

First Order 741

Chapter 741 Looking for a friend

Ren Xiaosu stood at the campsite and looked around. He was scrutinizing everyone's expressions, determined to find the murderer.

When Yang Xiaojin saw this, she quickly lowered her head and hid her expression under her cap. She was afraid the others might get an inkling that something was wrong. "What are you looking at me for?" Cheng Yu quickly explained to Ren Xiaosu, "It's not like I was the one who killed him!" "But you were the first to speak." Ren Xiaosu said, "Don't you know? In most homicide cases, the first person to discover the crime scene is the murderer!"

Cheng Yu was speechless. Was this the time to be playing detective?

He could not be bothered with Ren Xiaosu anymore. Instead, he looked at the others and speculated who might have killed Li Shentan. Cheng Yu looked at the wound on Li Shentan's corpse and realized it looked like a knife wound. Then he thought of something. Didn't White Mask use a black saber? Could it be White Mask who killed him? Ren Xiaosu quietly returned to Yang Xiaojin's side and allowed everyone to come up with their own deductions.

But Wang Yun suddenly said, "Something's not right."

Everyone looked over and heard Wang Yun say, "This Li Shentan is definitely dead, but why didn't his corpse get swallowed up? Could the plants underground have suddenly had their fill? That doesn't make sense, right?"

Everyone finally realized they had nearly forgotten about this matter!

Previously, to prevent themselves from getting attacked by the plants while they were sleeping, everyone had to rest in trees.

But now, they had slept all the way until it was noon, yet they were still fine. Moreover, Li Shentan's corpse was not devoured by the plant.

"Could we have made it out of the zone where the plants were growing?" Cheng Yu wondered.

"No." Wang Yun shook his head. "Rather, I think there's a problem with this Li Shentan. Perhaps you all have not studied him in detail before, but I have. How could someone like him possibly die without a struggle? Have you all ever thought that he might be a fake? For example, he could be one of the T6s of the Pyro Company?"

"Fake?" Everyone fell into deep thought. If it were any other place, they would definitely not believe such claims. But the Sacred Mountains was such a strange place, and this was also an area of focus in the Pyro Company's research, so it might not be impossible.

At the side, Luo Lan said, "Who cares if he's real or fake? In any case, we won't have to sleep in the trees anymore tonight!"

Luo Lan's focus was always different from the others'.

"Don't think too much about it. Either way, we will be continuing our journey." Wang Yun smiled and said, "Instead of investigating what might have happened, why don't we think about what to do next? Calculating the time and the distance, I'm afraid that we'll be entering the core region of the Sacred Mountains in another day and a half. At that time, should we still rely on our own individual abilities, or should we start working together?"

"Work together?" One of the team members sneered and said, "Wang Yun, are you serious? I still haven't settled the score with you for stealing our Zhou Consortium's intelligence last year, so how can you expect me to work with you?"

"So we're gonna have to rely on our own abilities then?" Wang Yun smiled and said, "I'm fine with that."

Even though he said he was fine with it, he was actually planning to stick with Ren Xiaosu. This time, he had given up on his plan to contest the capture of the No. 001 Experimental. He was just hoping to reap some other benefits from this expedition.

Moreover, Wang Yun hoped the others would also step up to contend against Ren Xiaosu and get a taste of hitting this brick wall.

"Everyone," Cheng Yu stood up and said, "since we're already here, I hope we can all put aside our differences and understand the Sacred Mountains is still the Pyro Company's home field. I know all of you have been conserving your strength all this while. But even at our current strength, we still have to work together to face the common enemy."

"That's right," Ren Xiaosu echoed.

Cheng Yu felt his enthusiasm in giving the speech suddenly extinguishing. For some reason, he felt like he had said something wrong when Ren Xiaosu echoed his words. He even began to doubt himself... The campsite descended into a strange silence. As more and more people from the other teams had joined up with them, there were now 85 people in this particular group. The makeup of the members and their allegiance was giving Cheng Yu a headache.

At this moment, Cheng Yu looked at White Mask and asked, "What are your plans?"

"What are you doing?" Si Liren asked as she looked at Li Shentan.

Li Shentan was facing a stream and making all sorts of strange faces. At times, he looked extremely shocked, and at other times, he looked extremely aggrieved.

When Li Shentan heard Si Liren's question, he stood up and explained, "Oh, that clone of mine is dead."

"How do you know that?" Vanilla asked in surprise.

"When he was placing a psychological suggestion on you all, I also planted one in his mind. Now that it's disappeared, it means he's dead," Li Shentan said matter-of-factly.

Vanilla did not say anything further. So it turned out Li Shentan was much stronger than his clone. He could even counter his opponent's moves without being discovered.

But that clone of Li Shentan's had really died too carelessly.

Everyone could not sleep for the entire night because they did not know how to deal with Li Shentan's clone. But in the end, he ended up dead by the afternoon of the next day. Who killed him? Who had the ability to do that? Was it Zhou Yingxue's boss again?!

The Anjing House was the leader of this operation, and they should've been the ones to initiate the strategy. But oftentimes, the situation would develop unexpectedly.

Vanilla felt stifled by a breath in the chest he was unable to let out.

"But what does his death have to do with you making those faces?" Si Liren asked.

"Oh, I wanted to have a look at his expression before he died." Li Shentan explained in a serious tone, "Since he looks just like me, I can get an idea of how aggrieved and indignant he must've felt before his death by looking at myself. It's pretty interesting when you think about it."

When the others nearby heard Li Shentan say that, they did not know how to respond. As expected of a psychopath, his imagination was really too wild.

"Then what should we do next?" Vanilla asked.

"This is what I think." Li Shentan said, "We'll use the Pyro Company members under my control to lead the way. If there's any danger, they'll be the first to die. And then, we'll follow them as we secretly carry on with our singing and dancing."

Everyone was stunned for a moment. "Why do we have to carry on singing and dancing secretly?" "See, I knew it. You all don't actually care about the lives of other people at all. Those Pyro Company members have just died, yet you all didn't even care to ask about them? And you say I'm the demon?" Li Shentan said unhappily, "I think it's you all who are the real demons!" Vanilla let out a frustrated cry in his heart. 'I was asking you what we should do next. How did it suddenly end up with you trying to vindicate yourself?'

However, he did not dare to say that out loud. Instead, he tried his best to calm down before asking again, "Let's be serious here. What are you planning to do now?"

"I'm preparing to..." Li Shentan looked out into the distance of the Sacred Mountains before giving a wave of his hand. "... go look for my friend!"

Chapter 742 Double

Since they were setting out to look for Li Shentan's friend, the atmosphere should naturally be a little more cheerful.

As such, Vanilla and the others followed Li Shentan expressionlessly as they listened to the Pyro Company members singing a nostalgic song in front of them. "Looking, looking, and looking for a friend, and then I found a very good friend..."

If the Pyro Company heard this singing, they would probably cry. Vanilla and the others fell silent as they listened to Pyro Company members perform this nursery rhyme.

Meanwhile, everyone at Ren Xiaosu's side was looking at White Mask. They wanted to hear from White Mask what his decision was.

However, White Mask just remained silent. The more it was like this, the tenser the atmosphere in the campsite became.

Could it be that White Mask was unsure of what to do as well?

Or perhaps he was starting to think about retreating?

Everyone was coming up with all sorts of possibilities.

But actually, the reason why White Mask did not say anything was simply that he could not speak.

Although, Cheng Yu had started suspecting over the past two days that White Mask was mute. It was just that he was too afraid to ask him directly.

During the silence, Ren Xiaosu was sizing up the newcomers. Most of the people who could escape from the Pyro Company's encirclement were probably very skilled. Even if they were not supernatural beings, they would still be extremely capable in combat.

Initially, Ren Xiaosu was thinking of taking advantage of the situation by tagging onto a larger group. But there were too many people in their team now, and even more people from other teams would be merging with them.

If that happened, they would become too big a target and could end up facing a full purge from the Pyro Company. They were about to reach the core region of the Sacred Mountains, and the cell phone signal here was completely blocked. All of this was telling them they would soon face an even more brutal encirclement by the Pyro Company. Under such circumstances, Ren Xiaosu would prefer to act alone instead. A second later, Yang Xiaojin suddenly pulled him backwards and rolled away. With a crack, a sniper bullet landed at the position where they were just sitting.

But while Ren Xiaosu was fine, the others were not so lucky. A young man who had just joined the group was shot by another bullet before he could even get up and dodge.

Ren Xiaosu's reaction was not slow either. He followed Yang Xiaojin and ran into the forest. The Pyro Company's counterattack had come faster than they had expected!

However, he could not understand why they were in such a hurry that they needed to make a move during the day.

Of course, if he knew that Li Shentan was leading a team to meet up with him, he would understand the Pyro Company was worried it would get too difficult to deal with them after they joined up!

