves once more, sending up magic fireworks. Hollering came from the forestry around him and a group of thieves ran out.

Ye Xiu hurriedly had Lord Grim back away. He didn't want to fight all these thieves alone. As he used Aerial Gun to back away, he counted ten thieves! A total of ten Sealed Mountain Thieves was more than any wave they had previously encountered. The class lineup was very reasonable as well. There were close ranged and long ranged units, a leader with a shield. and even a devout looking Cleric, cross in hand.

A Cleric being a thief... It sounded absurd, but it was just a class in the game so no one argued over the logic.

A healer was always an important part of a team, no matter if it was PvP or PvE. Even without Ye Xiu issuing an order, the others had caught up immediately and set their sights on the Cleric.

For PvE, there was no need for Ye Xiu to waste brainpower on thinking up battle tactics. What was more important was giving commands to improve the cooperation and teamwork between team members. Though they hadn't dealt with a wave of ten monsters before, the skill of Happy's members was evident. Knowing their limitations, they wouldn't take it on if they didn't have the means to*, so the team worked in harmony. Mo Fan's Deception might've been an outlier to this, but he was a Scavenger and staying safe in a chaotic battle was his forte, so no one had to worry about him.

"Soft Mist, go engage those two gunners; Steam Bun keep those two swordsmen busy; Old Wei give us a Death's Door; Concealed Light summon two summons and keep that ranged unit occupied; One Inch Ash release an Ice Boundary; Launchers suppress them all from afar; I'll go grab that Cleric," Ye Xiu organized rapidly, his Lord Grim already wheeling around and striking back. Against a ten monster team, pulling all the monsters alone was too tedious. So, Ye Xiu decided to utilize their party's advantages to its fullest, that being that most of their members could take perfect care of themselves, so they didn't need a specific MT to pull all the aggro. Anyone who had the ability could act as an MT and pull a few monsters. As for his Lord Grim, he would go directly after the Cleric.

After a few skills, the Cleric monster was thrown out from the formation, exposed and isolated from support.

In an instant, the Cleric was quickly killed under everyone's focused fire. After that, the most troublesome one to deal with was the ranged Sealed Mountain Thief. Ye Xiu's Lord Grim charged forward again, throwing the two ranged thieves back to his team. With these two gone, the other seven didn't need to be killed in any particular order. Whichever was more convenient to fight was whichever they would land a few strikes on. After a while, the ten monster team had been wiped out. Seeing this, Snow Eagle once again mounted his broom and flew off with another whoosh. They hurriedly chased after the boss and Ye Xiu took a look at everyone's statuses, reminding everyone, "Keep an eye on your endurance, don't waste anything."

No one knew what would happen next in this battle against the third Boss Snow Eagle. If the ambushes continued like this, then their consumption in this battle might even be worse than the battle against Sand Leopard. "Do you think this has something to do with the signal the first boss sent out before he died?" Wei Chen asked.

"Yeah, that's logical, but it might also just be a set event," Ye Xiu said.

What they meant by a set event was that the signal sent by the first boss before his death was protected by the system, and it wasn't something the players could stop to change the progression of the dungeon. This sort of event was there to make the dungeon fit in with the storyline.

Every dungeon had something to do with the quests and storylines in the world of Glory, and not just a bunch of monsters that were there for you to kill. However, many players were willing to see it that way, not bothering to take note of the underlying plot.

Ye Xiu and co were these kinds of players. The reason for their analysis wasn't because they had any interest in the plot, but because they wanted to know if the dungeon progression and layout could be changed by preventing that signal. Logically speaking, preventing the signal from firing would lower the difficulty of the dungeon.

T/N: There's a sentence here that refers to an idiom: 没有金刚钻别揽瓷器活. What this means is that if you don't have the tools to fix your ceramics, you shouldn't try, ergo, if you don't have the means, don't try.

Chapter 866: After the Ambushes

As they pursued Snow Eagle, what met Happy was ambush after ambush. These sorts of battles weren't really hard, but they weren't really easy either. Since there were so many people fighting, the situation was usually rather chaotic and demanded a high level of cooperation between teammates.

This sort of thing couldn't stop Ye Xiu and co from progressing. Their entire pursuit was mostly smooth going. Snow Eagle's ambushes were dealt with one after another. After wiping out four consecutive ambushes, the path came to an end and Snow Eagle charged into the courtyard at the end of the road.

Seeing this, they realized that this was most likely the place where the battle against Snow Eagle would take place. Since they were constantly in combat, they couldn't really take a real break. Using food and similar methods to restore health and mana was something you could only do out of combat. However, if they left combat now, the system would probably deem them to have failed everything starting from the moment they entered combat with Snow Eagle and they would have to start over.

They couldn't allow themselves to make such a low-level mistake. All ten of them charged into the courtyard and, as expected, elite monsters came out from different rooms in the courtyard. However, this no longer seemed like an ambush set by Snow Eagle. The Boss was yelling and crying out in a panic. It was evident that after the four ambushes had been wiped out, he was at the end of his line. This wave of monsters was made up of the reinforcements he had called out for.

This wave of reinforcements was more powerful than the ambushes from before. The Sealed Mountain Thieves that came out from the room in the courtyard amounted to a total of 12, more than any of the previous ambushes.

However, after clearing out all the ambushes on the way, Ye Xiu's group became used to these sorts of battles. Among the 12 Sealed Mountain Thieves, there were two healers that immediately became their primary targets. As for Snow Eagle? Now that he couldn't find any other way out, he flew onto the roof and began to lob attacks at Happy with the other thieves. Yet, this Snow Eagle's offensive ability really didn't live up to his title of boss. He wasn't much more of a threat than the individual thieves. However, a Boss definitely would have far more health than these normal monsters, so everyone put Snow Eagle to the side for now, focusing on clearing out the normal monsters.

Seeing Snow Eagle's appalling strength, everyone relaxed. The 12 Sealed Mountain Thieves were quickly dealt with, being just normal monsters with a little more health than usual. There wasn't much to it. After a chaotic battle, all 12 of the Sealed Mountain Thieves were killed. Everyone was prepared to turn their attacks on Snow Eagle, who was still perched on the roof, but then they heard the Tactician yell out again. Everyone could clearly hear that the Tactician had yelled out a title: Vice Chief.

Then, they saw the doors to the large room facing the main entrance to the courtyard open, and a burly man walked out, stretching. It was another Boss, Vice Chief Brown Bear*.

The progression of events was more than shocking for everyone present. If this Tactician had called another few waves of mobs, it would be much better than just directly calling for a Boss. This strapping man, who held the position of Vice Chief, was evidently not a weakling like Snow Eagle. Having experienced five battles without break, and now directly going up against two bosses, this battle seemed to be a grim one for their little team.

