

Glory 181

Chapter 181 – In a Flash

Poplar Beach noticed it just now, but it was already too late. His opponent had already thrown out a Grenade. The timing was perfect. The shock wave from the explosion launched his Blade Master even higher into the air as Chasing Haze picked up her Rose Flower Cannon. Seeing his opponent move like this, Poplar Beach finally realized: throwing down the Rose Flower Cannon was one of the opponent's ploys!

Chasing Haze crouched and swung the Rose Flower Cannon back onto her shoulder. Blue light began to accumulate at the mouth of the cannon. Poplar Beach moved his camera to look down. Just before his character hit the ground, the stored blue light shot out and a brilliant blue artillery shell flew directly at him.

"X-1 Extruder....." Poplar Beach realized that his opponent's crouch and swing wasn't without meaning. The crouch reduced the time needed to put the cannon onto her shoulder. It also let him shoot from a lower height, making it so that the X-1 Extruder would hit him just as he was about to land on the ground.

"X-1 Extruder's" feature was that it would vacuum in enemies that were hit by it, restricting their movements. The enemies would then fly forward along with it and then explode when it hit the ground, knocking the enemies to the ground along with it. Poplar Beach didn't have any way of avoiding this vacuum effect. This time, damage would be certain. Just as he was calculating what he would do next to counterattack, he suddenly saw his opponent raise his hand and snap his fingers.

Poplar Beach was startled. This wasn't a random movement. This was the casting animation for a Launcher's Heat-Seeking Missile. The finger snap would bring up a crosshair. The final position of the crosshair would direct where the missile would land.

The attack did tons of damage, but the weakness of it was obvious. For one, the crosshair had to be accurate. However, the main weakness was that it was extremely slow. Poplar Beach decided he would do the same as with the Quantum Bomb and slice it apart. In mid-air, a sword light flashed forward. Sword Draw was executed towards the missile.

This move had been used in that match between Excellent Era and 301. Team 301's Blade Master player Gao Jie had done this to dissolve the Heat-Seeking Missile. Poplar Beach's situation was similar to Gao Jie's situation. Both of them acted in midair. However, Poplar Beach wasn't as skilled as a pro-player. Poplar Beach could only pray that his Sword Draw would hit the target.

Please hit!!

Seeing the flying slash's direction and the missile's arc, Poplar Beach determined that they would collide and a surge of happiness immediately washed over him. But who would have thought that at this moment, an explosion would suddenly ring out. Sword Slash's sword aura had been exploded into three sparks. Poplar Beach was startled. He looked over at Chasing Haze and saw gentle smoke drift out from the mouth of the cannon.....

Sh*t! Poplar Beach's Sword Slash had been deflected by his opponent's Anti-Tank Missile. The flying heat-seeking missile flew towards him.

Poplar Beach felt a chill in his heart. He knew that his difficult maneuver had been done out of luck, but what about his opponent?

The bright crosshair finally found its target. A loud boom sounded out from up above in the sky and a Heat-Seeking Missile descended down. Poplar Beach began to fall. He had no way of immediately using Quick Recover. He hadn't been launched in a normal way. he had been sucked in by "X-1 Extruder".

The crosshair, Poplar Beach, and the suction from the X-1 Extruder together let the Heat-Seeking Missile arrive and a large mushroom cloud leapt into the air. But things weren't done yet. Poplar Beach, who had been forced tumbling in the air from the shock wave, saw a large laser beam shoot down, the Gunner's ultimate: Satellite Beam.....

Poplar Beach had eaten all of the Launcher's high damage skills.

Poplar Beach was still tumbling from the explosion and light of the Satellite Beam. Ye Xiu used this time to quickly throw out a few more skills. The spectators watched dumbstruck as explosions continued to chain together, reaching a 77 Combo.

The light from explosions receded. The smoke dispersed. Poplar Beach had already been defeated.

Starting from when he was launched into the air by that Knee Strike to the instant he landed on the ground, he wasn't able to find any opportunity to counter attack. In that span of five seconds, how many skills had hit him? The spectators had to count on their fingers to work it out.

Everyone saw the result: Poplar Beach had been defeated.

Defeated!

He really had been defeated!

In just an instant, the long health bar had been washed clean. The spectators weren't even able to type. They were completely dumbstruck.

Chen Guo was also staring blankly at the computer screen.

She was already standing because Ye Xiu had thrown her Rose Flower Cannon. She was just about to go over and kill the guy. However, her Rose Flower Cannon had been picked back up and in the blink of an eye, the opponent had turned into a corpse. All of this happened as she jumped up from her seat.....

Chen Guo finally saw how Ye Xiu was able to beat an opponent in a few seconds using her Chasing Haze.

Chen Guo had never thought that her Chasing Haze had the burst power to explode someone to death in one go. Moreover, the person who had died was a famous expert in the Heavenly Domain. Chen Guo felt a surge of excitement! She had originally wanted to go and strangle Ye Xiu to death, but now she couldn't move, she didn't know how to describe what she was feeling.

Poplar Beach's corpse quickly disappeared. The experienced gamers knew that this person had already left the room.

What could Poplar Beach say now?

The arrogant him had been completely shut up. There was nothing he could say.

He realized that Lord Grim's words weren't a provocation, but a reality.

One round, it really was one round.

He completely recognized the gap between their skill.

To lose so quickly and tragically, this wasn't a question of whether it was luck. The match ended so quickly that the spectators had overlooked another reality. This was a "Perfect" match, Chasing Haze hadn't suffered any damage..

Once Chasing Haze left the room as well, the room was naturally dissolved and the spectators were kicked back into the lobby. But everyone was still in shock and were still circling about. Only Ye Xiu didn't care. He took off his headphones and turned his head: "Boss, you can have your account back!"

"Huh?" Chen Guo was also one of those who were dumbstruck.

"Did you record it?" Chen Guo suddenly turned her head to ask Tang Rou.

Tang Rou laughed bitterly: "You were the one controlling it!"

"Ah ah ah ah!!!" Everyone had already left the room. How could she still have the chance to record it? Chen Guo felt regretful. It would have been such a great video! It was something she could watch a hundred times.

Chen Guo felt depressed! She suddenly discovered something amiss. She looked around and discovered that a few people were looking at her.

"What are you looking at?" Chen Guo wasn't very polite. The people looking at her were frequent customers, so they knew each other. She hadn't done anything out of the ordinary, so what were they all looking at?

"Boss, you're so fierce!" Someone suddenly said.

"What?" Chen Guo stared blankly.

"Chasing Haze!!" Someone else shouted.

"What? Chasing Haze? Where? Where?" Another person jumped up. This time it was a customer Chen Guo didn't recognize.

Chen Guo instantly understood. This duel had been seen by some in the Internet Cafe. Among those were a few who didn't know that Lord Grim was a manager at this Internet Cafe, but they did know that Chen Guo's Glory character was Chasing haze. After that, they thought that Lord Grim was actually Chen Guo.

And those unfamiliar customers obviously didn't know anything. They just heard someone in the Internet Cafe speak up about it, so they immediately looked for her and crowded around her. Chen Guo didn't know whether to laugh or cry. She looked around, but didn't know where Ye Xiu had slipped away

to. She could helplessly cry out: “That wasn’t me. Someone else borrowed my account” and then hastily ran off.