Luo Lan scrambled after Ren Xiaosu. "Wait for me!" He caught up with Ren Xiaosu and Yang Xiaojin and followed them to find cover.

However, Luo Lan suddenly realized the two people in front of him did not seem like they were looking for cover. Instead, they seemed to be looking for the best position to launch a counterattack.

White Mask also started moving. It did not run with Ren Xiaosu but ran in the opposite direction. As a result, the others also ran in the opposite direction of Ren Xiaosu and Yang Xiaojin.

The sniper rifle kept ringing out, but it was obvious the sniper was not paying attention to the smaller group of people. Instead, it was "Old Xu" who attracted all of the firepower.

But Cheng Yu and the others were not pushovers either. In just an instant, Cheng Yu activated his illusion techniques.

In the wilderness, countless figures scattered off in all directions. As a result, the hidden snipers could not tell who was real and who was fake.

Although Cheng Yu's illusions did not have any actual destructive power, they were excellent for confusing the enemy. Cheng Yu bought some time for everyone. He shouted to the person next to him, "Is there anyone who can finish off that sniper? We can't keep getting suppressed like this. My illusions can only last for ten minutes at most!"

But no one answered him. It seemed that no one had the ability to kill an enemy long distance with their powers.

Cheng Yu suddenly thought of something. Didn't White Mask's partner specialize in using sniper rifles? He shouted at White Mask, "Get your partner to make his move. I'll create an illusion to cover him!"

But Old Xu looked like "he" only cared about running for "his" life and totally ignored Cheng Yu.

Cheng Yu got anxious. He looked around to see if there was any other hope. But when he looked around, he was surprised to see Ren Xiaosu and Yang Xiaojin had disappeared. Along with them, Luo Lan, Zhou Qi, and the Great Hoodwinker were also nowhere to be seen! Strange, didn't those people follow the main group?

Yang Xiaojin said as she ran, "Only Luo Lan, Zhou Qi, and the Great Hoodwinker are following us. Confirmed two snipers on the other side. One is 721 meters away to our 3 o'clock, and the other is 632 meters away to our 4 o'clock. Pick one."

"4 o'clock!" Ren Xiaosu said. There was no need for him to act like he was more capable than Yang Xiaojin when it came to shooting. She was just better than him, so he chose the easier target to handle!

The two of them said in unison, "Three, two, one..."

Then Luo Lan and the others who were following them suddenly saw the young man and woman in front get down on one knee in unison, and identical black sniper rifles appeared the moment they raised their hands. Ren Xiaosu's firearms skill was copied from Yang Xiaojin. Although he had attained master-level proficiency in it through his own efforts, his foundation was still Yang Xiaojin's.

Therefore, the two of them were moving so in sync that Luo Lan and the others felt like they were carved from the same mold. Their teamwork was so amazing it looked like they were the other's double!

Even their breathing occurred at the same frequency.

Upon seeing this, Luo Lan subconsciously held his breath in fear of disturbing the two of them.

Then the exchange of gunfire began!

The sniper rifles' bullets spun out of their barrels with huge kinetic energy and shattered the barrier between time and space. The fallen leaves around the two snipers were sent flying into the air by the shockwave emitted by the firing of their rifles and blown aside.

Luo Lan swore he had never seen such a powerful sniper rifle before. Was it even any different from an artillery weapon?!

The moment before the shots were fired was extremely quiet. But the second the triggers were pulled, everything started stirring!

Ren Xiaosu and Yang Xiaojin remained calm throughout. It was as though they had done something quite normal.

Luo Lan whipped around and looked in the direction they were shooting. Two bloody spurts burst in the distant mountains. The sight was filled with a peculiar sense of beauty that emanated from the power amid the violence.

Elsewhere, Cheng Yu and the others stopped in their tracks. The sound of the sniper rifles firing in the distance had stopped. Clearly, someone had taken care of the Pyro Company's snipers. Who was it? Cheng Yu already had an answer in mind.

Weren't there only five people who were not present here with them? Among those five, at least two snipers were working together to shoot the enemy.

For some reason, Cheng Yu was very sure the two people were Ren Xiaosu and Yang Xiaojin.

Coupled with the previous incident of the sniper assisting White Mask, Cheng Yu came to a sudden realization. So that couple were the assistants of White Mask!

Ren Xiaosu and Yang Xiaojin stood up again in unison. Ren Xiaosu said with a smile, "All snipers have been taken care of. But this time, there should be a lot more of the Pyro Company's troops bearing

down on us. Luo Lan, what would you do if you were in command?" "Hehe," Luo Lan answered with a laugh, "if it were only me, I would've already fled. But with you around, I'd like to try and take them on."

Chapter 743 From each according to their ability

It was as though Ren Xiaosu and Yang Xiaojin's instant elimination of the snipers had inspired Luo Lan. As a result, Fatty Luo's heroism was sparked.

Or perhaps it was because Luo Lan did not have the chance to use his power in combat ever since he had awakened as a supernatural being that caused him to start feeling a little restless.

So, while the others were fleeing, Luo Lan had started thinking about how to work together with Ren Xiaosu to fight back.

Ren Xiaosu looked at Luo Lan and said, "If it's a battle, our group of several dozen people will have to split up into smaller groups. Otherwise, we might not have much of an advantage against an entire unit of troops."

"I understand that." Luo Lan chuckled and said, "Qing Zhen once mentioned that the Li Consortium's most foolish act was to group up the nanosoldiers. But actually, it would've been better for those powerful individual warriors to resort to guerrilla warfare and infiltrate enemy ranks. Our current situation is similar to that."

The Great Hoodwinker spoke, "Xiaosu, just tell us what your plan is. We just need to coordinate with you."

Ren Xiaosu looked at Luo Lan. "How exactly do you use your superpower?"

Luo Lan called upon his martyred spirits, and 12 golden silhouettes walked out of his body one by one.

Luo Lan said, "The physical strength of these 12 has been enhanced, but it's still a little lacking as compared to supernatural beings. To be honest, I've never thought about how to unleash their combat power."

Ren Xiaosu thought for a moment and then took out several boxes of firearms from his storage space. These included two heavy machine guns, ten automatic rifles, and several boxes of bullets and grenades.

He said to Luo Lan, "I think that since they're all professional soldiers and the elites of the Qing Consortium's military, it would be better to let them use firearms and find a suitable position to suppress the Pyro Company's forces. I have another question. Will they die if they get shot?" "No." One of the martyred Qing Consortium soldiers said, "It'll still hurt, but it's not actually a big deal."

Ren Xiaosu nodded. It seemed that Luo Lan's superpower was still a little neutered. After all, even if they were elites, it would still be very difficult for them to go head-on against a supernatural being with 12 soldiers.

However, Ren Xiaosu had unlocked many of his superpowers and learned how to put them to good use. So he was quite experienced when it came to utilizing superpowers.

These 12 martyred spirits were immortal. How terrifying would it be if a machine gun nest could never be taken out? It would probably be enough to give any army a headache in a large-scale war. Moreover, Luo Lan only had 12 martyred spirits under his command. What if he were to take in an entire army in the future? Of course, Luo Lan would need to have enough willpower to do so first. At that time, with tens of thousands of martyred spirits doing battle, unable to die, that would be more than enough to give anyone a headache. In fact, Luo Lan could even end up at Li Shentan's level. If he played it properly, he could topple an entire organization all by himself.

Ren Xiaosu asked Luo Lan, "What's the maximum number of martyred spirits you can summon?"

Luo Lan thought for a moment and said, "12." "Oh." Ren Xiaosu nodded. He felt a little aggrieved that it was Luo Lan who had this power.

Although a strongpoint that could not be taken out was also very powerful, it still felt a little lacking.

But all he needed was one more Perfect Skill Duplication Scroll, and this power would shine in his hands.

Ren Xiaosu said to Luo Lan, "How about this? You lead the 12 martyred spirits and set up an emplacement while Yang Xiaojin and I will take out the enemies."

"OK." Luo Lan knew it would be more dangerous for him if he did that. But how could battle not be dangerous? At critical moments like these, Luo Lan had never dropped the ball before!

"We have snipers on our side now, but the enemy no longer has any. So it's still better if Xiaojin and I remain in hiding to suppress the enemy. The three of you, take care." Ren Xiaosu said, "Once they realize they can't take out the MG nest, and after we kill enough of them, the enemy will turn their attention to the two of us."

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Luo Lan's eyes lit up. By the time the Pyro Company realized there were only two snipers on the opposing side, they would probably have paid a terrible price for it. "However, I'm most worried that a T5 combatant will join the battle. Don't let your guard down just because the previous battles were so easy. The person behind the Pyro Company is not that stupid." Ren Xiaosu looked at Zhou Qi and the Great Hoodwinker. "Are the two of you confident of dealing with a T5 combatant?"