Ye Xiu clicked with his mouse, bringing up Brown Bear's health. It became clear that they wouldn't be able to finish this quickly; they couldn't afford the consumption. They had to slow the pace down and forcefully drag the battle out. But what was this Brown Bear's fighting style? Could they afford to draw out the match into one of endurance? Looking at his burly figure, he probably wasn't a defense-oriented Boss like Boss number two, Sand Leopard. If he was an offense oriented boss, then a slow paced match would be far more dangerous. This was especially true with their opponents being not one, but two bosses working together. Though Snow Eagle was rather weak, this was only in comparison to what should be expected from a boss. With his health bar, defeating him wouldn't be a swift job either. With a slippery guy like that causing chaos at the side, this would be frustrating to deal with, indeed....

Brown Bear's appearance was very unexpected. Everyone was still inside the courtyard, not having the time to retreat so that Ye Xiu's Lord Grim would have the chance to figure the Boss out.

By the time everyone had managed to process their current situation, Brown Bear had snapped out of his sleepy state and reached behind the door next to him, pulling out a spiked steel club**.

That's right, a spiked club... A weapon that didn't exist among any of the 24 classes. It was impossible to figure out this guy's possible skills using his weapon. Using a heavy weapon like this to do sword techniques wasn't beyond the shamelessness of bosses.

"Keep your distance, everyone!" Same strategy as ever, Ye Xiu would test out the boss' abilities first.

However, this time everyone was in combat already, so if they could retreat or not wasn't up to them. Snow Eagle, who was still on the roof, had finally stopped his wretched behavior of hiding his broom between his legs. Now he held it in his hands, finally looking ready for battle. Using his advantage of the higher ground, he waved his arm and threw a Lava Flask at them.

Ye Xiu's eyes were sharp and his hands were quick; Lord Grim raised his Myriad Manifestation Umbrella and with a bang, destroyed the flask in midair. The lava in the flask sprayed out, like it was raining fire. Though everyone still had to scatter to avoid it, it was better than if the flask shattered on the floor and turned the courtyard into a sea of flame.

Wu Chen couldn't help but admire Ye Xiu's skill. When the Lava Flask had been thrown, he had the awareness to try and shoot it down as well, but by the time he was aiming, a gunshot had already rung out.

As for Chen Guo, there wasn't much to say. When she saw the Lava Flask, she had wanted to get Chasing Haze to jump up and run for it. The Lava Flask had been destroyed, but Snow Eagle swept his broom again and swept out a cloud. The Boss was too fast and everyone was too far from him to interrupt the skill. This time, he managed to complete a Hail. Blue drops and snowflakes fell from above and everyone hurried to rush out from under the cloud.

"Be careful, everyone!" Ye Xiu yelled.

Brown Bear finally struck, roaring wildly. He raised his club up and behind his head, jumping into the courtyard from the room and swinging his arms up in a 180 degrees arc. With a massive thud, the club smashed into the ground and the tremors from it caused everyone's view to shake. Those who were unlucky enough to still be within range of the attack had been knocked to the ground, rolling.

"It's a Collapsing Mountain!" Wei Chen cried out.

"Or it might be an Earth-Shattering Slash," Ye Xiu suggested.

"Just as low as expected!" Wei Chen shouted.

"That's right!" Ye Xiu agreed. Using a sword skill with a club... that was definitely a new low for swordsmen.

"Whirlwind Strike!! Everyone get out of the courtyard!" Seeing Brown Bear's movement, he made a quick judgement. Everyone had their characters run for the door, or flip over the wall, instantly escaping from the courtyard like wild animals. Then, Brown Bear returned to his room and Snow Eagle looked around before jumping from the roof and disappearing.

"Whoops..." Wei Chen was a little embarrassed. It was evident that they had escaped combat. That battle seemed to be limited to the courtyard. With all of them fleeing from the courtyard, they had left the combat zone and the system judged that as escaping from combat. So, everything was returned to its prior state and the trouble they had just gone through was all for naught.

"At least we know what's going to happen now." Wei Chen attempted to gain everyone's forgiveness with a smile full of cheek. He hadn't thought of this possibility just now, so he had given the order to get out of the courtyard. In the end, everyone had charged out and the system didn't give them any chance to regret, directly viewing them as escaping from combat.

"Well, this isn't bad. When we do this again, everyone should keep in mind that what awaits us at the end are two bosses. We need to keep an eye on our mana consumption," Ye Xiu said.

Everyone nodded. Five waves, each with a large number of normal monsters, ending in two bosses and not given a break, that was something only a team like them could handle.

"Or maybe we can just ignore these two and see if we can skip to directly take on the final boss?" Wei Chen suggested. In some dungeons, you didn't necessarily need to kill every Boss before the final one. When breaking dungeon records, people would definitely skip every skippable Boss. In this Sealed Mountain Thieves' Hideout, it seemed that they might even be able to skip this Tactician and Vice Chief, so Wei Chen had come up with such a suggestion.

"I don't think that's necessary! After all, these two have First Kills that need to be taken, which will give us better rewards!" Ye Xiu said.

"In reality... I think this battle is pretty tough. I mean, we have to deal with all these ambushes and we might not be able to endure to the end with the amount of mana and whatnot it might consume," Wei Chen said.

"Let's give it a try first," Ye Xiu said, "If the situation goes south, then we'll escape combat to stay alive. I noticed that we only left combat when five people had left the courtyard. It seems like it's necessary for only half or more party members to stay inside.

"Yeah, I noticed that, too," Wei Chen said.

"Heh," Ye Xiu laughed lightly, not bothering to continue the conversation and turned to address everyone, "Ok, everyone, let's head back and try again. This time, keep the pace slow to minimize consumption."

The ten player party then returned to where Snow Eagle had first appeared. As expected, the boss had returned to its original position.

"Hey, how's about we try and see if we can prevent this guy from running and kill him here?" Wei Chen came up with a new idea.

"We can try. Everyone scatter, surround him," Ye Xiu ordered, making everyone stand around in a circle just out of aggro range, encircling Snow Eagle.

"Attack together, including the ranged characters, siege him to death!" With Ye Xiu's order, everyone lunged for the Boss. Snow Eagle was very decisive. Before, when only Lord Grim had charged forwards, he had sent out a Magic Ray. Now, seeing how many people were targeting him, he didn't bother to do anything and simply got on his broom and shot into the sky.

"F*ck, so shameless!" Everyone could do nothing but watch as Snow Eagle flew off. This was because the height at which Snow Eagle was flying was one set by the system that players couldn't reach, no matter if it was with a Witch's broom or a Mechanic's Rotor Wing. This was obviously the system wanting Snow Eagle to get away successfully. Wu Chen and Chen Guo's Launchers fired a few unfruitful blasts.