The customers all stared blankly. They didn’t say anything else. The crowd was just there to satisfy their curiosity. In reality, most of the Glory players that knew Chen Guo knew what her skill level was. It was just that the previous match had been too surprising. Poplar Beach! All the veterans knew who he was.

And thus, saying that someone had borrowed the account was very reasonable.

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There weren’t many who both recognized Chen Guo’s account and watched the match, so there wasn’t too much commotion. Everyone went back to the game to discuss about it in private. This match was too quick. Not only was the course of events quick, even the room had been dissolved quickly, making it so that there wasn’t any place for everyone to talk about it. After the players left the Arena, they immediately began discussing it in the world channel.

In a short moment, a single topic conquered the tenth server world channel.

Lord Grim, Chasing Haze, Launcher, threw down his weapon, instant kill, etc. these were all keywords.

The match was too frightening, making it so that everyone was concentrated on the one who was victorious. At this moment, Poplar Beach was like a pitiful backdrop. Very few people mentioned him.

There were a few new players who didn’t really understand. They obviously didn’t know how incredible Poplar Beach’s background was. They just saw that he had been instantly defeated, so they wanted to mock him. But their mockery was actually met with other’s mockery.

Who won and who lost the match wasn’t because one side was weak, but rather because the other side was too strong.

In everyone’s eyes, this was the impression they got. Of course, no one felt that Poplar Beach’s loss was dignified. However, his defeat wasn’t the main point everyone was talking about.

Chasing Haze, so strong!

Launchers, so strong!

Lord Grim, so strong!

These were the main points.

Chapter 182 – Consultation

The match was beautiful and the reaction to it was massive. But to the big guilds, its impact wasn’t as great as the record that had been set in Desolate Land. The big guilds recognized the result and talked about it for a bit. However, there was no way it would be put above Blue Brook Guild’s tarnished image.

The only ones who were truly concerned over the match was Blue Brook Guild.

Currently, the tenth server’s Blue Brook Guild was completely silent. Everyone silently watched the discussion go on in the world channel.

Don't look at how the highest among them were only Level 33. The people behind those characters, the senior players in Blue Brook Guild like Changing Spring were all there.

However, Poplar Beach wasn't there.

After he had left the Arena, he directly logged out of the Heavenly Domain, but didn't log into his tenth server account.

Even if he was arrogant, right now, he felt too ashamed to meet other guild members.

Lowering Poplar Beach's arrogance might have been the only reward that Blue Brook Guild received. However, seeing the situation in front of them, Lord Grim's strength was too ridiculous. It was quite possible that Poplar Beach might have been hurt too much from this match.

"Which of you went and watched it?" Changing Spring asked. Whenever they talked about guild matters, Changing Spring usually had the characters find a place to meet up at. The reason was because their guild leader Changing Spring really wasn't fond of typing.

"I watched it." Blue River let out a sigh as he spoke.

"What did you think of it?"

"Pretty much identical to how the world channel is describing it. They're not exaggerating..... because there's really isn't any way to exaggerate it." Blue River said.

"This Lord Grim really didn't leave us with anything!" Flying Brushstroke said.

"I think it's the exact opposite. I think the way he did things actually left us with room to recover." Blue River said, "If you take a look at the world channel, most of them are discussing about how strong Lord Grim was. There was not anything else being talked about. To us, these results aren't too bad."

"Sigh....." Changing Spring also sighed: "This Lord Grim really isn't easy to deal with."

"After our dungeon record was beaten, all the popularity we had recovered dropped again. Today, the number of players who wanted to join our guild fell by 70%....." Blue River said.

"Line Canyon..... isn't that the one we said we wouldn't fight Tyrannical Ambition over?" Changing Spring asked.

"Yeah....."

"Then it looks like the only thing we can do for now is endure." Changing Spring said somewhat regretfully.

"That....." Bound Boat had also come to the meeting. In the tenth server, he was second only to Blue River. However, everyone present at the moment were all the seniors in the Heavenly Domain. As a result, Bound Boat clearly seemed smaller; his words also seemed like they were hesitant.

"Oh? Bound Boat, what do you have in mind?" Changing Spring asked. He knew the important players they had sent over to pioneer.

“Maybe we can ask the teams to help us? Even though these are only low-leveled dungeons, which of the current tenth server records are achievable for us? Not just Lord Grim’s records, but that Frost Forest record set by Excellent Dynasty as well! Fortunately, these were made in the new servers. If these were made in the old servers, then these records would have been suspected of being set by pros a long time ago, no?” Bound Boat said.

In the tenth server, there were only records for Frost Forest, Boneyard, and Desolate Land. However, it was just like how Bound Boat had described it. The three records were all records that surpassed their limits. Changing Spring and the others were all at the top of the normal players, yet even they were crushed by Lord Grim’s team. This was a clear and terrifying reality.

“Where exactly did these guys come from?” The background of Lord Grim and these others couldn’t be small. The word pro-level began to spiral around their minds.

“That’s why I say we should look for the experts in the team to help us appraise them.” Bound Boat said.

“Hm. This suggestion truly is quite good.” Changing Spring nodded his head. They weren’t asking them to substitute. They were only asking to chat with the Club’s experts on these incredible records and request for an appraisal. That wouldn’t be difficult to do.

“Alright then. I’m going to go and ask.” Changing Spring decided on this. The people who were participating in the meeting all had weird expressions on their faces. For the pioneering in the new server to be so shocking that they even needed pro-players to come out, this was something they had never even dreamed of before. If they knew that the entire Champion Team Tiny Herb had come to the tenth server for training, their blood pressure would probably shoot up.

“I’ll be leaving first then.” Changing Spring informed everyone. He was also someone who handled things straightforwardly.

After logging out, Changing Spring looked at the time. Right now..... the team should be doing their afternoon practice. Changing Spring ran the Blue Brook Guild in Glory in place of Club Blue Rain. He was just like Chen Yehui in Excellent Era. He could be considered as one of the Club’s official staff members, so he had some say in the Club’s matters.

Changing Spring often came to the team to look around, so he wouldn’t be considered unfamiliar with the pro-players. He’d sometimes even have the chance to compare notes with the team members. Of course, if the pro-players wanted to play two rounds with him for fun, Changing Spring wouldn’t refuse. However, if he went actively look for pro-players to play with him, he would be suspected of wasting their time. Changing Spring understood this.

Changing Spring calculated the time and chose to go at a suitable time. He didn’t have too many restrictions when walking around in the Club. Besides going to the tech team who researched self-made equipment, there wasn’t anywhere he wasn’t allowed to go to.

“Hi Senior Chun!”

Changing Spring had chosen a good time. He arrived just as Team Blue Rain finished practice, a time when everyone was relaxing. When he appeared in front of the entrance, someone saw him and greeted him.

Changing Spring's real name was Liang Yichun, so the people who were familiar with him called him Senior Chun.

"Hi." Changing Spring waved his hands at the pro-player that greeted him. The pro-player was a guy called Li Yuan. He was a new player in Blue Rain. He wasn't as cautious and careful like the majority of new players were. After the young guy joined the team, he was extremely energetic and was always very friendly with everyone. He quickly became familiar with everyone including Changing Spring.