"Don't worry about that," the Great Hoodwinker said with a nonchalant smile.

Ren Xiaosu was stunned for a moment. He realized the Great Hoodwinker might be a hidden expert as well. Exactly. If he weren't an expert, how could he walk around in the wilderness alone with such ease and have the balls to stroll around the periphery of the Sacred Mountains?

Zhou Qi looked at the Great Hoodwinker. "If he's fine with it, so am I."

"Alright, everyone, be careful."

After that, Ren Xiaosu followed Yang Xiaojin and headed into the wilderness. When it came down to sniping, the moment still belonged to Yang Xiaojin. Ren Xiaosu knew himself well. He would not even have to use his brain now and only needed to follow her.

On the other side, the people who were running with “Old Xu” had gradually split up as well. Since Ren Xiaosu knew their group had to split up, the others thought of it as well.

Although their team was in a bit of a pathetic state, the members were no rookies. The Pyro Company’s troops had fanned out and surrounded them. It was obvious they were trying to take them out in one fell swoop. However, due to Cheng Yu and the others splitting up, the Pyro Company’s formation changed very quickly. They split up into seven groups and chased after the people who had scattered.

Cheng Yu glanced at Wang Yun, who was next to him, and frowned. “Didn’t you make a deal with that young man? Why didn’t you follow them?”

Wang Yun smiled and said, “Didn’t you realize the five of them are together? Although we made a deal, once there’s danger, the one who’ll get abandoned will definitely be an outsider like me. We don’t have much of a relationship, so it’s better to follow the main group under such circumstances.” It was not that Wang Yun did not want to have the backing of someone powerful but that he felt he might not be qualified to do so.

“Then why are you following me?” Cheng Yu wondered.

Wang Yun smiled shamelessly and said, “Although your illusions might be very weak, you’re very skilled at escaping and ambushing. Why don’t we work together?”

“What do you propose?” Cheng Yu asked calmly.

Even Song Qiao, Cheng Yu’s colleague from the Anjing House, was relying on his own abilities to escape. As for Cheng Yu’s power, he needed to find someone strong to act as his support.

A group of the Pyro Company’s troops passed through the forest and approached where Cheng Yu and the others were. But in their field of vision, they could only see dead trees and rocks. There was no one in sight.

The moment the troops passed through the area, a huge tree behind them disappeared like a flash of light. Wang Yun sneered as he charged into the group of people from behind.

In just an instant, Wang Yun killed seven people. The sound of air being compressed and exploding was as deafening as artillery fire.

By the time the Pyro Company’s troops reacted, Wang Yun had disappeared into thin air again. The Pyro Company members wanted to chase after him, but they all fell through the ground. The seemingly solid ground was actually a pit!

This forest had already been meticulously “decorated” by Cheng Yu, so no one could tell what was real.

“Fire!” Wang Yun said calmly.

His subordinates and Cheng Yu’s assistants, who were hiding behind the “curtain,” had been waiting for the opportunity to strike.

Chapter 744 Killing

Cheng Yu knew his own killing prowess was limited. However, he realized his cooperation with Wang Yun was almost flawless. The illusions he created could only be seen by himself. Take, for example, if he worked with others. It would be very easy for them to get taken in by his illusions just like the enemies. If there were really a pit in the ground that he had covered up with his illusions, would a normal person instantly remember what the original terrain looked like during battle? So they would similarly get confused along with the enemy and perhaps might even lose their balance and fall into the pit before the enemy.

But Wang Yun was different. His memory was exceptional. When he first joined the Kong Consortium’s intelligence agency, his ability shocked everyone.

Right now, no matter how Cheng Yu’s illusions changed, Wang Yun could still remember what the forest looked like originally. Furthermore, he was able to quickly plan all of his attacks to lure the enemy into a trap. The battle had already started. After killing a small group of Pyro Company members, Cheng Yu’s illusions started changing to prevent the remaining Pyro Company members from figuring out a pattern.

However, Wang Yun still managed to appear and disappear mysteriously. The illusions did not seem to affect him at all.

Before the battle, Wang Yun even specially instructed Cheng Yu, “Don’t exaggerate your illusions. When you sold the information, you said the Pyro Company saw through your illusions at a glance because they had someone with the ability to see through illusions, right?”

Cheng Yu answered, “Yes, they did.”

“If a fucking dragon were to suddenly appear in the sky, I would also immediately think that there was something off.” Wang Yun snapped, “Why didn’t you just create a false path and let them crash into the mountains instead? So be it real or fake, you haven’t even mastered the essence of illusions yet. I wonder why no one from the Anjing House warned you about that.”

Cheng Yu choked. “Can’t I like dragons? Can’t I be born in the Year of the Dragon?”

“If you wanna put it that way, we can’t continue this conversation,” Wang Yun said speechlessly.

But no matter how Cheng Yu argued with him, Wang Yun’s words reminded him that using the environment was much more useful than creating a dragon illusion.

When he saw how Wang Yun was always able to take the enemy by surprise with the help of his illusions, Cheng Yu started pondering if he could also develop his own close-range assassination skills since he was not weak physically.

Come to think of it, Cheng Yu and Wang Yun's cooperation even seemed quite compatible.

But just as Wang Yun was about to continue killing more enemies, a person in the forest came flying over like a cannonball and collided with Wang Yun without any deviation. Wang Yun spat blood while airborne. The moment he landed on the ground, he did not even care about the pain he was feeling and quickly crawled back into the illusion!

It was a T5 combatant! The Pyro Company members were just cannon fodder. The real killer moves were still to be taken by the T5 combatants who had just appeared. It seemed they were the true last line of attack for the enemy.

No matter how good Wang Yun's memory was or how realistic the illusions were, the T5 combatant managed to seize an opportunity and severely injured Wang Yun. Thus, Wang Yun could only take cover behind the illusions.

Nobody dared even breathe too loudly as they were afraid the enemy would sense their position by listening.

The T5 combatant stood calmly in the illusion as though he did not think Cheng Yu and the others could cause him any harm.

He used his hearing to get a sense of any abnormal activities in the surroundings. The illusion had not been dispelled yet, nor did he have the ability to see through it.

Cheng Yu looked at Wang Yun silently, seeing Wang Yun gesturing to him. This gesture was different from the one Luo Lan made to Ren Xiaosu. It was a common tactical gesture: Cover me.

When Cheng Yu saw this gesture, he was stunned. Could Wang Yun really be bold enough to want to kill the T5 combatant?

There was no time to think. Cheng Yu signaled to his assistant to get ready for battle at any moment.

But something unexpected happened. Wang Yun was lying on the ground quietly, but his internal injuries were too serious, and he could not help but cough up blood.

The sound of him coughing was like a signal of death. The T5 combatant's figure vanished from where he was standing, and in the blink of an eye, he appeared in front of Wang Yun as he slashed down at him. "Open fire, save him!" Cheng Yu roared. They were all in the same boat. If Wang Yun died, the others would not survive either! Cheng Yu activated an illusion to disrupt the T5 combatant's vision while Wang Yun's subordinates had already rushed out to save their boss.

But how could they possibly be faster than the T5 combatant?

The saber in the T5 combatant's hand slashed straight down, and a sharp whistling rent the air. But a split second later, something strange happened. Wang Yun floated backwards like a feather, and the T5 combatant's attack missed!

Wang Yun's body floated in the air weightlessly as the T5 combatant kept charging forward. But like a child grabbing at a feather in the wind, it pushed Wang Yun further and further away from him.

Wang Yun roared, "I can't hold on for much longer! Stop him!"

A second later, his four subordinates fired off a barrage of gunfire, but the bullets only went as deep as the surface of the T5 combatant's skin. Wang Yun's heart sank. The T5 combatant was really as tough as the rumors said. Not even rifle fire could penetrate his body!

Fortunately, the impact of the bullets still had some effect on the T5 combatant. The T5 combatant turned around coldly and looked at Wang Yun's subordinates. However, Wang Yun did not retreat. Instead, he drifted towards the T5 combatant.

The T5 combatant retaliated with a slash. Wang Yun's eyes were red with rage as he pointed a finger at his opponent's ear. The calm air wildly rushed straight into the T5 combatant's ear and kept compressing within the narrow ear canal, making the T5 combatant scream in pain.

The saber in the T5 combatant's hand had made contact with Wang Yun's chest, but Wang Yun still managed to conjure up a final blast of air that pierced through the T5 combatant's eardrums, and the powerful air pressure penetrated through his brain! "Sir!" Wang Yun's four subordinates ran towards where he landed, while the T5 combatant collapsed stiffly on the ground.

Cheng Yu ran over to check on Wang Yun's injuries as well. He thought Wang Yun might not survive this.

However, he was shocked to discover that Wang Yun was still wearing a thin bulletproof vest under his shirt. The T5 combatant's saber had even cut through it. But fortunately, while Wang Yun had a slash wound on his chest, he managed to avoid any injuries to his organs.