"Let's give chase!" Ye Xiu didn't reveal any sort of disappointment; he just once again led everyone in a chase after Snow Eagle.

Chapter 867: Isolation

Knowing what was coming, their progression was smoother and more decisive than their previous attempt. After swiftly wiping out the four waves of ambushes, the ten of them arrived once more in the courtyard. They killed the reinforcements, heard Frigid Eagle yelling for help, and saw the Vice Chief Brown Bear walk out lazily, just as he had before.

This time, would they still be given the chance to strike first? Of course not. Frigid Eagle hadn't even managed to whip out his broom when with a "clang clang" sounded out with two flaming lighters landing at his feet.

Bosses weren't dumb. Upon seeing these lighters, Frigid Eagle didn't bother taking out his broom and tried to run. He hadn't even managed to take three steps when the falling Heat-Seeking Missiles hit, creating a mushroom cloud. With his arms outstretched in a flawless line, Frigid Eagle was blasted off of the roof.

He hadn't even landed when, with a stab, a spear had already arrived. The immense force from the spear nailed Frigid Eagle to the door of one of the side rooms in the courtyard.

It was Tang Rou, not Ye Xiu, who had struck.

Knowing what they would have to face, Happy had obviously devised plans on as they made their way over. Frigid Eagle's offensive capabilities weren't the best, but if they allowed him to jump about on that roof above their heads, he would become a very annoying distraction, so they eventually decided to deal with Frigid Eagle first.

However, they still had to be careful about Brown Bear when dealing with Frigid Eagle. Currently, all they knew was that this guy's skills were probably from the Swordsman classes, but they didn't know anything specific.

The responsibility of figuring out these specifics fell on Ye Xiu. Lord Grim didn't wait for Brown Bear to jump into the courtyard before charging over. As for Frigid Eagle, he was under everyone else's focused attacks.

With Ye Xiu's ability, everyone knew that he could last a long time when facing any Boss one on one. In addition, Frigid Eagle wasn't particularly powerful, so everyone hoped to take this chance and kill Frigid Eagle first.

This strategy wasn't a bad one, but who would've thought that their plan would be thwarted just as they started? Brown Bear ignored the attacking Lord Grim, and with a swing of his club, he jumped directly at the formation around Frigid Eagle. "Watch out!" Ye Xiu yelled hurriedly. Everyone turned only to see Brown Bear's club slam into the ground. They hastily jumped and dodged to avoid the attack. Brown Bear's offense was abrupt, standing there and swinging his club once more...

Tang Rou had no way of getting the currently airborne Soft Mist to dodge such a big guy. She was quickly slammed against the wall of a room on the east side by Brown Bear's club, as if retaliation for how she had just nailed Frigid Eagle to the door with her spear. "Aggro Sharing!" Ye Xiu suddenly yelled out this Glory term. Everyone immediately understood what had happened when they heard this. They wanted to deal with Frigid Eagle and Brown Bear separately, but these two Bosses shared aggro.

Aggro Sharing was when two or more monsters had the same aggro target, and would advance and retreat as one. Under these circumstances, it was impossible to separate this battle into two.

"It seems like they at least have some sense of honor!" After saying this, Wei Chen had Windward Formation raise his Death's Hand and a Hexagram Prison fell from the heavens, aiming to entrap Brown Bear. He had never expected that the weakling they believed Frigid Eagle to be would swing his broom then, seeming to throw the dust on the ground up and negating Windward Formation's Hexagram Prison.

"What the hell is this? Dispersion?" Wei Chen was dumbstruck.

Witches had a skill called Disperse Powder, which would could get rid of a buff on its target. However, they hadn't heard of a powder that could disperse curses that had yet to hit its target like this. Of course, there would always be some original skills given to Bosses. Yet these original skills were always so wretched, making players incapable of maintaining their cool.

Windward Formation raised Death's Hand again and began to cast the power Death's Door. Yet it was then that Frigid Eagle and Brown Bear both turned on him as one.

"Aiyou!" Realizing that something was wrong, Wei Chen didn't care about the CD and wasted mana, hurriedly cancelling the skill and dodging as he yelled, "The aggro is really chaotic! Hurry up and stabilize it!"

Without a specialized MT class, wanting to save the situation at times like this became a chore.

If they couldn't save the situation, then they would just have to leave the situation be.

"Ice Boundary, now! Gatling Gun to suppress!" Ye Xiu ordered.

"I'll handle Frigid Eagle, you go for Brown Bear!" Wu Chen gave a shout, naturally directed at Chen Guo. The two Launchers immediately activated Gatling Gun, wildly firing at their respective targets.

Frigid Eagle's small build was weak, getting pushed back continuously by the Gatling Gun. Brown Bear was completely different. With a level suppression of five levels, the momentum from the Gatling Gun seemed nonexistent against him as he continued to charge forwards, raising his club.

Pah!

With a soft noise, Brown Bear's feet were suddenly frozen to the ground. The ice continued to creep upwards and, not long after, Brown Bear had become an ice sculpture.

One Inch Ash's Ice Boundary had arrived just in time. Seeing Brown Bear frozen into an ice cube, everyone was delighted. He had been completely frozen even under a five level suppression. It seemed like Brown Bear's resistance to ice was probably negative. This was a great opening to take.

Yet Ye Xiu didn't even have time to make plans to utilize this when with a bang, Frigid Eagle threw a Lava Flask directly at the ice sculpture of Brown Bear. The lava ran down the sculpture, instantly melting a good portion of the ice. Brown Bear struggled for a moment, cracking the ice, and swiftly escaped his frozen state. "These two assholes!" Everyone yelled out in shock. These two Bosses not only shared aggro but were also so united and cooperative, knowing how to support one another. The difficulty of this battle had just risen again. "Take Brown Bear into the room, isolate them from each other," Ye Xiu immediately found a solution. It was only a team of two, so how hard could it be? In the pro scene, they would have to face five players at once who were as close as they could get, and fought in sync.

"Get the aggro off me!" Wei Chen was still jumping around anxiously, because the two Boss' aggro had been locked on him after his failed Hexagram Prison and had yet to switch targets. With their line up, Windward Formation would have to stop attacking to get the aggro pulled away. Wei Chen currently couldn't even use control skills to protect himself and was under immense pressure, being chased by two Bosses.

"Hold on for just a moment longer," Ye Xiu's Lord Grim had already started to attack. Since they shared aggro, he didn't target Brown Bear, but just focused on bullying Frigid Eagle.

Under Ye Xiu's focused attack, the two Bosses' attention finally switched to him. After checking the positions of the two bosses, Ye Xiu didn't hesitate to head into the room at the front.

The two Bosses gave chase. Knowing the plan, no one went after Brown Bear, and all focused on Frigid Eagle instead.

"Are you certain that you can hold the aggro?" Wei Chen then asked.