With his greeting, the other pros who hadn't known that Changing Spring had come turned their heads and looked at him. The majority of the pros nodded their heads as a greeting and then went back to doing whatever they were doing before. However, Yu Wenzhou got up and walked over to him: "Senior Chun's come over!"

"Yeah, I'm here to take a look....." Changing Spring said politely.

Yu Wenzhou, Team Blue Rain's team captain. Most of the team captains were also the team's ace player, but there would obviously be a few exceptions. Blue Rain's ace player was Huang Shaotian, but their team captain was Yu Wenzhou. Even though Yu Wenzhou's mechanics weren't as good as Huang Shaotian's, his ability in strategy and tactics were extraordinary. Moreover, that Huang Shaotian's constant chatter pulled down his demeanor. The words of someone who was always talking would feel somewhat frivolous to others.

"You haven't been here in awhile!" Yu Wenzhou treated him politely as well, seeing that Changing Spring had come to talk with him about something.

Changing Spring also knew that Team Blue Rain's captain was relatively easy to speak with, unlike Tyrannical Ambition's Jiang You, who was so hesitant. If Blue Rain's captain had been so fierce like Han Wenqing, he definitely wouldn't have immediately logged offline to go look for him.

"Yeah, I've been busy. The pioneering in the tenth server!" Changing Spring began to ease into the topic.

"It's just pioneering. As if you needed to personally lead, right?" Yu Wenzhou chuckled. He knew how the Club's guild operated in general.

"But this time's tenth server is too different!" Changing Spring said very seriously.

"Oh? What do you mean?"

"A bunch of experts suddenly popped up out of nowhere. All of the low-leveled dungeon records that have been set in the tenth server so far are above the all-time records. It looks as if they were all done by pro-players." Changing Spring said.

"Crash!" A loud crash resounded in the practice room, along with three or four players crying out in alarm: "Huang Shao, are you okay? What happened?"

"It's nothing. It's nothing. I slipped, that's all." Huang Shaotian said ashen-faced as he supported himself up with his chair. Seeing that Changing Spring was looking at him in astonishment, he hastily waved his hand: "Senior Chun, you're here! Ha ha ha, long time no see. You're free today? Have you eaten yet? You probably haven't eaten, right? Lucky you! It'll be time to eat soon. You should eat some food before you go!"

“Sure, sure.” Changing Spring repeatedly nodded his head. He didn’t dare say anything too much or else he wouldn’t hear the end of it.

“Do you have a tenth server account card? Let’s take a look at the records!” Yu Wenzhou said.

“I do!” Changing Spring took out a card and gave it to Yu Wenzhou. Of course he had prepared everything before hand.

Yu Wenzhou found a random computer to sit down at and logged into the game. At the same time, without turning his head, he also said: “Shaotian, you should come and look too!”

There wasn’t any response from behind him. Huang Shaotian was wearing his headphones acting as if he hadn’t heard anything. The players beside him pushed him: “Huang Shao, captain’s calling for you!”

“Ah? What is it?” Huang Shaotian took off his headphones and turned around to ask.

“Come over here to look at the tenth server records.” Yu Wenzhou said.

Huang Shaotian had no choice but to get up. As he walked over, he asked: “Tenth server? The new server? What’s there to look at?”

“Woah! The records really are incredible!” Yu Wenzhou had already entered the game and directly clicked on the record leaderboards.

“Shaotian, how do you think these records were made?” Yu Wenzhou asked.

Chapter 183 – Blue Rain Team Captain

After looking at the leaderboards for each of the three dungeons, Yu Wenzhou turned his head to ask Huang Shaotian.

Huang Shaotian stood behind him. He lifted his hand to scratch his chin and shook head: “I haven’t played these dungeons for so long, so I can’t tell just by looking at the time. Do you recognize any of the players who set the record? Is there anything special about them? Do you know what their classes and equipment are?” Huang Shaotian said to Changing Spring.

“Oh..... the key player is Lord Grim.” Changing Spring pointed at the name that appeared in all three leaderboards. Among these, Frost Forest was ranked second on its leaderboard, while Boneyard and Desolate Land were number one on their respective leaderboards.

“What about this person?” Huang Shaotian asked.

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“This player’s character hasn’t changed classes. He’s an unspecialized character. In addition, the weapon in his hands is really weird. It can change into other weapon forms and use low-leveled skills from all sorts of classes.” Changing Spring said. There was no way to hide the Thousand Chance Umbrella, which was why Ye Xiu never bothered to conceal it. Experts like Blue River, who had seen him in action, had already seen through what it was.

“Oh? So such a weapon exists?” Yu Wenzhou heard this and his interest rose by quite a bit. Before, he had a general idea of why Changing Spring had come, so he was just being polite. But now these words had grabbed his attention.

“This type of weapon is definitely self-made! It sounds like it was made specially for unspecialized characters.” Huang Shaotian said.

“Unspecialized.....” Yu Wenzhou clearly knew about this type of playing style.

“If this is true, then this weapon really would be able to let an unspecialized fully utilize his strengths. The early unspecialized characters were weighed down because switching weapons had a cooldown, which made it so that there were a lot of flaws whenever they tried to combo. They weren’t able to perfectly link together all of the many low-leveled skills. But with this weapon, this issue is solved. Plus, if it has Silver weapon attributes, then the damage output would be even greater than Orange weapons. With a character like this in a team, then their damage output would naturally be a grade higher than the usual teams. This player really is the key character.” Huang Shaotian said.

Yu Wenzhou nodded his head, clearly showing that he agreed with what Huang Shaotian said. He then looked at the other members in Lord Grim’s teams: “What about the others?”

“These three are fixed members in Lord Grim’s teams. One of them is a Battle Mage, one is a Launcher, and there’s also a Brawler. Their skill levels are quite high. The other spot doesn’t seem to be fixed. In Frost Forest, this player is from Tyrannical Ambition. In Boneyard, this Flowing Tree is a Blade Master. At the time, he joined our Blue Brook Guild. He never said anything and then never went online again after setting that record. Finally, this One Inch Ash appeared recently, so we don’t really know much about him.”

“What about this Excellent Dynasty team in Frost Forest?” Yu Wenzhou asked.

Changing Spring immediately told them the situation for this Excellent Dynasty team. This was something they had investigated on before.

“They were clearly substituted players..... This is a new server with new players. There’s no way those types of players could create such a record.” Yu Wenzhou said.

“That’s what I thought as well.” Changing Spring said.

“And these players definitely weren’t ordinary. If you look at the record done by Excellent Dynasty done in Boneyard, this just happened to be done around the time we had our match with Excellent Era. Excellent Era’s vice-captain Liu Hao made numerous low-leveled mistakes in the match. His condition was strangely bad. It looks like this guy ran to the new server and split his attention onto setting these records!” Yu Wenzhou said.

“No way..... For a low-leveled dungeon like this, shouldn’t it be easy for a pro-player to set a record? It shouldn’t go so far as to affect his performance in the match, right?” Changing Spring said.

“This Boneyard record isn’t normal. What do you think Shaotian?” Yu Wenzhou said.

Huang Shaotian nodded his head: “This Boneyard record is no longer a question of skill. It isn’t possible to set this record purely on skill. In the new server, there’s no way they’d have too many good

equipment yet, which means that the only way they'd have been able to improve the record would be to create a strategy more outstanding than previous ones."