Wang Yun paled as he searched around his own body. Eventually, his arm trembled as he took out a small vial of black medicine. "Apply it on me. Hurry, or it'll be too late!"

He was losing blood rapidly. In fact, Wang Yun was not sure if the black medicine could save him.

When he bought the black medicine off Ren Xiaosu, he had kept some for himself to use in case he got injured in the Sacred Mountains. Cheng Yu sighed and said, "I only understand how terrifying a T5 combatant's power is after facing one. I wonder how White Mask was able to crush that T5 combatant. He's simply too scary!"

"Let's get out of here quickly." Wang Yun said strenuously, "There's more than one T5 combatant around. The Pyro Company has made up their mind to finish us off this time. If the others don't have any contingencies to deal with them, I'm afraid they won't survive this."

"Sir, where are we going?" his subordinate asked.

Wang Yun frowned. "We'll head to where Luo Lan and the others are!"

“Do you think they’re capable of dealing with the T5 combatants?” Cheng Yu asked curiously.

“We gotta bank on it!”

Chapter 745 One punch

If he had not experienced it personally, Cheng Yu would have misunderstood the combat strength of a T5 combatant. This was because he had seen with his own eyes how “Old Xu” had crushed that T5 combatant back then. He did not know if everything had coincidentally gone right in that encounter for Old Xu as he only saw the outcome of the clash.

But once they actually encountered a T5 combatant, they realized the T5 combatants were beings that could crush them in a head-on battle. If Wang Yun had not risked his life and used his power to fight to the death with that T5 combatant, they would probably all be dead by now.

As a matter of fact, Cheng Yu was very impressed by Wang Yun’s fearlessness at that critical moment.

Wang Yun was someone with brains, courage, bravery, and means. Cheng Yu suddenly felt it was a pity for him to stay in the Kong Consortium.

In the early years, the three major consortiums of the Central Plains were still on par with one another. But in the past few years, the Kong Consortium had constantly been led by the nose by the Wang Consortium. Based on the actions of the consortiums over the years, there was always that feeling that Wang Shengzhi’s strategy was superior.

Cheng Yu asked, “Actually, Wang Yun, everyone can tell that those people from the Kong Consortium are quite petty. Have you ever thought of going somewhere else?” Wang Yun laid on the back of his subordinate, getting piggybacked. He said weakly, “Don’t you worry about me. Rather, think about yourselves. All of you have been treated as cannon fodder by the Anjing House this time.”

“How did I end up becoming cannon fodder all of a sudden?” Cheng Yu said anxiously, “We came to the Sacred Mountains with a plan. Why are you making it sound like we were being sent to our deaths?”

“Then let me ask you: Did anyone tell you how to retreat?” Wang Yun sneered.

Cheng Yu was stunned. “Once everyone makes it into the Sacred Mountains and the Pyro Company has fallen, couldn’t we retreat however we wanted?”

“The Pyro Company? Fall? With just us?” When Wang Yun laughed, his wound stretched, and he started to cough violently.

Wang Yun’s subordinate quickly said, “Sir, please don’t speak for now.”

“It’s fine. That young man’s medicine is truly magical.” Wang Yun said, “With this medicine, I won’t die.”

Cheng Yu stopped talking. Actually, Wang Yun was right. His boss had really not told them about the exfiltration plan, and neither did he know where she was.

Was he just cannon fodder? All of this was just so she could trap all these people from the other organizations and leave them for dead in the Sacred Mountains?

Cheng Yu could not be sure of that.

At this moment, many others were still facing the pursuit of the Pyro Company. A lot of them had already been brutally crushed by the T5 combatants.

It went alright for the supernatural beings among them. Some of them even managed to work together to keep their T5-ranked opponents in check and send them into a temporary retreat. Some others were able to finish off a T5 combatant just like Wang Yun did.

But if a normal person encountered a T5 combatant, they really stood no chance of surviving.

Everyone had come into the Sacred Mountains together. Regardless of whether they encountered any danger at the beginning, today's battle marked the true beginning of the expedition.

Luo Lan had found his way to a small hillside. Occasionally, he could hear a sniper rifle cracking in the distance.

Luo Lan knew Ren Xiaosu and Yang Xiaojin were engaged in battle. He sighed and said, "Whoever encounters those two are in for a headache. Even a large group of people can't kill as quickly as them."

The martyred spirits next to Luo Lan were digging trenches and setting up dugouts. All of them were building up defensive fortifications very quickly.

One of the martyred spirits said with a smile, "Boss, we became stronger after our deaths, so our work rate has also gotten more efficient." Luo Lan looked at them. "Which one of you will be the machine gunner?"

"I'll do it." The platoon commander stepped forward. "Boss, just wait behind the fortifications and watch. The Pyro Company members have no chance of breaking through this MG nest."

"Alright, that's all I needed to hear," Luo Lan said with a sigh of relief.

Off to the side, the Great Hoodwinker asked, "Do you need my help?"

"No," the platoon commander said and smiled.

Luo Lan explained, "These are the elites of our Qing Consortium's military. 12 people occupying the high ground can be considered a full platoon. It's just a pity that this era isn't really fair to them."

These soldiers had been training day and night to improve their combat skills. But ever since the era of the "Rise of Gods," their abilities that were exchanged with sweat and blood could easily get outdone by supernatural beings at any moment.

This made Luo Lan feel a sense of unfairness, even though he had also become a supernatural being.

As they spoke, some of the Pyro Company's troops entered the battlefield. However, the martyred spirits did not immediately open fire on them. Instead, they waited.

What they needed to do now was not to force the Pyro Company into a retreat but to wipe them all out!

"Platoon Commander, we can still let them advance another 120 meters," a martyred spirit said.

"It's alright, let them get a little closer." The platoon commander calculated the distance and said, "We've also dealt with these Pyro Company members before. Their physical fitness is far superior than that of ordinary people's. If we fire at them while they're still far away, I'm afraid they might end up fleeing instead."

Behind the fortifications, the Great Hoodwinker curled his lips. "Y'know, your Qing Consortium is really full of ruthless people. They're already hellbent on wiping out several hundred enemies with just the 12 of them?"

"Come to think of it, what exactly is your superpower?" Luo Lan looked at the Great Hoodwinker curiously. "Our Qing Consortium has been watching you for a long time now, so why haven't we seen you use your superpower before? Could you be just a normal person?"

The Great Hoodwinker chuckled. "You'll find out when the T5 combatants show up."

While they were speaking, the Pyro Company's troops finally got into range of the martyred spirits' machine gun nest. Then the two machine guns started firing on the enemy like a meat grinder.

The Pyro Company members could never have expected someone would venture to set up a defensive position here and ambush them instead! Moreover, their intelligence report did not mention there were any heavy machine gun nests here!

It was just like how the intelligence report had not mentioned there were snipers in this team. The two heavy machine guns would not have been not easy to hide from sight. As long as they were brought here, they would be easily discovered.

But somehow, the weapons had appeared out of thin air. If they knew there were heavy machine guns, they would definitely not have been so careless as to walk within range of the enemy!

The Pyro Company's troops fell in droves, but there was still one person who was traversing the wilderness like a ghost and closing in on the group Zhou Qi looked at the Great Hoodwinker. "Alright, get up now. A T5 combatant has arrived."

The T5 combatant was getting closer and closer to the machine gun nest. The enemy did not seem to care about the heavy machine guns at all. No matter how the soldiers adjusted the angle of their machine guns, they were unable to hit him.

Just as the T5 combatant was about to charge into the defensive position, the Great Hoodwinker stood up and patted off his buttocks. “The reason why y’all haven’t seen my superpower is because I don’t really have any special superpower. All I have is brute force.”

After that, the Great Hoodwinker stepped out of the defensive position in his tattered cloth shoes to face the oncoming beast that was dashing in madly.

Luo Lan looked at the Great Hoodwinker in confusion and wondered if he was going to fucking sacrifice himself here.

But then, he saw the Great Hoodwinker’s forearm after he rolled up his sleeves. It was bulging with muscles. It was as though he had suddenly turned from a fortune teller to a bodybuilder. Luo Lan could not get used to the disparity in his appearance.

The T5 combatant and the Great Hoodwinker collided in midair. The T5 combatant, who had always been known for physical fitness, was actually forced back by the Great Hoodwinker’s punch!

Chapter 746 A bloody disaster

He had thrown out a simple punch without any fanciful or shocking moves. The cloth shoes the Great Hoodwinker was wearing were still tattered, yet the T5 combatant had been knocked back by his punch.

Luo Lan muttered, “Back then, those old fogeys in our Qing Consortium were saying they wanted to capture him. Thinking about it now, it’s fortunate Qing Zhen decided to maintain a good relationship with Fortress 178, so we didn’t have to make a move on this guy.”