Ye Xiu's plan was that he would keep Brown Bear busy inside the room while the others stayed outside to give beat Frigid Eagle up. Under these circumstances, the aggro of attackers outside would accumulate quickly and easily overtake Lord Grim's aggro. After all, Frigid Eagle was much weaker and there were so many people focused on killing him.

"Whoever OTs comes inside and keeps Brown Bear busy," Ye Xiu said.

"It's that a bit too dangerous?" Wei Chen said. It was ok for Ye Xiu with his skill, but if it were Chen Guo or Luo Ji who had to go inside and keep Brown Bear busy, then it would be equal to sending them to their deaths. "Whoever has the greatest DPS shouldn't be too weak, right?" Ye Xiu resolved the problem with a single retort. Whoever OTed had to be the fiercest attacker. For those of Chen Guo and Luo Ji's skill level, they wouldn't possibly become that person. Wei Chen's worry had been for nothing.

"But it might still be a little troublesome for ranged characters. Dawn Rifle, hold back on your DPS a little!" Wei Chen added.

"Right," Wu Chen agreed. It wasn't a very good idea for his Launcher to go into that narrow room and keep a powerful melee Boss busy. He had always had the highest DPS as they progressed, so it seemed like he would have to hold back now.

With Wu Chen holding back, Tang Rou's Soft Mist's offense became even fiercer. Frigid Eagle wanted to charge into the room to support Brown Bear, but was locked in place by a whole group of people, so he could only make superficial counterattacks. Poor Frigid Eagle's health was falling with a whoosh and, not long after, his superficial attacks changed and gained focus. Two rapid magical attacks sped towards Soft Mist.

"Switch!" Ye Xiu had also realized Brown Bear seemed to want to leave the room and that someone must have OTed.

Tang Rou's movements were swift. Soft Mist darted through the doorway with a Dragon Breaks the Ranks, throwing Brown Bear's attention back to room that he was about to leave. At the same time, Ye Xiu's Lord Grim sped out of the room. Frigid Eagle was about to enter when Lord Grim flew directly at him, blasting him back with a palm to the chest.

"Little Cold Hands, stand under the doorway and keep an eye on the situation inside," Ye Xiu ordered the healer. After all, Tang Rou's skill wasn't quite as good as Ye Xiu's and would be hard pressed to stay inside without injury.

"Be careful to not OT, Little Hands!" Ye Xiu's only worry now was Little Cold Hands. With their strategy, the aggro would switch between them as they dealt damage. With that, the continuously healing that Little Cold Hands did would make his aggro accumulation the most stable.

An Wenyi might have improved greatly as of late, but, facing a boss alone, he would have no chance.

"I know." An Wenyi had evidently also considered this, and made sure to not use any high level heals that would accumulate a lot of aggro. "Hold on, I'll switch with you soon!" After giving Tang Rou those words of encouragement, Lord Grim ran up to attack Frigid Eagle.

The situation inside the room was far more dangerous than the situation outside. Frigid Eagle wasn't very strong anyways, so they were more or less just bullying him. Meanwhile, Brown Bear was powerful, and it was a one on one as well, so the difficulty was immense. After Soft mist had entered the room, Little Cold Hands became exceptionally busy. Fighting a Boss alone inside a room was a definite challenge for Tang Rou.

"We can't hold on like this for long, hurry!" Calculations were An Wenyi's forte. Seeing Tang Rou's situation being completely different from Lord Grim's while inside, he had to heal continuously. A little longer and it might be him who had to rush inside. If he went inside, that was equivalent to walking to his own death.

"Give me space!" Ye Xiu called out and Lord Grim retreated to squish next to Little Cold Hands. Frigid Eagle, wanting to enter the room, followed after without prompting. Lord Grim continued to give Frigid Eagle a beatdown while occasionally turning around to cast a heal on Soft Mist. This way, he not only took some pressure off of Little Cold Hands, but also gained more aggro for himself.

"Can your mana hold on like this!?" Wei Chen yelled.

Chapter 868: Combo Kill

"It won't be like this forever!" Ye Xiu replied to Wei Chen, continuing to take care of the situation on both sides. Seeing how her situation had made the battle more difficult, Tang Rou was determined to work even harder. She decisively abandoned her extremely offense-oriented style and focused on avoiding damage from her opponent, immediately taking a lot of pressure off the healer's shoulders. With this, it wasn't long before Lord Grim's aggro went over the the standard and the long-awaited OT finally occurred once more. Lord Grim turned, stepping into the room. At the same time, Tang Rou's Soft Mist brushed by and exited the room, swinging her spear at Frigid Eagle.

The battle inside the room against Brown Bear made Tang Rou feel extremely constrained. She had been forced to abandon her offense-oriented style for the team, but this went against her usual habits. Now that she didn't have to hold back anymore, Frigid Eagle immediately became the target of her katharsis. Soft Mist's spear swung like a windmill, releasing all sorts of skills and beating Frigid Eagle away from the doorway all the way to the edge of the courtyard, almost throwing him outside.

With Tang Rou leading a vicious offense, the others could be a little more open with their attacks as well. Those who had classes that weren't appropriate for going inside the room and keeping Brown Bear busy had been sandbagging. Now that Soft Mist was mounting such a vicious offense, they didn't have to hold back as much, only so much so that their damage output wouldn't surpass Soft Mist's. Their damage output increased greatly and when it next came for Tang Rou to switch with Lord Grim, Frigid Eagle's health had dropped by a large fraction. "Not bad!" When Lord Grim came out, Ye Xiu was pleased by how much Frigid Eagle had been damaged. They encouraged each other, boosted one

another's morale, and with their strategy that used their advantage in technical skill to the fullest, they had broken the teamwork of the two bosses.

After Lord Grim and Soft Mist had switched places five times, their primary target Frigid Eagle finally fell. This boss was rather easy to deal with alone, not even giving everyone much trouble when he entered an enraged state. At red blood, Frigid Eagle became faster and rode his broom around a lot, attempting to use guerrilla tactics. Unfortunately for him, the formation that had surrounded him was close to perfect after fighting for so long. Frigid Eagle didn't even get a proper chance to fight back. Soon enough, the last 10 percent of his health was gone.

As soon as Frigid Eagle fell, his First Kill was announced on the TV. Though he might be rather weak, he was still classified as a boss by the system.

However, before everyone could be relieved at the death of one boss, a loud roar came out from the room. Tang Rou gave a warning shout and then Brown Bear jumped out of the room, through the roof with a resounding crash.

Red eyed and radiating a bloody aura, Brown Bear seemed to be fully in an Enraged State. Everyone noticed his speed as he swung his club down from the roof. It seemed like his stats had undergone a great increase.

"Has he already gone into an Enraged state?" Wei Chen asked in shock.