"As expected of Huang Shao....." Changing Spring couldn't help but gasp in astonishment. They had looked over this record who knew how many times, yet they weren't able to be certain about such a conclusion. Perhaps only God-level players with incredible judgement like Huang Shaotian would dare be so confident in their answer.

"If you say it like this, then not only was this Excellent Dynasty record substituted in by Liu Hao, he even spent a lot of energy to research a new strategy just for this dungeon. And this was why his condition during the match wasn't good?" Changing Spring concluded.

"I'm afraid it's not just that. This guy might not have researched a new strategy, but rather stole a new strategy....." Yu Wenzhou said.

"What?"

"The records set by the new strategy appeared three times." Yu Wenzhou tapped the screen as he said, "For two teams to have coincidentally come up with the same strategy at the same time? Look at the first record set by Lord Grim. In this team, there's a player called Hateful Sword, but after this record was beat by Excellent Dynasty, Lord Grim's team no longer has a Hateful Sword in it, but a player called Flowing Tree instead. These two characters are of different classes, but in this dungeon, Blade Master's aren't any stronger than Berserkers. If the Blade Master player was more skilled than the Berserker player, then why didn't they just directly use the Blade Master the first time? So the most likely possibility was that this new strategy was researched by Lord Grim. This Berserker Hateful Sword was someone from Excellent Dynasty who had gotten into the team. He then went with them to learn the new strategy and then went back to lead Excellent Dynasty's players to set a new record. There was obviously no way Lord Grim could look for this Hateful Sword's help again, which was why he found this Blade Master, Flowing Tree."

Changing Spring was startled. Yu Wenzhou was able to figure out things he hadn't even thought of before.

The time the record came out. Excellent Dynasty's background. The terrible performance of Liu Hao during the match..... Yu Wenzhou had noticed so many small details. This Blue Rain team captain wasn't just a person who knew how to keep the team together like those on the outside said. This type of judgement and perception wasn't below Huang Shaotian's in the slightest. No, he might even be better than Huang Shaotian in this aspect. At least, at this moment, Huang Shaotian hadn't made such a deduction.

"Team captain, you've got to be exaggerating. This sounds like a plot from some fiction novel." Not only did he not make the deduction, Huang Shaotian even doubted Yu Wenzhou's deduction.

"Could Liu Hao have gone crazy? He would actually put in so much effort for a dungeon in a new server?" How could Huang Shaotian only have said that? He had to keep going!

"Ha ha, that's certainly true! That's why there might be some other special reason that made him place so much importance onto this record. He had directly competed against Lord Grim for Frost Forest. After that, he even infiltrated Lord Grim's team to spy on them. It seems like he also places a lot of

importance on this Lord Grim! To be able to make a pro-player think of him as an enemy, this Lord Grim definitely isn't any weaker than him. I have a feeling that Liu Hao is well aware who Lord Grim is. His hostile actions seem to be concealing his fear, acknowledgement, and trust. Because of this fear, he ran to spy on them. Because of his acknowledgement, he stole his strategy and directly used it. Because of his trust, he trusted that the strategy being used was already the most optimal choice. There wouldn't be any strategy better than it."

Changing Spring's jaw dropped in astonishment. To be able to make an analysis to such an extent? He couldn't help but look at Huang Shaotian, who was also listening. He realized that Huang Shaotian wasn't amazed in the slightest at this. He seemed as calm as ever.

"He really is Huang Shao....." Changing Spring once again gasped. Perhaps there were many who felt like Huang Shaotian wasn't calm enough due to his constant chatter, however, in reality, as the most outstanding player in seizing opportunities, Huang Shaotian was completely calm on the inside.

Only with this inner calmness was he able to possess such keen awareness of the battlefield and find the most optimal opportunity to strike.

"That's why I think that if we want to know who Lord Grim is, then we should just directly call Liu Hao and ask him. Liu Hao's phone number, I should have it....." Yu Wenzhou smiled, but then quickly followed: "Oh, I didn't bring my cellphone with me." They weren't allowed to bring their cellphones into the practice room. This was a rule that a lot of Clubs had.

Changing Spring looked forward to it. He looked forward to knowing the answer. He obviously hoped that Yu Wenzhou would be a bit more active. But seeing that Yu Wenzhou didn't have his cellphone and didn't intend on going to get it, Changing Spring felt somewhat disappointed. He didn't dare urge the team captain, but at this moment, maybe he could ask. Just as he was about to speak, he saw Yu Wenzhou patted his pocket and laughed: "Actually, someone who Liu Hao was enemies with, was scared of, was acknowledged by, and trusted. There's no need to ask. I already know who he is."

"Who is he?" Changing Spring blurted out.

"Ye Qiu." Yu Wenzhou said.

"God Ye Qiu....." Changing Spring didn't know what to do to express his astonishment.

"Shaotian, have you talked to Ye Qiu recently?" Yu Wenzhou asked.

"Nope, after that guy retired, he just seemed to have evaporated. Maybe he was kidnapped by aliens!" Huang Shaotian said.

"He doesn't use cellphones, right?" Yu Wenzhou said.

"Yeah."

"It looks like he was kidnapped by aliens to the tenth server to continue playing Glory..... Unspecialized Lord Grim hm? We might even see him appear in a match again someday!" Yu Wenzhou said.

"....." Changing Spring had many things he wanted to say, but didn't know how to start. Yu Wenzhou and Huang Shaotian didn't seem to have any reaction to such a conclusion. After a few moments of

thinking, Yu Wenzhou lifted his head and looked up at the clock on the wall of the practice room. He suddenly stood up.

“It’s time to eat.” Yu Wenzhou said.

“Yeah, yeah. It’s time to eat, it’s time to eat. Come, come, come with us Changing Spring. Do you know where the cafeteria is? I’ll bring you there!” Huang Shaotian put his arm around Changing Spring and dragged him out.

Chapter 184 – That’s a Strength Too?

The Club’s food was quite delicious and for team members, the food was free. Of course, other Club staff could come and eat as well, but they didn’t get to enjoy the same benefits as the team members.

Changing Spring didn’t have those benefits either, however, he followed Huang Shaotian and used his status to get in for free. It was just that he was practically unable to taste the food that went into his mouth. Changing Spring’s mind was still on what Yu Wenzhou had analyzed earlier.

Lord Grim is God Ye Qiu.

This news took a long time for Changing Spring to digest, at least, when compared to his dinner.

In his heart, whether it was him or Blue River, they had already respected Lord Grim. They had recognized that he had a very high skill level, but they had never expected such an outcome.

Ye Qiu..... that was a power at the very peak of Glory! Even though he was retired now, he was still more than enough to tidy up whatever he wanted in game. This could be seen just by how easily Poplar Beach had been tidied up.

If this had taken place during God Ye Qiu’s prime with his Battle God One Autumn Leaf, who knew how terrible Poplar Beach would have been crushed?

Changing Spring originally had a few methods he planned on using to fight against Lord Grim, but after knowing his identity, his heart suddenly dropped.

What should he do now?

Changing Spring felt that the food in front of him tasted like wax. Sitting at the same table were Yu Wenzhou and Huang Shaotian, but the two were casually chatting with each other. They didn’t seem very surprised about Ye Qiu. After all, after thinking about it, they were pro-players as well, so there wasn’t anything too surprising. Ye Qiu had retired, but what was wrong with returning to the game to play? It only affected normal players, who would feel somewhat pressured by God competing with them.