This Great Hoodwinker usually appeared like an old man, but he was actually a pure strength-type supernatural being.

To be honest, there were very few people who saw strength-based superhumans as threats these days. However, that was definitely because most strength types were still not strong enough.

No one knew when the Great Hoodwinker had awakened his powers, but his brute strength was so strong that even a T5 combatant could not withstand it.

It was no wonder this guy had the balls to run to wherever there was danger. He had the skill to back it up!

Ren Xiaosu had also tried to probe the Great Hoodwinker about his power, but he did not manage to find out what it was. But now, the Great Hoodwinker was not going to pretend anymore! He was going all out!

Since he was battling alongside his future commander, he couldn’t just be cheering him on, right? The Great Hoodwinker stepped forward in his tattered cloth shoes without retreating. He advanced step by step towards the T5 combatant and said, “Young man, I think you’ll encounter a bloody disaster today.”

Luo Lan’s mouth twitched. This was the most fucking resolute fortune teller he had ever come across. If he said that you would encounter a bloody disaster, then you would really encounter a bloody disaster.

His fortune telling was never wrong, and it was always as accurate as ever!

Honestly speaking, based on the strength the Great Hoodwinker had just displayed, 99% of supernatural beings in the world could not escape this bloody disaster either. The T5 combatant looked at the Great Hoodwinker and sneered, "Did you think I was fighting you at full strength just now?" The Great Hoodwinker scratched his head and laughed. "You're making it sound like I was fighting you at full strength."

As soon as he finished speaking, the T5 combatant darted to the left like an arrow fired from a bow.

Wherever he moved, the Great Hoodwinker moved as well. Both parties continued moving side to side without letting up. Seeing that he could not shake off the Great Hoodwinker, the T5 combatant decided to stop pulling away from him and start clashing with the Great Hoodwinker's punches instead.

As the two of them fought, the trees around them suffered collateral damage. A seemingly light punch easily toppled the trees in their surroundings.

Luo Lan, Zhou Qi, and the others watched. As these two tangled with each other so fast they almost couldn't be seen, no one dared to rashly lend a hand for fear of hurting their own people.

This battle was a visual feast. Before this, it was really difficult to witness such a "solid" battle between superhumans. There was nothing fancy about it, but every strike was an earth-shattering one.

The ground was trembling.

But in just an instant, just as both parties were fighting to their hearts' content, an exquisite blade suddenly appeared in the Great Hoodwinker's hand. His swinging fist formed into a palm strike. No one knew what the blade was made of, but it sliced a wide gash across the T5 combatant's chest.

Blood flowed out like a fountain!

The T5 combatant was caught off guard and retreated. He said coldly, "You humans are still as despicable as ever."

The Great Hoodwinker smiled bashfully and said, "We can't just be exchanging punches all day, right? How boring is that?"

When he said that, it sounded almost exactly the same as when he told Ren Xiaosu how he couldn't always be using that "Prosperous Northwest" line on others.

And at that time, he happened to be preparing an extremely underhanded plan to drive a wedge between Wang Yun and the Kong Consortium.

The Great Hoodwinker used his identity as a fortune teller to spy on others and was blessed with unparalleled brute strength, yet he enjoyed striking others below the belt. In his own words, all of this was for the prosperity of the Northwest!

“Do you think this injury will kill me?” The T5 combatant loosened his limbs as though he was about to get serious.

However, the Great Hoodwinker said with a smile, “It’s very difficult for me to kill you, but it’ll be easier for other people.”

The T5 combatant was surprised to see that the blood did not stop flowing from his wound. A small wound like this would only take him three hours to fully recover from, and stopping the bleeding should only take a few minutes. But right now, the bleeding was not stopping at all!

However, he reacted very quickly. The T5 combatant immediately looked up at Zhou Qi and realized he was smiling strangely at him.

Zhou Qi’s ability was to control water. Usually, it would be quite difficult for him to draw water from the air. Therefore, if he were not near a river during a battle, Zhou Qi would find himself in a more passive position.

But later, Qing Zhen told him there was no need to look too far actually. After all, a person’s body was 70% water.

From then on, Zhou Qi’s power became extremely weird and vicious.

He could not control the blood of others who did not have any wounds, but the Great Hoodwinker had created an opportunity for him now. The T5 combatant was as good as a dead man in his eyes.

When the T5 combatant saw the situation was not right, he turned around and ran. However, how could he escape from the Great Hoodwinker’s pestering? After taking just a few steps, the Great Hoodwinker caught up to him again, so he could only fight back hastily!

As time went by, the T5 combatant felt himself weakening. Zhou Qi drew out the blood from his body until he went into shock.

His blood was dancing in the air like a scarlet dragon as it flew all the way to Zhou Qi’s side.

The Great Hoodwinker looked at Luo Lan and the others and said with a grin, “Not bad, right?”

Luo Lan gave him a thumbs up. “That was great, absolutely great! Elder, you’re so heroic and mighty!”

From now on, Luo Lan decided to be more polite to the Great Hoodwinker in case he “predicted” he would encounter a bloody disaster someday!

Furthermore, Luo Lan suspected the Great Hoodwinker had still been hiding his strength during the battle just now. That was because his shoes had not been worn out even after such an intense battle!

It was not that Luo Lan wanted to be picky about the details, but that he had witnessed many battles between experts. It was a common occurrence for one or both shoes to be destroyed when a physically strong wearer ran in them.

However, the Great Hoodwinker did not even wear out his cloth shoes after fighting a T5 combatant. That showed he was still controlling his strength. "The Northwest really is full of hidden experts." Luo Lan muttered, "Is it easier to awaken your superpower if you live in a colder place? Should I suggest to my brother to send a group of people to the Western Plateau to train?"

One of the martyred spirits laughed and said, "Boss, sorry to have to interrupt you, but Mr. Qing Zhen is already doing that."

"Alright, he's one step ahead of me again." Luo Lan curled his lips.

Some people said the awakening of a supernatural being had a direct correlation with one's willpower. In that case, it should be easier to awaken one's power when training in a tough and cold place. Luo Lan felt there would probably be people who would purposely venture into harsh environments to train in the future, and who knew how many monsters might appear when that time came?

However, Luo Lan was extremely relaxed now. Initially, he thought the Sacred Mountains were going to be really dangerous, but it was only now that he realized the people around him were each more fearsome than the last.

"Boss, another group of the Pyro Company's troops are approaching," a martyred spirit said.

"Then what are we waiting for? Let's get them!" Luo Lan immediately said valiantly.

But before the Pyro Company could approach them, a sniper bullet flew over from somewhere and directly killed the commander of their troops. The Pyro Company was originally targeting Luo Lan and the others, but when the sniper appeared, they immediately switched targets! Luo Lan could only sit impatiently within the defensive fortifications. His teammates were too strong, so there was nowhere for him to shine.

Chapter 747 One-hit kill

The sudden attack from the Pyro Company lasted from noon until dusk.

Blood was spilled in the Sacred Mountains, and some people revealed their true bravery.

The Great Hoodwinker and the others had no intention of saving the others. Perhaps Ren Xiaosu and Yang Xiaojin were afraid they were under too much pressure, so they took the initiative to lure away the Pyro Company's reinforcements after the initial group of troops had been wiped out.

In that case, Luo Lan decided to make the best of this rare opportunity to rest and recuperate. After all, Ren Xiaosu and Yang Xiaojin had risked their lives to fight for this opportunity for them. Luo Lan could not possibly take Ren Xiaosu's good intentions and contribute it to others.

Furthermore, if another T5 combatant were to appear at this moment, they would probably end up in a pathetic state as well.

Ren Xiaosu stepped on some decomposing leaves as he headed southwards. Yang Xiaojin was walking in front of him and would occasionally examine their surroundings. Whenever they encountered a suitable ambush spot, they would stop in their tracks and deal another heavy blow to the Pyro Company's forces behind them.

The Sacred Mountains was a very dangerous place, but the sunset here was very beautiful.

The two of them carried their sniper rifles as they walked down the mountain path. They were comrades fighting a guerrilla war, eating, resting, and killing their enemies together.

Perhaps the Pyro Company had not expected these two snipers could put so much pressure on their troops.

According to the original plan, the Pyro Company would fully suppress Cheng Yu, Wang Yun, and the others with the aid of their own snipers. Then they would slowly sap their strength and eventually wipe out the forces the Anjing House had sent into the Sacred Mountains.

But something went awry with the plan right from the beginning. Their snipers had been taken out.

In everyone's opinion, the least expected problem with this plan was the appearance of snipers!

Hiding several hundred meters away and picking off enemies, what kind of concept was that? A distance of more than 700 meters might sound very close, but in reality, a person hiding at a distance of 700 meters would appear no bigger than a mosquito in one's vision.