If that was true, then they had miscalculated in their original strategy. The current Brown Bear still had plenty of health left. If he stayed in an Enraged State like this, then the difficulty of this battle would rise again. After all, when most bosses entered such a state, they merely had a tenth of their health left and by then the battle was already coming to a close, so players could go wild with their DPS and quickly kill the boss. Yet now, a boss with over 95 percent of its health left had already entered an Enraged State. They had to be cautious when facing it; there was little room for error.

"Seems that way," Ye Xiu confirmed. There was no time for chit chat though; they had a boss to deal with first.

For a boss with immense strength like Brown Bear, players couldn't possibly parry the attacks. When the club swung down, Lord Grim jumped lightly to avoid it as Myriad Manifestation Umbrella struck out in its spear form.

The others continued to spectate, planning on taking a good look at the changes the boss had gone through after entering an Enraged State.

Brown Bear's roars rang in everyone's ears. With each weighty attack, everyone's view would tremble every now and then. Ye Xiu's Lord Grim stuck to him, prompting Brown Bear to make all sorts of attacks from different angles and directions and making sure everyone knew what sorts of skills this Brown Bear had.

"Ranged characters get to higher ground," Ye Xiu began to arrange everyone's positions.

Dawn Rifle, Chasing Haze, Windward Formation and Concealed Light, who didn't need to personally fight the boss, all jumped to higher ground. Cleric Little Cold Hands could also do such a thing, but, after taking a good look around, decided against it. Their current strategy relied a lot on avoiding the boss'

attacks to take pressure off the healer, so they wouldn't stay in one place to attack, instead relying a lot on movement. The high ground in this courtyard didn't have a position with no blind spots, so for stability, An Wenyi left Little Cold Hands on the ground.

After finishing the arrangements, they opened fire on Ye Xiu's order.

Though Brown Bear was in an Enraged State, his weakness had long since been noted by everyone, and that was his low resistance to magic. So in the following battle, Wei Chen's Warlock and Qiao Yifan's Ghostblade were particularly eye catching. Both classes had many CC skills. As Brown Bear ran after Lord Grim, going berserk, One Inch Ash had already filled the courtyard with Ghost Boundaries, and caused all sorts of status effects to pop up on Brown Bear's body. Wei Chen's Windward Formation wasn't slacking off either, a Binding Curse here, a Control Curse there, and a Hexagram Prison thrown into the mix. Take advantage of your own strengths and strike at your opponent's weaknesses.

Brown Bear might've been in an Enraged State, but under the combined effects of all these CC skills, his offensive ability was limited. Under One Inch Ash's Plague Boundary, Brown Bear's defense had fallen, so his life was being depleted, just like Frigid Eagle's had.

"Keep going, maintain this pace." After taking a look at everyone's consumption, Ye Xiu quickly calculated that they would be able to maintain this without too much pressure, so he didn't make them change their pace. With Brown Bear being bullied like this, there was naturally much less pressure on their healer's shoulders. An Wenyi even had time to let Little Cold Hands throw a few skills like Hypnosis and Holy Commandment to support the team. In terms of supporting skills, Clerics mostly focused on ones to do with supporting an offense.

Finally, Brown Bear's health was approaching 10 percent. During this time, he had maintained the increases in strength that he had gained. However, would he go into another Enraged state after falling to Red Blood?

This was something they definitely had to be wary of. Ye Xiu also decided to use the usual strategy to deal with this. When Brown Bear's health fell to 10 percent, there were indeed some changes. Compared to how he had gone wild with his attacks before, he seemed to become much calmer and his resistance seemed to have increased.

Yet this strengthening from his Red Blood state wasn't enough to turn the tides. For a boss that had more or less been in an Enraged State for the majority of the battle, the creator wasn't wretched enough to have his strength skyrocket two times in one battle.

With just a tenth of his health left, Ye Xiu and co didn't even really bother with too many CC skills. This change had come too late for Brown Bear.

Brown Bear fell and the system announced their First Kill in a timely fashion.

Brown Bear's First Kill announcement followed Frigid Eagle's announcement rather closely. The players who didn't know what the dungeon was like at all naturally expressed their admiration and surprise.

Sealed Mountain Hideout had a total of five bosses. By now, four were dealt with. Did Guild Happy plan to clear the dungeon on their first explorative run?

The players had mixed emotions about this, and all sorts of thoughts were discussed without holding back in the global chat.

Ye Xiu's group didn't bother with these discussions. With the defeat of two bosses, it was once again time to check the system's DPS charts.

In reality, Ye Xiu never had such habits. At his skill level, why would he bother with comparing dungeon DPS and taking joy in ranking higher than others?

Repeatedly showing everyone the DPS chart like this today had caused everyone to realize that there was an ulterior motive to it. The DPS charts were there for Mo Fan to see. This guy who ate, lived, and gamed with them, but was never truly a part of the team, probably wouldn't listen even if you grabbed his ear and yelled. Now with the data open for viewing, there was no need to speak. He could figure things out for himself!

With the data for the new section out, no one bothered to check their own, all looking for Deception's. In the end, it was the same as before. Deception appeared on the same level as Chasing Haze and Concealed Light, who weren't as skilled as everyone else.

"If someone would stop slacking off, our battles could definitely end a lot more quickly." With that, Lord Grim headed off to the next area.

Everyone had their characters follow while stretching their necks to look at Mo Fan's reaction.

In reality, everyone knew that with Mo Fan's personality, he would either not join in, but if he did, he definitely wouldn't slack off.

He was certainly doing his best to strike hard and fast, but for some reason, his DPS just wouldn't rise. It stayed at the same level as Chasing Haze and Concealed Light, who weren't as skilled and everyone was surprised.

Why was this happening?

Mo Fan was gritting his teeth hard enough to shatter them, but he really didn't understand why. He was very familiar with the Ninja class and was skilled at both PvP and PvE. When he went dungeoning with a few wild teams in the past, his DPS was always at a level that inspired awe in everyone. How come it fell so far after he had joined a team?

Though these team members were incomparable to normal players, he shouldn't fall behind by so much.

"We have one more boss," Ye Xiu said.

To Mo Fan's ears, it sounded just like "you have one last chance." But how could he improve his DPS? Thinking deeply, Mo Fan really couldn't think of a reason for his low DPS. Was it because his hand speed wasn't fast enough?

That didn't seem right! After all, Mo Fan was always with everyone. He might not interact with them much, but he was aware of everyone's circumstances. He had an understanding of things like their hand speeds. This probably wasn't the reason why he fell behind.

Soon enough, their party arrived at the core of the Sealed Mountain Hideout: Sealed Mountain Hall. In here sat the big boss of the Sealed Mountain Thieves Hideout, Chief Sealed Mountain Tiger!