After eating, he decided to leave. Yu Wenzhou and Huang Shaotian didn’t mention Ye Qiu again. Yu Wenzhou was still as friendly as ever and even accompanied him out, but when they parted, he said a few final words: “That Lord Grim, especially his weapon, try and pay more attention to it please!”

“Ah? Oh.....” With this sudden mention of Lord Grim, Changing Spring finally responded.

In theory, the team captain didn't have any power over Changing Spring for in-game guild matters. However, everyone knew that pro-players were the core of the Club. Who wouldn't take what they said seriously? Changing Spring placed importance on what Yu Wenzhou requested.

"I'll be going then." Changing Spring said and then left.

After turning around, Yu Wenzhou saw Huang Shaotian going back to his room and immediately called for him.

"What do you want?" Huang Shaotian replied.

Yu Wenzhou walked over and went into Huang Shaotian's room along with him.

"What commands do you have, captain?" Huang Shaotian asked.

Yu Wenzhou stood beside a table. He grabbed a pen on the table and began playing with it: "Last time, when we had the match versus Excellent Era, if I remember correctly, you left at night to do something?"

"Huh? There was something like that? That day? Hm hm, let me think....." Huang Shaotian said.

"Was it to go and meet with Ye Qiu?" Yu Wenzhou asked.

Not a peep came out of Huang Shaotian.

"The time you left matches the time when that record was set. The Blade Master on that team, Flowing Tree, was you, right?" Yu Wenzhou said.

"Flowing Tree? Yeah, that name does sound a bit familiar. How could that be? How strange." Huang Shaotian said.

"Ha ha....." Yu Wenzhou laughed. He didn't comment on Huang Shaotian's acting and followed: "What type of weapon is Ye Qiu's unspecialized weapon?"

Huang Shaotian's expression immediately turned serious: "Without a doubt, it's just like I said before, it's a weapon specially made for unspecialized characters."

"The attack?"

"Definitely Silver weapon level."

"Are there any special attributes?"

"I couldn't tell. It doesn't look like it has any."

"Its attack speed?"

"It has the same attack speed for every form. It should have an Attack Speed of 5."

"What forms does it have?"

"From what I've seen, he can use skills from every class." Huang Shaotian said.

"The level?"

“He probably knows how to upgrade it.” Huang Shaotian said.

“This type of weapon paired with Ye Qiu. It looks like we’ll get a chance to see a true unspecialized.” Yu Wenzhou said with lament.

“But it’ll have to be at least a year later.” Huang Shaotian said.

“Unspecialized huh.....” Yu Wenzhou looked out the window as if in deep thought.

Glory Tenth Server.

Changing Spring immediately returned to log into the game. Chilling Nightfall, Flying Brushstroke, and the others hadn’t returned to the Heavenly Domain yet. They were still using the accounts they had borrowed and were waiting for Changing Spring to return with the news.

Blue Brook Guild’s Five Great Experts gathered together once again, along with Blue River’s right hand man, Bound Boat.

“What’d they say?” After seeing Changing Spring, they immediately asked him.

Changing Spring let out a sigh. He had been shocked already. It was their turn now.

“Captain Yu figured out who Lord Grim is.” Changing Spring said.

“Who is he?” Everyone asked.

“Ye Qiu.” Changing Spring pretended to be calm when he said this.

“What?!” Everyone acted as if they hadn’t heard clearly.

“Ye Qiu! Battle God One Autumn Leaf, that Ye Qiu!!” Changing Spring said.

“No way!!!” Flying Brushstroke yelled out in astonishment.

Who was Lord Grim? This was a question they had discussed numerous times ever since they had learned about him. But even their most outrageous speculations couldn’t compare to the truth.

Lord Grim was actually God Ye Qiu!

Blue River didn’t know why, but he felt somewhat excited. Even though Huang Shaotian was his favorite pro-player, the mysterious God Ye Qiu was someone who was worthy of worshipping as well! Seeing Lord Grim on his friends list, Blue River couldn’t help but feel like saying a few words to him. At this moment, he had already forgotten that he was the main reason that caused them so much trouble in the tenth server.

“So he was actually God Ye Qiu all along. I never would have thought of that. What should we do then?” Luckily, Bound Boat was there. This issue pulled Blue River back in.

God Ye Qiu would be a difficult opponent!

Blue River was finally aware of the cruel reality. However, if it was because they were against God Ye Qiu, then retreating wouldn’t be shameful, right? Blue River suddenly felt a lot more relaxed.

At this moment, Changing Spring began to talk: "Even though we know that our opponent is God Ye Qiu, there's no change in plans. We just have to understand how grim our circumstances are..... Against God Ye Qiu, there's nothing we can do about setting the records. On how we're going to fight against him. This isn't a matter for our Blue Brook Guild. The ambitious and able guilds in the tenth server will need to rally together..... Even if it's for giving materials, we should still rally....."

Changing Spring's final words made even himself not know whether to laugh or cry.

"I think if everyone knows that he's God Ye Qiu, then there wouldn't be anymore pointless fights." Blue River said.

"The problem is, we all believe this, but if you say this to the other guilds, will they believe us?" Changing Spring asked.

Everyone was silent. They understood how suspicious and cautious other guilds were towards each other.

"Since it turned out to be like this, why don't we think about this some more. If we know Lord Grim's identity, is there any way we can use this to our advantage?" Changing Spring said.

"The rest will depend on what Blue Bridge decides to do." Changing Spring suddenly changed the topic.

"Me?"

"Right. After all, these are all tenth server matters!" Changing Spring said.

"Right! Blue Bridge, you can do it!" Flying Brushstroke said.

"To have God Ye Qiu as an opponent, it was nice knowing you." Chilling Nightfall said.

"We've got nothing else to do, so we'll be going back first?" Dawn of Ice said.

"Yeah, you guys can go back." Changing Spring answered, "Moonlight Forest hasn't been run yet, right?"

"Not yet!"

"Okay, we'll run it tonight."

"Should we go now?"

"Let's go!"

"Blue Bridge, good luck! Remember to pay attention to Lord Grim's weapon." Changing Spring urged.

"F*ck! You guys....." Blue River hadn't finished, when the four went offline one after another.

"These guys are too irresponsible....." Blue Bridge was speechless. As soon as these guys saw that the tenth server's difficult problem was because of God Ye Qiu, they all acted as if there was nothing wrong and all ran off.

Bound Boat could only force a smile.

"What do you think we should do?" Blue River asked.

“Actually, the guild leader’s already told us what we can do.” Bound Boat said.

“Oh?”

“Knowing Lord Grim’s identity is the one thing we can use.” Bound Boat said.

“Why do I think that all that gives us is more pressure?” Blue River said.

“Pressure can be used! Other guilds might not have this type of pressure, so they’ll still face him directly. As for us, we’ll have to be more careful. We won’t try this sort of thing anymore. We’ll see if we can take advantage of what others do.” Bound Boat said.

“Woah, if you say it like this..... then you’re saying, we should run away from battles against God Ye Qiu and sit back and watch God Ye Qiu clean up these other arrogant guys?” Blue River said.

“I think that’s what the guild leader was saying.” Bound Boat said.