In the end, it was two snipers facing off against two snipers, and Ren Xiaosu and Yang Xiaojin easily eliminated the Pyro Company's snipers.

Then the Pyro Company's troops started targeting them. As snipers had to carry their heavy sniper rifles on their backs, they would expend much more stamina than normal soldiers over a distance. And since the Pyro Company's troops were also made up of their T3 combatants, it shouldn't be difficult for them to catch up to the two snipers, right? Without the advantage of long distance suppression, the threat of the snipers would not be as great. After all, the Pyro Company had more people! But in the pursuit afterwards, the Pyro Company's troops were still unable to catch up to the two of them even after chasing with everything they had. Moreover, the Pyro Company realized the two snipers could easily close or stretch the distance between themselves and their troops.

Only at this moment did they finally realize the two snipers were actually supernatural beings.

Honestly, this was a little too much.

"The sun's about to set." Yang Xiaojin looked towards the hill in front of them and said, "Let's complete the final ambush here. The enemy will probably guess we're here, but we way outrange them."

It was not that advantageous for snipers once it turned dark, especially when the environment was the wilderness. Currently, they were about two kilometers away from the pursuing Pyro Company's troops, and there were about 200 enemies in total. Based on Yang Xiaojin's estimates, the two of them should be able to deal with all of the threats from here.

Even if they could not kill all their pursuers, the remaining forces would not pose a threat to them.

"Alright, we'll go with your call." Ren Xiaosu climbed up the slope with his bare hands. He wanted to turn around to give Yang Xiaojin a hand, but she had already climbed up by herself.

In the twilight, Ren Xiaosu could see that Yang Xiaojin's face was dirty and covered in dust. Her hair was also a little messy, but it somehow looked very alluring. The dust on her face was even thicker than the makeup powder other women applied on their faces.

Under the setting sun, the girl exuded a unique tenacity. Ren Xiaosu had never seen her weak side before. Ever since they got to know each other, it seemed like they had fought side by side more often than not.

But this made Ren Xiaosu feel completely at ease because he knew neither of them would get left behind

Yang Xiaojin skillfully found a suitable firing point. She observed the target through the scope while saying, "Enjoying the view?"

"Yes," Ren Xiaosu admitted sheepishly.

"Let's finish off these people first before you do that."

"Sure."

Ren Xiaosu took out his spotting scope. "They're still about 2,100 meters away from us. What distance do you plan on waiting for them to get to before starting?"

"1,560 meters." Yang Xiaojin said, "Let them get closer in case they get a chance to escape."

"Alright, I'll watch the other directions and see if there's any T5s secretly approaching. You keep your attention on these troops." Ren Xiaosu raised his spotting scope and started searching the wilderness. Actually, the troops were not really a threat to them. The only thing that worried them were the T5 combatants who might be hiding somewhere nearby.

If they had not been worried about the T5 combatants' sneak attacks, the two of them would have already fought their way back against the troops. They would not have needed to resort to guerrilla warfare at all.

The most taboo thing on a battlefield like this was to think you were already assured of victory, only to end up failing miserably.

The only way to survive was to preserve one's strength and prepare for a crisis.

At this moment, Ren Xiaosu's heart sank. "There really are T5s following us. I was wondering why this group of troops were still persevering even after half of them had been taken out. So it turns out that they had a backup plan after all."

"How many T5s?" Yang Xiaojin asked.

"Two," Ren Xiaosu said.

"Distance?"

"1,800 meters at 7 o'clock."

"What do you say?" Yang Xiaojin looked at Ren Xiaosu. "Shall we take out the T5s first?"

Ren Xiaosu pondered it for a moment before saying, "Do you remember that our sniper rifle still has that black bullet ammo?"

"What's its effect?" Yang Xiaojin asked.

"I don't know. I haven't had a chance to use it yet, so why don't we try it out this time?" Ren Xiaosu said, "What if it turns out surprisingly useful? Even if it's not, we could at least find out what the black bullets are for."

Yang Xiaojin smirked. "I've been wanting to give it a try for a while now."

Under the setting sun, the girl aimed at one of the T5 combatants and suddenly pulled the trigger.

A black bullet burst out of the chamber of the rifle and curved slightly in the air due to the Coriolis effect.

As it embarked on a distance of nearly 2,000 meters, Ren Xiaosu and Yang Xiaojin initially thought it would take some time for the bullet to reach its target. After all, it should take more than two seconds for the black sniper bullet to cover a distance of 2,000 meters.

However, Ren Xiaosu saw through the spotting scope that the T5 combatant had already been hit midway through his silent counting process! A large cloud of black mist exploded from his body as the bullet pierced his heart, and the T5 combatant was sent flying backwards.

Ren Xiaosu and Yang Xiaojin looked at each other. They both realized the importance of this black bullet. The reason why snipers were unable to deal with supernatural beings from a distance was that it was too easy for the target to discover their positions. But with the bullet almost instantaneously arriving, it reduced the time it took to hit the target by more than half, so not even a T5 combatant could avoid it!

In fact, most supernatural beings in the world were physically weaker than the T5 combatants. In other words, there was a chance Yang Xiaojin could kill most supernatural beings in one hit now.

Chapter 748 Charry

“If there’s a chance, I’ll have to evaluate the power of this black bullet and its actual trajectory speed.” Yang Xiaojin said in seriousness, “It’s a good thing that it’s fast, but without understanding it well, its accuracy might get affected. In terms of power, if even a T5 combatant can get penetrated by it, there shouldn’t be anyone today who can stand up to this bullet.”

After all, even an automatic rifle’s bullet could only get embedded in a T5 combatant’s skin. This kind of physical strength was enough to make any normal person despair.

But now, the black bullet had even pierced a T5 combatant’s heart. He couldn’t be any deader than he was.

Although Yang Xiaojin’s previous sniper rifle was also very good, the potential of her skills had always been limited by it.

It was not that her sniper rifle was not powerful, but that supernatural beings were becoming even stronger.

But now that Yang Xiaojin had the black sniper rifle, and with the power of the black bullets, her potential was raised even further.

“Wait a minute, the T5 combatant’s wound is turning black,” Ren Xiaosu said.

Yang Xiaojin also looked over and saw the wound on the T5 combatant’s corpse turning black. In just two seconds, the entire corpse had blackened.

“Why did it turn black?” Yang Xiaojin turned around and looked at Ren Xiaosu. “Don’t you know the effects of your own bullets?”

“It’s also my first time using it,” Ren Xiaosu said helplessly. However, he felt the blackening effect was not that simple. The palace never did anything unnecessarily, after all.

As the two of them spoke, the other T5 combatant dragged his teammate’s corpse behind some cover and checked on his teammate’s injuries.

He checked his teammate’s eyes but found the pupils had already dilated. There was no doubt he was already dead.

But at this moment, the still surviving T5 combatant was shocked to discover the fingers he had used to touch his teammate’s eyelids had also started turning black. In just a couple seconds, that strange blackness had already spread up to his neck.

He retreated in a panic. However, even after his entire body blackened, it did not seem like he was experiencing any pain. It was just that he had blackened!

The T5 combatant had a ferocious look on his face. He could not understand what was going on. That blackness seemed to have seeped into his skin, and he could not wipe it off.

It was just a bullet, but it blackened his skin?!

Thinking of this, the T5 combatant did not stay around any longer and ran into the forest as fast as he could.

Yang Xiaojin was stunned when she saw him coming out from behind the rock cover. "What was that dark shadowy thing just now?"

Ren Xiaosu was also bewildered. "It's that other T5 combatant, isn't it? Why has he also blackened?"

Yang Xiaojin did not say anything. She tried to shoot the target with another black bullet, only to realize it had run out.

"That's strange. Is the black bullet only limited to one shot?" Yang Xiaojin asked.

Ren Xiaosu gave it some thought before asking the palace in his mind, "What's the quantity of the black bullets?"

"One per day, with 12 AM as the reset point," the voice from the palace answered.

Ren Xiaosu sighed. It wasn't easy for him to discover a method that could kill a T5 combatant in one hit, yet there was still a time limit imposed on it?

No, there should be other restrictions too!

Ren Xiaosu scanned his mind palace. He saw the brass typewriter type out a line of words: Gratitude tokens, -100. In just an instant, Ren Xiaosu's heart ached. He only had a few hundred gratitude tokens at the moment, so he would be deducting one-sixth of them.

When he first saw the third weapon required 10,000 gratitude tokens to unlock, he felt he was still a long way off from getting it. As such, he temporarily gave up on accumulating more gratitude tokens. But from the look of things, he would have to ply his old trade

again!

When Yang Xiaojin found out the black bullet could only be used once a day, she found it a pity. "Alright then, we'll try shooting it again tomorrow."

Ren Xiaosu hurriedly said, "Ahem, the black bullet is now your trump card, so how can you show it to others so easily? It's better to use it only when it's absolutely critical."