Chapter 869: Chief Sealed Mountain Tiger

In comparison to Brown Bear, who was so buff that it looked wrong, the big boss of the Sealed Mountain Thieves and the final boss with Sealed Mountain in his name, Sealed Mountain Tiger, looked very normal.

In the eyes of players, normal meant that he looked no different from your average player. If he was thrown into the main city, he would be mistaken for a player.

However, as they approached the Sealed Mountain Hall step by step, Sealed Mountain Tiger suddenly stood from his tiger-skin covered throne in the center of the hall.

It seemed like he had been waiting for them.

Should they directly go into battle with the boss?

After the experiencing both the ambushes and the cooperation between boss numbers three and four, everyone was hoping that there would be more tasks to complete before getting to fight the last boss. This was because if there weren't, then this boss was certain to be immensely powerful, to the point where fighting him alone would be more difficult than a road of ambushes and the combined power of Frigid Eagle and Brown Bear.

Pioneering players only wanted to safely clear the dungeon, and didn't care about testing their limits against challenging stages. So, at this moment, no one hoped that Sealed Mountain Tiger was strong. If only he could be as weak as a normal monster, that would be great.

Unfortunately, that was also impossible. In dungeons, the strength of bosses wouldn't necessarily increase as you ventured further into the dungeon. The second boss might be stronger than the third and the third might be stronger than the fourth. However, the final boss would always be as strong as a final boss should be. They would be the most difficult to beat, sometimes even harder than Hidden bosses.

No matter how normal Sealed Mountain Tiger looked, Ye Xiu and the others wouldn't underestimate him.

As soon as they entered the plaza in the center of the hideout, everyone started to take in their environment and familiarize themselves with the terrain. This was battle preparation. After that, they approached slowly and the final boss finally reacted.

"Everyone, get back."

As always, Lord Grim stayed, everyone else retreated.

Sealed Mountain Tiger's steps were calm, slowly walking out from the hall. Ye Xiu didn't make any moves lightly either. He had to focus on figuring the boss out. There was no need to rush in to attack.

Sealed Mountain Tiger was empty handed, no weaponry in sight. His equipment wasn't of any recognizable class either. It was impossible to figure out what class this boss might be.

But, the boss had to act eventually.

Standing on the stone steps in front of the Sealed Mountain Hall, only 18 steps away from Lord Grim, Sealed Mountain Tiger glanced at Lord Grim and raised his hand to strike.

Not caring what it was, Ye Xiu hurriedly had Lord Grim dodge to the side.

Yet what came at him wasn't a skill, but people.

The originally empty plaza suddenly became populated with four people who had come out of nowhere. They didn't know if it was out of convenience or not, but the names above their heads were exceptionally simple: Alpha, Beta, Gamma, and Delta.

As soon as the four appeared, they didn't hesitate to charge towards Lord Grim. As they charged, they each took out their own weapons.

Lightsaber, Revolver, Boxing Gloves, Dagger.

Four people, four different classes, and looking at the weapons they were all DPS-focused classes. Were these four the four elite killers working under Chief Sealed Mountain Tiger?

Ye Xiu didn't care about the backstories of NPCs. He would defeat them no matter what sort of backstory they had. Alpha, Beta, Gamma, and Delta quickly engaged them. Beta, revolver in hand, was naturally the first to attack.

Gunshots rang out and Lord Grim moved out of the way. Blademaster Alpha, lightsaber raised, sent over a Downwind Sword Slash. The speed of the attack didn't see much difference from the Enraged Brother Wolf. Lord Grim sidestepped it. Unfortunately, Blademaster Alpha had already closed in on Lord Grim with this attack, sending out more skills.

Boom!

A missile exploded between them. Lord Grim was unmoved, but Blademaster Alpha was pushed back by the force of the explosion.

Wu Chen's Dawn Rifle had attacked first, and then Chen Guo's Chasing Haze also followed with a Gatling Gun.

Though they weren't your average monsters, they weren't nearly enough to be considered bosses. So for Happy, there was no need for Ye Xiu to go up first and figure them out. As soon as they engaged in combat, Happy's members acted as well.

Launchers Dawn Rifle and Chasing Haze's attacks were just the opening scene. Windward Formation's Hexagram Prison soon followed, falling on and entrapping Striker Gamma, who looked like he could beat an elephant to death with a single punch. The dagger wielding Delta was an Assassin, whose movement speed was very fast, to the point where he seemed to be having problems controlling it. He smashed directly into an oncoming brick, and then Tang Rou's Dragon Breaks the Ranks arrived, slamming Assassin Delta into a stone lion in the plaza with the force.

The Gunner Beta, who had stayed away and kept shooting from afar, was now being kept busy by Concealed Light's summons. With the protection of the team, Luo Ji didn't have to worry. If all he had to do with focus on controlling his four summons, then he had very good foundations for his skill level. The Gunner Beta had to contend with four at once, no longer able to find the time to attack anyone else.

Qiao Yifan's One Inch Ash was the last to strike. Only after everyone had found their own targets did his Ghost Boundaries come to support them.

Did these four elite killers of Sealed Mountain Tiger have any special team tactics?

They didn't know!

Since everyone had come up like this, they had isolated the four killers from one another. In a party like Happy's, there were more than enough people who were strong enough to stand on their own, so everyone had enough skill to be a DPS MT.

"Very good! Keep it up!" Ye Xiu had everyone continue, seeing that they were all doing pretty well. He wasn't bored enough hold back on purpose just to see what tricks these four killers had up their sleeves.

So, Ye Xiu's Lord Grim dueled Blademaster Alpha, while Dawn Rifle and Chasing Haze provided backup from afar.

Wei Chen's Windward Formation tormented Striker Gamma. Strikers had some of the lowest attack ranges, so he was helpless against Wei Chen's Warlock, whose cast range would shock everyone in the Glory circle.

Soft Mist and Steamed Bun Invasion were wiping the floor with Assassin Delta, who went up against them alone.

Most of the others were taking on one in teams of two or three, but Concealed Light had managed to keep Gunner Beta occupied on his own. It was a pleasant surprise, but he didn't dare to be overconfident, taking extreme care in his performance. As for One Inch Ash and Little Cold Hands, they sent support and healing wherever it was necessary.

With everyone taking their own jobs, the four elite killers had been completely isolated from support and backup. Yet Happy's party wasn't necessarily a complete team either. They also had a guy who wasn't in sync with everyone else, and that was obviously Mo Fan's Deception.

This guy was like a headless fly. He didn't have a clear target, sometimes landing a few blows here, then sending a few skills there, like he was a firefighter. However, he wasn't nearly good at firefighting as One Inch Ash and Little Cold Hands. It would've been no different had he not been there.