“That’s the only thing that can be done.” Blue River thought. Was that an advantage? It sounds like we are killing the other guilds with a borrowed knife. But in reality, the knife did whatever it wanted to and we can only follow it with our tail tucked between our legs and pick up the leftovers.

“Next up is Line Canyon. What do you think Tyrannical Ambition will do?” Bound Boat said, but he didn’t hear Blue River respond.

“Uh, are you there?” Bound Boat asked.

“I say.” Blue River was still here.

“What?”

“If I go ask Lord Grim for a signature, would that be bad?”

“F*ck..... what a loser! Even though he’s God Ye Qiu, he’s also a difficult opponent for us!” Bound Boat said.

“Yeah, that’s what I think too. It’s too shameful.” Blue River said.

Bound Boat was speechless.

Chapter 185 – It’s Unfortunate That His Hands Are Handicapped

Lord Grim was Ye Qiu. The tremors brought by this were minimal. Blue River and Bound Boat were the only two who knew of this in the tenth server’s Blue Brook Guild. After discussing it, the two decided to keep this a secret.

The guilds who didn’t know this would continue fighting against Lord Grim. Standing on the sidelines and watching them strike at a stone with eggs; what was wrong with that?

Blue River stopped playing and instead went to the forums to enjoy the videos of Poplar Beach getting destroyed.

Poplar Beach’s name was very distinct. Even though Poplar Beach always made Blue River resentful, Poplar Beach was, after all, a relatively famous player in the game and was one of their Blue Brook

Guild's experts. Being crushed like this didn't only embarrass himself, but the whole Blue Brook Guild as well. The players from the enemy guilds would surely use this to laugh at Blue Brook Guild.

The reason Blue River was on the forums was because this video had been posted on one of the categories in the forum: Heavenly Domain.

There was a Heavenly Domain in the game.

There was a Heavenly Domain in the forums.

These two Heavenly Domains were both places bustling with noise.

These Heavenly Domain people clearly didn't harbor any good intentions. In the comments, they praised the exceptional skill of Chasing Haze on the surface, but their main way of doing so was by using Poplar Beach as the center.

"Does everyone know who Poplar Beach is? He's an expert who's not any weaker than Blue Brook Guild's Five Great Experts. But to have been beaten like this by Chasing Haze, how skilled do you think this Chasing Haze is?"

This was more or less the method they used. Blue River looked at the later comments. These people's plots had succeeded. There were many who were looking down and laughing at Poplar Beach. Speaking of this, it was mostly because Poplar Beach's reputation wasn't good. He had made a name for himself in the Heavenly Domain through his arrogance. His fall caused many players to attack him like a dead dog. Many of these attacks brought Blue Brook Guild along with him, which made Blue River extremely unhappy.

This video had already exploded into popularity. Those, in the Heavenly Domain and the other servers, who didn't understand the dispute in the tenth server had already found Chasing Haze in-game.

That day at dinner, Chen Guo scolded Ye Xiu for quite a lengthy amount of time.

She practically couldn't play the game anymore. Her in-game friends were all asking her how she suddenly became so good. She was only able to explain it to them one by one, which was already annoying enough. But her friends continued to bother her by asking which expert had borrowed the account.

Besides this, there were also numerous strangers who asked her to mentor them. There were random guilds pestering her to join their guilds too. Even weirder was that in the afternoon, there were two people who claimed they were pro-player scouts. They asked her as if she were under an interrogation how old she was, how long she had played Glory, where she was from, and whether she had any interest in becoming a pro-player. This made Chen Guo so angry that she returned with an "I'm not the account's owner" and then logged out of the game.

Thinking about how she had actually said "I'm not the account's owner", Chen Guo felt sad.

"It's all because of you!" Chen Guo shouted. The rice in her mouth almost sprayed onto Ye Xiu's face.

"My bad, my bad. Boss, you should drink some soup. Don't choke." Ye Xiu immediately handed a bowl of soup over to Chen Guo.

Chen Guo took it and drank two sips. Her anger receded a bit.

“Actually, you can’t completely blame this on me.” Ye Xiu took the opportunity to explain.

“Hm?”

“The opponent was too weak. I.....”

“Get the f*ck out of here!!!” Chen Guo’s soup splashed. Amongst everyone’s cries of fear, Ye Xiu swiftly slipped out of the Internet Cafe.

“And you’re laughing, Little Tang!!” Chen Guo said angrily. Tang Rou ate her dinner behind the reception desk. As of right now she was carrying her lunch box. Even though her back was facing Chen Guo, her shoulders were moving up and down. She was clearly laughing uncontrollably.

“I’m not laughing.” Tang Rou quickly stuffed rice into her mouth to try and stifle her laughter.

Ye Xiu had run out, but hadn’t come back. At nine o’clock, Chen Guo ran out of the Internet Cafe to look around, but didn’t see him coming back, so she returned and muttered to Tang Rou: “Where’d he run off to? Could he have crashed into a tree?”

“If that happened, then I’m sure you’d be happy!” Tang Rou said.

“Yeah! I’d be really happy.” Chen Guo said as she continued to glance outside repeatedly.

“What are you doing?” Seeing that Tang Rou wasn’t busy at the front desk, she stretched her neck to look inside and saw Tang Rou studying a guide again. Chen Guo was helpless. Should I go find a random open computer and play? I tried it before, but it was still so noisy. Maybe I should go look at a guide or watch a video? Chen Guo opened up a web page and saw that the lead story was a video and analysis of Poplar Beach getting crushed by Chasing Haze. Chen Guo couldn’t resist clicking on it and playing it over and over again.

The time was nearing 11, but there was still no sign of Ye Xiu.

“Where’d this guy go? He doesn’t have a phone either.” Chen Guo went in and out of the cafe.

“Relax. He’s an adult.” Tang Rou said.

“A shut-in. He probably ran far away and got lost.” Chen Guo said.

“Even if he’s lost, there’s still the police. Don’t worry about him!” Tang Rou said.

“Who’s worrying about him! It’s almost 11 o’clock already. If he doesn’t come back soon, then what about the night shift?” Chen Guo said.

“Aren’t I still here?” Tang Rou said, “You should go to sleep!”

“Okay....” Chen Guo looked outside once again, but finally went up the stairs.

“If he comes back, should I send you a text?” Tang Rou asked.

“Okay.....” Chen Guo answered and went up.

Not long after Chen Guo left, the employees who got off at 11 all left. At this moment, Ye Xiu appeared at the entrance of the Internet Cafe like a ghost. After looking inside, he crept up to the reception desk. Once he saw that only Tang Rou was there, he relaxed.

“Where’s the boss?” Ye Xiu stood straight and lit up a cigarette.

“She went to sleep.” When Tang Rou saw Ye Xiu, after answering him, she took out her cellphone.

“Where’d you run off to?” Tang Rou asked Ye Xiu as she sent a text to Chen Guo.

“I just took a stroll around the area! Out of 100, how many points is boss’s anger worth now?” Ye Xiu asked.

“Hard to say. When you weren’t here, she was at a 0. But now that you’re here, she’s probably at a 100 again.” Tang Rou said.

“It really wasn’t my fault.” Ye Xiu said.

“But you’re such a taunter.” Tang Rou said.

This sister had already begun using a few gaming terms in real life. After typing out the text, she pressed send.