To be honest, Ren Xiaosu was still quite egotistic in front of Yang Xiaojin. He was embarrassed to say he could not afford the daily gratitude tokens required for the black bullet's usage, so he found an excuse to persuade Yang Xiaojin not to use them unnecessarily.

However, Yang Xiaojin immediately saw through him.

"Hm?" Yang Xiaojin looked at him carefully and understood. "Judging by your stinginess, there should be a price for using the black bullet. Alright then, I won't use it unless it's absolutely necessary."

Ren Xiaosu beamed. "Actually, you don't have to care about helping me save if you really encounter any danger. Your safety is paramount."

"Let's get out of here." Yang Xiaojin said, "Since we've made contact with the T5 combatants, we can't remain in a fixed ambush location. We have to think of a way to get rid of the other T5."

The Pyro Company's troops who were getting closer and closer were still unaware they had been targeted by the Grim Reaper. Suddenly, a commotion came from the forest. The troops immediately turned their muzzles there, ready to fire at any moment.

Amid the tense situation, a dark figure emerged from the forest.

"Holy fuck, what's that?!" the officer in charge of the troops roared. Meanwhile, one of the Pyro Company's troops next to him pulled the trigger in his nervousness!

The T5 combatant pulled the bullets out of his chest and face with a look of ferociousness. "I'm T5036. Which bastard fired at me just now?"

"You're T5036?"

T5036 said coldly, "Keep advancing. The enemy is right in front of you. Go and attract their firepower. I'm gonna kill them!"

The commander could recognize T5036 from his voice, so he hurriedly responded affirmatively. After that, T5036 disappeared into the forest again. Ren Xiaosu and Yang Xiaojin had already started shifting to a new location. The sun would set in another half an hour at most, so they had to end this pursuit before that. The wilderness was incomparably peaceful. There were no wild animals here, and even the birds had been hunted to extinction.

Suddenly, Ren Xiaosu heard an explosion ring out behind him. The Pyro Company members must have just arrived at their previous ambush spot and triggered the grenade trap set by Yang Xiaojin.

He turned around to check on the situation behind them.

But the moment he turned around, a shadow suddenly pounced out from behind a rock 10 meters to his right.

T5036 had been sneakily closing in on them for a while now. It was only at this moment that he suddenly launched an attack as he wanted to take advantage of Ren Xiaosu being distracted to kill him in one strike!

But when he was in the air, he saw Ren Xiaosu's lips curving upward. 'Shit!' T5036 immediately tried to turn around, but something burst up from the pile of decomposing leaves underneath him. Old Xu, who was wearing a white mask, collided into T5036 in midair at lightning speed.

"I've been waiting for you for a long time, Charry," Ren Xiaosu said with a smile.

T5036 was enraged. He endured the pain of being ambushed and rolled on the ground. Then he looked fiercely at Ren Xiaosu and said, "Who the fuck are you calling Charry?!"

Chapter 749 The third Perfect Skill Duplication Scroll!

"You're asking who the fuck Charry is?" Ren Xiaosu laughed. "Whoever looks like he's been charred, of course!"

T5036 said with a sinister smile, "You can still laugh when you're on the brink of death? Let's see how you're going to laugh later."

"Don't wait any longer. Let's get started quickly," Ren Xiaosu said. When T5036 heard this, he got so angry he saw red. However, Ren Xiaosu was very serious when he said that.

The T5 combatant swung his saber at him. He tried to get past Old Xu to finish off Ren Xiaosu first, but Old Xu stuck close behind him and did not give him a chance. The T5 combatant got wary. He did not even know when White Mask had appeared behind him.

As a matter of fact, the news of White Mask killing T5102 had already spread. Although his serial number was ranked higher than 102, they were both still categorized as T5s, so being ranked 36 might not necessarily mean he was stronger than 102.

However, he did not understand why White Mask was so protective of that infuriating young man.

Previously, Ren Xiaosu had controlled Old Xu to lead the escape and take away a large group of his teammates. As a result, their five-man team's target became smaller.

But very quickly, Old Xu managed to shake off the rest of those teammates. Disregarding everything else and just based on Old Xu's speed alone, no one could keep up with "his" pace. Ren Xiaosu would not possibly leave his trump card to run around out there.

After killing one of the T5s earlier, Ren Xiaosu had Old Xu lie here in ambush. All Ren Xiaosu needed to do was to pass by. "I'll deal with White Mask first. You had better commit suicide before I finish him off. Otherwise, I won't let you die even if you beg me to kill you." T5036 sneered. With that, he went all out and tussled with Old Xu. The two of them clashed continuously in the wilderness, resorting to brute strength to fight. The result was an extremely violent battle.

The trees in the forest were destroyed as easy as paper by their battle.

Ren Xiaosu turned around and had a look at the sniping spot they used to be at. The troops that had been waylaid by the grenade trap had already turned around and were rushing towards them.

While he was thinking about how to deal with the situation, he caught a glimpse of a saber appearing near the treetop diagonally above him.

The saber brightly reflected the orange glow of the setting sun.

The tree branches shattered upon contact with the blade as the air around was mercilessly parted, sweeping up an air current in the process.

Before the blade could even reach him, the air current created by the blade had already made a mess of Ren Xiaosu's hair.

But just as the blade was about to hit Ren Xiaosu, he lowered his head slightly and let it pass overhead.

When the T5 combatant, who had launched a sneak attack from the treetop, tried to use his full strength to slash at Ren Xiaosu again, Ren Xiaosu pushed off his feet and retreated out of the reach of the blade's swing!

This time, in order to kill these two snipers, the Pyro Company had sent out three T5s rather than two!

It was only because Ren Xiaosu and Yang Xiaojin had disrupted their plans from the beginning that the commander behind the scenes wanted to deal with the greatest threat. The T5 combatant who had just joined in raised his long saber diagonally, only to see the young man facing him looking up at him with crimson eyes.

With City Crusher activated, Charry, who was on the battlefield off to the side, suddenly felt the pressure multiply. Old Xu, whom he was facing right now, was also affected by Ren Xiaosu's use of City Crusher!

Just as Ren Xiaosu was about to take advantage of the 30 seconds City Crusher gave him to kill the T5 combatant, he was surprised to hear the voice from the palace speaking.

"Quest: An eye for an eye makes the whole world blind. Host, please express your attitude of reconciliation and improve your relationship with the enemy."

T5019 said with great interest, "Dodging my blade while I was ambushing you, I have to say that you are the first one to achieve that. I think the higher-ups would be very interested in your DNA. By bringing you and White Mask back, T5036 and I will score a great contribution for sure."

Ren Xiaosu remained silent throughout.

T5019 continued sizing up Ren Xiaosu and said, "But I'm very curious. Where is that companion of yours? Is it because you know you're about to die, so you're trying to buy some time for your companion to escape?"

But Ren Xiaosu was not in the mood to answer him at all. Just as he had said previously, coexisting with the palace was more like learning how to comprehend and understand what it really wanted. How was he supposed to view this quest that required him to improve his relationship with the enemy?

He would have to express his attitude first before seeking to improve their relationship.

Turn hostility into friendship? If he wanted to achieve a normal level of completion for the quest, that would be more or less enough. But Ren Xiaosu wanted it to be perfect.

Become friends? Somehow, it still felt a little lacking. Become brothers? Ren Xiaosu still felt it was not perfect enough. When T5019 saw Ren Xiaosu not responding at all, he got a little impatient. "Hey, I was asking you a question. Where's your companion?"

Ren Xiaosu said, "Call me Daddy."

T5019 was confused.

'As long as I can complete the mission, I'm willing for us to have a father-son relationship!

"Quest complete. Awarded Perfect Skill Duplication Scroll."

At the same time the palace announced the quest had been completed, the Pyro Company discovered that the original sniping spot where two of their combatants had been killed by the grenade trap had been abandoned. As such, they did not search the spot carefully.

Moreover, the battle between Old Xu and the T5 combatant had already started, so they hurriedly rushed down the hill towards Ren Xiaosu in an attack.

As a result, no one realized Yang Xiaojin had emerged from a pile of decomposing leaves and appeared behind them.

The setting sun slowly descended behind the horizon as the afterglow was replaced by darkness that cast down on her face.

Breathe.

Yang Xiaojin knelt on one knee. Her arm holding the black sniper rifle was as steady as a statue. She left the world to spin on its own and allowed the mountain breeze to blow through the sky. Meanwhile, her willpower was as firm as a rock.

Killing people was probably what she was best at in life. Furthermore, someone whose life was seemingly more important than her own was helping her attract everyone's attention at this moment.

She could not fail, nor would she fail.

She pulled the trigger.

A bullet flew over the heads of the troops. Before T5019 could figure out what was going on with Ren Xiaosu, he felt a great sense of danger looming over him. He jumped to the left with no regard for his own safety. When he jumped, T5019 could only watch helplessly as the young man smiled at him.