Soon enough, Blademaster Alpha couldn't hold on any longer. He was been taking on three people at once, and among them was an expert like Ye Xiu. It didn't need to be elaborated on how he was holding up. When his health fell to 10 percent, Ye Xiu was careful and held back a little, uncertain if this monster, who could be an elite monster or a mini boss had an Enraged State. When the Blademaster showed no change upon reaching red blood, it was evident that he didn't have an Enraged State. Soon enough, Blademaster Alpha fell and Ye Xiu's three person group prepared to switch targets and support another group. Yet, it was at this moment that Sealed Mountain Tiger raised his hand again, standing on the steps, and another Blademaster Alpha came out suddenly, exactly the same as the previous.

"Holy crap, this guy's a summoner!!" Ye Xiu didn't know whether to laugh or cry. They had thought this was a pre-boss battle or something, and had no idea they had actually already engaged the boss. Alpha, Beta, Gamma and Delta were actually Sealed Mountain Tiger's summons.

If this was the case, then it was a bad idea to keep tangling with these four. No matter how many summons died, it wouldn't cause any harm to the summoner. Though continuous summoning would take a toll on Mana, but this was a boss. The mana consumption of a boss wasn't something players cared about since their mana was usually just as high as their health.

Thinking of this, Ye Xiu's Lord Grim immediately aimed his muzzle at the boss. At first they were thinking that they probably shouldn't provoke the boss before the final battle, but knowing what was really happening now, it would just be a waste of time to give the boss a wide berth.

With a bang, bullets flew. Yet the newly summoned Blademaster Alpha courageously jumped in front of Sealed Mountain Tiger and took the hits for him.

"Meddlesome!" Chen Guo scolded Blademaster Alpha loudly, sending a Satellite Beam directly at him.

Sealed Mountain Tiger, who hadn't left the stone steps all this time, finally moved. Satellite Beam wasn't a skill that one could block with their body, so it wouldn't matter how courageous and loyal a summon was.

With this move, Sealed Mountain Tiger disappeared. When he reappeared, he was ten body units away from his original position.

"He can teleport!" This was a headache for the onwatching Team Happy. Summoners didn't have much offensive or defensive capabilities and relied entirely on their summons for protection, making the class complicated to control and extremely passive in battle. So Summoners needed to be very good with positioning and movement. This way, your opponent wouldn't be able to catch you and you could have your summons continuously attack. This made the use of Summoners very complicated, to the point where not a single one had become an All-Star yet.

For positioning and movement, it was obvious that the faster the movement speed, the better, and was there anything faster than Teleportation? It was good that this skill wasn't of the same class as Summoners, so they couldn't learn it through normal means. However, self-made weapons could still give them built in skills, no? So, in the Pro League, Summoners would, without a doubt, choose to have Teleport built into their weapons. This skill would definitely fortify a Summoner's strength.

And now, it seemed that the designers had noticed the advantages this sort of Summoner had and designed a Summoner boss who used that exact strategy. Also, boss' class skills weren't necessarily the same as players'. If this boss had a low CD for Teleportation, then that would be very annoying!

Chapter 870: Combine

With a single Teleport, Sealed Mountain Tiger had left Lord Grim far behind and the newly summoned Blademaster Alpha ran up to engage him. Lord Grim swung out his Myriad Manifestation Umbrella and a quick Sky Strike sent the Blademaster airborne. A step to the side and then a Falling Flower Palm sent the Blademaster into Windward Formation's range of control.

"Will you have any problems with keeping both of them occupied?" Ye Xiu asked Wei Chen.

Wei Chen was especially straightforward, immediately replying, "Yeah, some."

They might have been summons, but they were summoned by a level 75 final Boss. The CC skills of a Warlock were weakened quite a bit, unable to perform to their full potential. Being able to keep one under control was already very impressive, but Wei Chen couldn't fully hold onto two. Without waiting for Ye Xiu to think of a new idea, a figure flashed by. Mo Fan's Deception appeared, taking on Blademaster Alpha.

"Will our loner have any trouble taking it on alone?" Ye Xiu immediately asked.

Mo Fan didn't reply, simply controlling Deception to engage Blademaster Alpha.

"One Inch Ash, pay a little more attention to the situation over here," Ye Xiu still arranged.

"Okay," Qiao Yifan agreed.

"Let's go and take out the leader." Saying this, Ye Xiu had Lord Grim charge after Sealed Mountain Tiger. Dawn Rifle and Chasing Haze continued to provide ranged support. All three characters had ranged attacks, so gunshots sounded out before they even arrived. Missiles and bullets streaked through the air towards Sealed Mountain Tiger.

Sealed Mountain Tiger didn't just rely on Teleportation for moving; his movement speed was also very fast, allowing him to dodge the attacks from the three.

"Be careful to complement each other's attacks. I'll take the left, Daw Rifle the right, Chasing Haze blast our target!" Ye Xiu commended. If they didn't take care to cooperate with each other, then their attacks would be no different from a single person's attacks. With Ye Xiu's arrangement, their accuracy was assured, despite the cut in DPS.

Lord Grim and Dawn Rifle's attacks limited Sealed Mountain Tiger's space for dodging and Chasing Haze's attacks flew directly at him. Unless he Teleported again, these attacks weren't something that could be dodged through normal means.

Teleportation didn't appear again. It seemed that the CD time for Sealed Mountain Tiger wasn't short either, which was a huge relief for Ye Xiu. The designer wasn't that inhumane, it seemed.

Boom!

Their attacks caused a chain of explosions, finally damaging Sealed Mountain Tiger. As a Summoner, Sealed Mountain Tiger would try to follow or get closer to his opponents even with an aggro target. Sealed Mountain Tiger used his finger to point, sending commands. Alpha, Beta, Gamma, and Delta all had the intention to come over and protect their master, but with Happy's members keeping them occupied, they didn't have the chance.

"Will you be ok on your own, Soft Mist?" Ye Xiu suddenly asked.

"What do you think?" Tang Rou's reply was full of confidence.

"Steamed Bun, get over here." Ye Xiu decisively stole him. Now knowing that Alpha, Beta, Gamma, and Delta were just summons, there was no need to waste much time and effort on them. As long as they were kept under control, it would be enough.

They could imagine that this design for Sealed Mountain Tiger would cause a lot of parties to waste a lot of time and effort on a futile task if they didn't know it's true face beforehand. Alpha, Beta, Gamma, and Delta didn't seem like summons at all. Even a god like Ye Xiu hadn't realized at first, so how would normal players?

With the level normal players had, they probably wouldn't be able to deal with just these four like Ye Xiu and co could.

For normal players, they would probably need to do quite a bit of research into how to beat this "curtain raiser" battle. Then, after accumulating the experience from all those defeats, they would finally manage a single victory, only to realize that this was a battle against the Boss' summons...