Her phone quickly rang. Tang Rou opened it and chuckled.

“Boss said that you were late, so there won’t be any pay for today.” Tang Rou showed Ye Xiu the text.

“Fine! It doesn’t matter if I don’t get pay as long as I have food and shelter.” Ye Xiu said.

“Should I reply with what you said?” Tang Rou asked.

“Don’t you dare.” Ye Xiu was speechless.

“Ha ha, you should come in. I’m going over there.” Tang Rou got up and gave her seat at the front desk to Ye Xiu. She went to her usual all-nighter seat.

The two logged into the game. Just as Ye Xiu logged into Lord Grim, he received a message: “You’ve been exposed.”

Ye Xiu was puzzled. He replied: “Who are you?”

“F*CK F*CK F*CK F*CK! It’s me, Shaotian!” Huang Shaotian was sad.

“Oh, it’s you!” Ye Xiu thought of Flowing Tree, that low-leveled account that Huang Shaotian had used.

“What’s been exposed?” Ye Xiu asked.

“Your records were too astonishing. Blue Brook Guild even came by today to look for the team for help. I’m sure you know how amazing our team captain is. In just a few moments, he deduced that you were Lord Grim.” Huang Shaotian replied.

“Oh? How’d he deduce it?” Ye Xiu asked.

The process would clearly take a long time, but who was Huang Shaotian? He could be afraid of anything else, but he wasn't afraid of talking too much. His hands moved swiftly as he quickly narrated the entire process to Ye Xiu.

"Oh, so it was like that! But if I've been exposed, there's nowhere for you to hide either!" Ye Xiu said.

"Yeah, he also deduced that I was Flowing Tree." Huang Shaotian said.

"Tsk tsk, Wenzhou really is quite amazing. It's just too bad that his hand is handicapped." Ye Xiu said.

"He's standing right behind me....." Huang Shaotian replied.

"Then his hand isn't handicapped?" Ye Xiu said.

"Captain....." Huang Shaotian turned his head to look at Yu Wenzhou with an innocent expression.

Yu Wenzhou only laughed: "It's the truth. My hands really are handicapped."

"Your trash talk has no effect on our team captain." Huang Shaotian replied.

"Yeah, that's why I said he's amazing. If his hands weren't handicapped, then he really would be an extremely difficult opponent to deal with!" Ye Xiu said.

Huang Shaotian was helpless and turned his head to Yu Wenzhou.

"The handicapped person would like to compare notes with him. Ask him if he wants to come." Yu Wenzhou laughed.

Huang Shaotian conveyed the message. Ye Xiu quickly replied: "Come! Which account?"

"I'll just use this one!" After a short moment, the reply came.

"Oh, you've already switched?" Ye Xiu asked.

"Yeah!"

"Free Field, whoever gets there first makes the room." Ye Xiu said.

"Room 45178, password 159." Yu Wenzhou replied.

"How long have you been waiting!" Ye Xiu replied. His Lord Grim hastily rushed towards the Arena.

Enter, Ready, Begin.

The map was the most common small ring. Flowing Tree stood at one corner.

"Hi!" After Lord Grim entered, Ye Xiu greeted.

"Hi! I heard you're a manager at an Internet Cafe now?" Yu Wenzhou replied. The character Flowing Tree drew his sword and rushed forward.

"Yeah. For people like us, besides playing games, what else can we do?" Ye Xiu laughed. Lord Grim also swung his Thousand Chance Umbrella. The umbrella transformed into the Battle Lance form. After dodging the attack, he stabbed forward with his lance.

“A Battle Lance with an Attack Speed of 5; How difficult to deal with. Even your Evil Annihilation didn’t have that high of an Attack Speed right?” Yu Wenzhou said.

“It’s just plain stats.” Ye Xiu’s hands hadn’t stopped. He followed up with a few skills as well as a few normal attacks. Yu Wenzhou’s Flowing Tree dodged left and right. There wasn’t any chance for him to counter attack.

“Are you preparing to return with an unspecialized?” Yu Wenzhou was still talking.

“I hope this time the company won’t mess things up.” Ye Xiu said.

“Ha ha, good luck!”

“I need luck to beat you?” Ye Xiu laughed.

“Sometimes, I really admire you guys with your crazy hand speeds.” Yu Wenzhou regretted. Because his Flowing Tree wasn’t able to keep up, he was finally hit under Lord Grim’s relentless attacks.

“If you also had this type of hand speed, how could there be any contest?” Ye Xiu wasn’t polite though and continued to attack.

Chapter 186 – An Unspecialized Character’s False Combos

When comboing, the numerous skills an unspecialized possessed was a huge advantage. No other class had so many short cooldown skills. Of course, this also meant that using them was more complicated.

In order to do the same amount of damage as a single high-leveled skill did, unspecialized characters would need to chain several skills. Moreover, there couldn’t be any mistakes. Unspecialized characters were actually quite a difficult class.

However, to Ye Xiu, who had played Glory for ten years, his mechanics were as precise as a machine.

His opponent Yu Wenzhou was also an absolute expert in the professional scene though. To be comboed until death, that was something that would only happen to someone like Tang Rou and Poplar Beach.

Even under the relentless attacks, Yu Wenzhou was able to find an opportunity.

With a swing, a cold light flashed and Flowing Tree used Sword Draw. The sword aura flew in an arc towards Lord Grim.

Lord Grim’s Thousand Chance Umbrella shook and a Dragon Tooth thrust forward at Flowing Tree.

Two blood blossoms flew out into the air at the same time. Flowing Tree had been hit by Dragon Tooth. Lord Grim had been cut by Sword Draw.

Characters that were hit by Dragon Tooth would be briefly stunned. Characters that were cut by Sword Draw would fly backwards. However, while flying back, Lord Grim’s Thousand Chance Umbrella transformed into a Gun Form. A burst of flame shot out from the tip of his umbrella and Anti-Tank Missiles shot out. The three Anti-Tank Missiles exploded into a blazing flame, burning Flowing Tree from top to bottom.

Lord Grim used Quick Recover as he landed on the ground. He flipped over and stood up. His hands continued to fire, attacking from afar. Even though Flowing Tree's Sword Draw had done damage to Lord Grim, it hadn't interrupted Ye Xiu's offense.

The situation didn't change much. Yu Wenzhou had been able to find an opportunity several times, but he had no way of taking back the initiative. Ye Xiu had been able to adjust to Yu Wenzhou's counter attacks every time, quickly changing his path and staying on the offensive.

The constantly changing combos didn't seem to go on for very long, but the control and pressure put on by them couldn't be ignored. Moreover, many attacks were hit in quick succession. However, these attacks weren't considered as combos by the system, so they didn't count towards the total.

These attacks may not have been counted towards the combo by the system, but in actual battle, they could be used to chain attacks, which was why players called them "False Combos". It was possible to avoid false combos, but players couldn't play perfectly, so they would sometimes fail to dodge these attacks for various reasons.

(TLC: Combos are strings of attacks that cannot be dodged or blocked if the first hit connects. "False combos" are similar to combos, except they can be dodged or blocked, so they are technically not true combos and thus aren't counted by the system.)

In this match, even though Yu Wenzhou wasn't completely powerless like Tang Rou or Poplar Beach were, he was still struggling. But even in this situation, the two were still doing two things at once, fighting while chatting. If a normal player was watching on the side, he definitely wouldn't believe that it was possible to chat with such liveliness in such a high-skill fight.