With a muffled bang, the bullet hit T5019's waist. The bullet carrying a copious amount of kinetic energy could not fully penetrate his body, but it kept on spinning within it. It was like someone had stabbed a knife into his lower back, twisted the handle of the knife, and crushed his organs!

However, T5 combatants tended to be so strong and full of vitality that he still had the strength to struggle to his feet even though he was seriously injured. T5019 did not care whether Charry was dead or alive anymore. He only wanted to make his own escape.

“Isn’t it a little too late to escape now?” Ren Xiaosu slowly chased after him.

T5019 paid no attention to whatever was going on behind him. However, he suddenly realized a void had opened up on the path he was escaping towards. A steam locomotive’s whistle came out of the void, paired with a metallic clanging of tracks.

It was too late for him to dodge. The steam locomotive crushed the T5 combatant under the train tracks as a total of 16 carriages passed over him, and his life force could only dissipate helplessly.

On the other side, Old Xu came over with a bloodied saber in its hand. Ren Xiaosu jumped onto the steam locomotive with a smile and headed straight for the Pyro Company’s troops together with Old Xu.

But Ren Xiaosu did not care about them a bit. He was going back to the sniping spot to pick up Yang Xiaojin. His girlfriend was there.

The Pyro Company’s troops were knocked around by the steam locomotive and sent scattering everywhere. The commander shouted into his radio, “It’s Wang Congyang! Wang Congyang has not left the Sacred Mountains yet! I repeat, Wang Congyang has not left the Sacred Mountains yet!”

Chapter 750 Successfully joining up!

The steam locomotive galloped through the wilderness just like a roller coaster ride. If a normal person were sitting in this steam locomotive, they would probably not have died in battle but from the bumpy ride.

At the front of the vehicle, Ren Xiaosu looked back at Yang Xiaojin, who had already come aboard. However, he saw her holding a handle in the carriage, looking like she was having a lot of fun.

Amid the rumbling, the steam locomotive moved as though it was on flat ground. Yang Xiaojin shouted, “What were you going on about with that T5 combatant just now? I saw you two talking for a long time.”

Ren Xiaosu was stumped for a moment before laughing, “Hahahahaha, nothing much.”

Yang Xiaojin glanced at him. “So where are we going now?”

“We’re going to pick up Luo Lan and the others,” Ren Xiaosu answered. “I feel that the Pyro Company’s plan has been thwarted, so it’s time to end things now.” The battle had gone on from noon until sunset, so Ren Xiaosu decided to put an end to it.

In the face of the Pyro Company’s wanton encirclement and suppression, as well as the continuous appearances of those concealed T5s, it was likely their comrades from the Anjing House had already suffered heavy casualties.

But now that the Pyro Company had activated all of their T5s onto the battlefield, Ren Xiaosu could sense the Pyro Company was at their wits' end.

It was not that the commander of the Pyro Company's forces was not smart, but if Ren Xiaosu, Li Shentan, and the others had not appeared along the way, these groups of hitmen that were put together by the Anjing House would probably have already been wiped out.

Ever since they came into the Sacred Mountains, crisis after crisis occurred and left them with no time to rest. Even their food supply had been depleted.

But this series of disruptions were all ruined now.

Ren Xiaosu was very excited. He had finally collected three Perfect Skill Duplication Scrolls. What he most wanted to do right now was to find Luo Lan to copy his power.

By using three Skill Duplication Scrolls to learn a specific skill, there would be no chance of failure.

At this moment, Luo Lan and the others were leaning leisurely against a tree and chatting.

Ever since Ren Xiaosu and Yang Xiaojin lured the pursuers away, no one from the Pyro Company attacked their side. But when others near them were being pursued by the Pyro Company, they did not have any intention of helping out either.

Meanwhile, Wang Yun was lying on the ground at the side, quietly waiting for his wound to heal.

The miraculous effects of the black medicine made Wang Yun sigh in relief. If he could buy more black medicine from Ren Xiaosu, he would probably not die that easily in the future as long as he was not dealt a fatal blow.

As a commander, he would naturally not be participating directly in battles too often. Rather, it was his subordinates who had to live a dangerous life on the edge every day.

Wang Yun looked at the speed at which his wound was healing. "It will probably take another two days to fully recover, but I feel that we're already very close to the core region of the Sacred Mountains. I'm afraid the Pyro Company will not afford me the time to fully recover."

Wang Yun's subordinate said, "Sir, this black medicine is already so miraculous when applied externally. Will it work if you take it orally?"

Wang Yun fell into deep thought. That sounded like it made some sense...

But when he turned around to look at Luo Lan, he saw him hugging a tree and shaking with laughter. Wang Yun asked, "What are you laughing at over there?"

Luo Lan stayed silent for a moment before turning around and saying in a serious tone, "I'm not laughing. The medicine can really be taken orally."

“Ha ha.” Wang Yun did not believe it at all. Something bad would definitely happen if the black medicine was orally ingested. Luo Lan trying hard to suppress his laughter was already enough to give it away. While they were talking, Luo Lan heard the sound of footsteps approaching.

Ren Xiaosu had already stowed the steam locomotive in advance in case anyone found out about it.

He smiled and said, “What are y’all chatting about?”

“Where did you all go? Did you encounter any danger?” Wang Yun asked. “It’s more dangerous for others to encounter them.” Luo Lan chuckled.

While they were talking, Ren Xiaosu had already started saying to the palace, “Copy Luo Lan’s superpower.”

The voice from the palace replied in his mind, “Detected Luo Lan’s superpower as ‘Martyred Spirit.’ Do you want to learn it?”

“Yes!” Ren Xiaosu said firmly.

Wasn’t this power exactly the reason why he had been so busy in recent days? Suddenly, Ren Xiaosu felt an invisible force enveloping Luo Lan. At the same time, something seemed to have appeared in his mind as well.

This power gave Ren Xiaosu a very strange feeling. It was as though a door that led to the netherworld had opened up for him, but he could not really feel many changes. When copying the “Martyred Spirit” power, it was not like copying the Shadow Clone or the Steam Locomotive powers where the outcome could be seen on the spot. Ren Xiaosu suddenly said to Yang Xiaojin, “Can you go with me to the Southwest after the Sacred Mountains expedition is over?” Yang Xiaojin looked at him and said, “Sure.”

After that, Ren Xiaosu smiled at Luo Lan and said, “Get up; let’s clean up the mess. We’ll head into the core region of the Sacred Mountains tomorrow and see what other tricks the Pyro Company has up its sleeves. Let’s force them to reveal everything all at once.”

When Ren Xiaosu thought about going to the Southwest, he was no longer in the mood to mess around with the Pyro Company anymore. Yan Liuyuan might be waiting for him in the laboratory, but further away, there might be someone else waiting for him. So Ren Xiaosu was ready to put an end to this chapter in the Sacred Mountains.

He walked towards the gunshots while Luo Lan and the others followed him in high spirits. Wang Yun lay on the stretcher and said weakly, “Can you wait for me for another two days? I’ll have fully recovered by then.”

The Great Hoodwinker laughed softly next to the stretcher and said, “I saw that you were quite interested in the black medicine just now? How about this. If you come to the Northwest and participate in the building up of Fortress 178, I can talk to that person to sell you some more.” When Wang Yun

heard this, he immediately shut up. How could he betray the Kong Consortium just for some black medicine? Before they could rush to the battlefield, the gunfire went silent. Ren Xiaosu wondered, "They're done fighting just like that? Could our other teammates have all died?"

As night fell, a strange and ethereal singing voice came from the forest in front of them. "Looking, looking, looking for a friend, and then I found a very good friend. I'll salute you, and shake your hand. Here's to you, my very good friend..."

The singing was getting closer and closer. It was loud and clear, as though hundreds of people were singing in unison! Luo Lan got goosebumps all over his body. "Is it something freaky the Pyro Company had created? Why does it sound so terrifying?"

It was late into the night. For over a 100 people to search for their friends in the forest at this time, just the thought of it was already eerie enough.

As such, Luo Lan even summoned his 12 martyred spirits to set up a heavy machine gun nest!

Meanwhile, the Great Hoodwinker was chanting, "Separated by yin and yang, humans and ghosts do not mix, out with all evil..."

But when he saw the person at the front of the choir, he was stunned. "Li Shentan?"

"Are you surprised?" Li Shentan smiled brightly at Ren Xiaosu and said, "You can say that I have trampled mountains and crossed ravines to come and meet you." Next to him, Si Liren muttered, "In the books I read, people never remember those who went out of their way for them. It's always the ones who sacrifice themselves who remember the things they did for others."

Li Shentan said with a smile, "That's not important!"

Vanilla looked at Ren Xiaosu in a daze. So this was the person Li Shentan was searching for? And Li Shentan's clone was also killed by him?