"How cunning." When Ye Xiu gave his final opinion on Sealed Mountain Tiger, he had already launched a two-pronged attack against the Boss with Steamed Bun, one coming at him from the front and the other from the back. In addition, his left and right were being taken care of by Dawn Rifle and Chasing Haze.

"You won't be able to escape!" Steamed Bun yelled threateningly.

"Don't let your guard down!" Ye Xiu warned sighed.

This formation had taken a little bit of time to arrange. Ye Xiu believed that Sealed Mountain Tiger's Teleportation's CD was up, otherwise there was no point in having the skill.

"Watch this!" Steamed Bun hollered, having Steamed Bun Invasion charge forth.

"Go!" Yet Ye Xiu's voice rang out only after Steamed Bun Invasion had begun to charge, seeming to be unnecessary.

Seeing how he couldn't escape by normal means, Sealed Mountain Tiger attempted to Teleport, as expected. This spell was an instant one, activated with the raise of his hand without any cast time. It was then that six pillars of light crashed into the ground like swords from the heavens and a hexagram lit up on the ground.

Warlock skill: Hexagram Prison.

The very second before Sealed Mountain Tiger's Teleportation activated, Windward Formation's curse struck, entrapping Sealed Mountain Tiger before he could act. Under Hexagram Prison, even Teleportation wouldn't activate.

"Not bad!" Ye Xiu praised Wei Chen.

Wei Chen didn't have the time to reply. He still had to deal with Striker Gamma. Having barely managed to get enough time to throw a skill their way and with such precise timing, the action naturally didn't do any good for his situation. He was too busy trying to save his situation to reply!

There was no need for Ye Xiu to say anything more.

Steamed Bun, Dawn Rifle, Chasing Haze, and Ye Xiu's Lord Grim immediately attacked fiercely.

With just the two Satellite Beams that crashed down one after another, the smaller beams reaching the middle, their targets survival seemed unreal.

This wave of attacks caused immense damage. However, Hexagram Prison wouldn't entrap this level 75 final Boss for long. Yet, the moment Hexagram Prison disappeared, a sacred white flame flickered to life and Sealed Mountain Tiger was burned in an instant.

Cleric skill: Sacred Fire.

The damage was secondary to the effect of the three second silence, which once again delayed Sealed Mountain Tiger's use of Teleport. The four took this chance to deal as much damage as possible again. When the effect of Sacred Fire ended, Steamed Bun Invasion ran up with a Strangle, getting a solid grip on Sealed Mountain Tiger.

Under this circumstance, Teleportation also couldn't be used. Another wave of attacks flew, seeming to provoke Sealed Mountain Tiger. Strangle didn't really count as a CC skill, so characters under its effect could still attack. Sealed Mountain Tiger pushed out with his palm and there was a loud slapping sound; Steamed Bun Invasion had somehow been slapped flying.

This was the Battle Mage skill Falling Flower Palm! So this Sealed Mountain Tiger did have some offensive skills! Yet this sort of close-combat skill seemed to be like a skill that players commonly added to their skill tree, often to make sure that their character had a few skills to protect themselves. This made it seem like Sealed Mountain Tiger really was designed based on what was mainstream for Summoners.

"Aiyo, so strong!" Steamed Bun Invasion was blown back quite the distance. A level 75 final dungeon Boss' strength wasn't something to laugh about. However, in the time he took to send Steamed Bun Invasion flying, he had taken a severe beating. Just as he wanted to teleport out of the way, he was caught by Lord Grim and sent smashing into the ground, head over heels, with a Grappler's Back Throw.

Ye Xiu arranged the entire team to delay Sealed Mountain Tiger's Teleport for as long as possible. Unfortunately, this skill was instant and they didn't have any way to reliably predict its activation. Everyone was delaying it through their use of skill combos and their own experience. This wasn't infallible though. Eventually, a skill wasn't fast enough to continue the CC chain and allowed Sealed Mountain Tiger to Teleport, immediately distancing himself from them. However, Ye Xiu's reaction was fast. As Sealed Mountain Tiger darted away, his Lord Grim was already chasing after him with a Shadow Clone. This time, Sealed Mountain Tiger didn't have a Teleport to use. It might have a few close-combat skills, but they weren't specialized, so how could he deal with Ye Xiu? His greatest weapons were his summons, but they were being kept busy by the opponent. So, Sealed Mountain Tiger once again fell into his own personal hell, surrounded and getting beat on by Ye Xiu, Steamed Bun, Wu Chen, and Chen Guo.

Just from this battle, Sealed Mountain Tiger didn't seem much stronger than Frigid Eagle. However, that was mostly because the four summons were being heavily suppressed by six people, so their master was completely cut off from receiving their support. This definitely wasn't something a normal pioneering team could do. Team Happy's members were all very skilled in their own right, and this gave them a

huge advantage against this Boss. If it wasn't a team like theirs, they wouldn't be able to suppress Sealed Mountain Tiger so well.

The battle continued. As they fought, there would naturally be some bumps, like when a summons was killed and resummoned, they had to spend time getting it under control again. Or, when someone lost control of a summons, it would come over and cause some trouble, but all this was dealt with, and the situation was maintained. Soon enough, they were approaching the Boss' red-blood state. Many players fell to this darkest period before dawn.

What sort of ace did Sealed Mountain Tiger have up his sleeve?

Since there were still four summons on the field, there was no way to clear the field for Lord Grim to go forward and test out the Boss. In their hunting down of the Boss, his health fell to 10 percent and Ye Xiu yelled a "careful", before watching the Boss warily with everyone else.

The current Sealed Mountain Tiger's demeanor had changed. He raised his arms to the sky. Alpha, Beta, Gamma, and Delta suddenly dispersed into smoke with four "poof"s, but the four's weapons were left behind, spinning in the air. Then, they came together and flew into Sealed Mountain Tiger like souls, combining with Sealed Mountain Tiger. Seeing this, everyone had a vague idea of what changes Sealed Mountain Tiger had just gone through. With his last 10 percent of health, Sealed Mountain Tiger was no longer a Summoner, but he had absorbed his summons' power and took control of it himself, turning himself into a summons to battle.

"That isn't very impressive, is it?" Wei Chen was already starting to lower his guard. This was just a Boss with a rather complicated fighting style. With just a tenth of its health left, it should be easy for them to deal with, right?

As his words fell, a figure seemed to dart straight through Windward Formation and Windward Formation suddenly erupted with a fountain of blood. This scene was incredibly familiar, almost exactly the same as when Brother Wolf had struck Dawn Rifle with Downwind Sword Slash.

"Holy f*ck!" Seeing his health, Wei Chen had been scared sh*tless. Windward Formation had almost been one-shotted.

"Stop him, quick!" Wei Chen didn't dare to lower his guard anymore. This Summoner-turned-summons had terrifying attack power!