In the end, the launched Flowing Tree was hit by a Falling Flower Palm and then a Sword Draw. The last sliver of health fell and Yu Wenzhou lost in the end.

"You won." Yu Wenzhou said.

"Very normal." Ye Xiu laughed.

"The advantages of an unspecialized really are clear. Plus, you have that mysterious weapon. However, the higher the levels, the weaker they become." Yu Wenzhou said.

"Yeah..... What do you think the limit is?" Ye Xiu asked.

"To be honest, I don't think there's any point discussing unspecialized characters. There are too many difficult requirements that have to be met in order to play them well. First of all, without that weapon in your hand, there's no way you'd be so oppressive. Next, only you can fully utilize the advantages of an unspecialized. For this specific class, there's only meaning if these conditions can be satisfied." Yu Wenzhou said.

"Right now, they're all satisfied." Ye Xiu said.

"With all of the conditions you've met, I think that at Level 70, the advantages of an unspecialized will still be greater than the lack of high-damage and high-level skills. Remember, this is only if you have a weapon like yours! But let's say that Glory raises the level cap from Level 70. Level 95. The limit is Level 95. At that level, even if it's you, unspecialized won't have any value." Yu Wenzhou said.

“Woah, you thought the same as me. How unfortunate!” Ye Xiu sighed.

“If this was a bit earlier and you caught up with the Level 50 era, then your unspecialized would be extremely strong. It would have been considered a BUG.” Yu Wenzhou said.

“Right now, it’s not too late yet.” Ye Xiu said.

“However..... After this season, Glory won’t have raised the level cap in three years.” Yu Wenzhou said.

“Yeah..... it might be soon.” Ye Xiu said.

“Level 75? Level 80?..... unspecialized will grow weaker as the other classes gain more skills.” Yu Wenzhou said.

“But it’ll at least be in the acceptable range. Do you think I’ll still be able to play until the day the level cap reaches Level 95?” Ye Xiu said.

“If you only play like this in the tenth server, what isn’t possible?” Yu Wenzhou laughed.

“Ha, you’re right.” Ye Xiu also laughed.

“Another round?” Yu Wenzhou asked.

“No need. I won’t let you see my strength clearly.” Ye Xiu said.

“Did you not use your full strength?” Yu Wenzhou asked.

“Of course, I’m old. I need to take care of myself.” Ye Xiu said.

“Then I guess that’s it!” Yu Wenzhou chuckled and then left the field. After the two characters bumped into each other again outside of the Arena, Ye Xiu said bye and then left.

“What do you think?” Yu Wenzhou turned his head to ask Huang Shaotian.

“He did a total of 21 False Combos.” Huang Shaotian said.

“He really knows what my weaknesses are.” Yu Wenzhou said. Hand speed. This was Yu Wenzhou’s fatal weakness. As a result, in this type of fight, his hand speed was incapable of keeping up with his opponent’s movements. His character would move too slowly, making it so that attacks that could have been avoided weren’t, which in the end, became false combos.

“Yeah.” Huang Shaotian nodded his head and then said, “He knows all the weakness of all his opponents in the Alliance. If I was his opponent, then he wouldn’t have use so many false combos.”

“If he wasn’t an unspecialized, he also wouldn’t be able to put out so many false combos.” Yu Wenzhou said, “If you had been playing under the same circumstances, then how many of those 21 false combos would you have been able to dodge?”

Huang Shaotian stared blankly.

“You should look at the recordings again.” Yu Wenzhou got up and patted Huang Shaotian, “The unspecialized character’s unpredictable and complex style creates these constant false combos.....”

After Yu Wenzhou left, Huang Shaotian returned to in front of his computer. He logged out of the game and opened up the recording app, bringing up the recording of the fight with Yu Wenzhou versus Ye Xiu.

21 false combos, how many could he have dodged?

When he was watching the fight, Huang Shaotian really hadn't considered this issue. The two had been fighting very quickly, so Huang Shaotian didn't have time to think of that. Now that he had looked at the recording, Huang Shaotian played it again except this time, he imagine that he was the one playing against Ye Xiu.

If it was him, it would have turned differently here.....

First, he noticed the difference in hand speed. There were a few places that he could have done better. Even though he probably wouldn't have been able to win against the enormous advantage of an unspecialized, he could have at least played more beautifully than Yu Wenzhou.

But, these 21 false combos.....

After counting them out one by one, Huang Shaotian began to sweat.

21 false combos. If he were the one playing, it might not have played out like that. However, when he imagined himself playing, Huang Shaotian discovered that of these 21 false combos, he would have only been able to dodge 4 of them.

4!!!

This was something Huang Shaotian hadn't expected.

The difference between his hand speed and Yu Wenzhou's was quite large. Huang Shaotian had originally thought that these false combos sent to Yu Wenzhou were done to bully him, but he now discovered that these 21 false combos wasn't as simple as taking advantage of Yu Wenzhou's weakness.

Huang Shaotian recovered and played the recording again.

F*ck!

After watching it again, Huang Shaotian couldn't help but curse.

3 times!!

The number of false combos he could have dodged was actually three. He had made an oversight on one of them. That false combo looked easy to dodge from a spectator's perspective, but in the actual battle, Lord Grim had attacked from Flowing Tree's dead angle. That attack was a sneak attack with a 100% chance of succeeding. Even if it hadn't hit, the many attacks after it would definitely have hit out a false combo.

For someone so perceptive as him to have made an oversight, that only showed how sneaky and hidden that attack was. It was just that against someone with such a weakness in hand speed like Yu Wenzhou, there was no need to use such a complicated attack.

How many of these tricks was this guy hiding?

Huang Shaotian though. A cold chill went down his spine. He once again studied Lord Grim's fighting style. He wanted to carefully analyze how many hidden attacks were made.

Soon after, he discovered another terrifying reality.

Even for a God-level character like him, he truly lacked too much experience towards these false combos done by Lord Grim.

Falling Flower Palm followed by a Sword Draw.....

In a one on one match, he had never seen such a combo before.

Lord Grim's numerous combos and false combos, these sort of chaining attacks, could be considered as coordination.

The coordination done by several classes was being done by a single character. The more Huang Shaotian thought, the stronger this feeling.

Flowing Tree's opponent wasn't a single person, but rather two, three..... or perhaps even more, but it couldn't be seen in this match because..... the opponent hadn't used his full strength!

If he had gone all out, what would the result be? Huang Shaotian was very curious about this question, so he quickly logged into the game.

Chapter 187 – Can't Find a Chance

In the Heavenly Domain, a very common friend notification rang. However, after looking at the name, many players immediately grew excited.

Troubling Rain!

The character who had come online was impressively Troubling Rain, a god-like character known as the Sword Saint.

No matter how amazing an account was, it came from the game. This was why accounts in the game as well as accounts in the Alliance could be searched. For characters that were liked, who knew how many players asked to be their friend. Some characters directly refused them, while some required them to identify themselves, and a select few directly added them.

Unless the character was the type to directly refuse them, it wasn't impossible to add a pro God as a friend.

In the game, the number of players who were Troubling Rain's friends weren't few. So when his name popped up, many players immediately took note of it. Quite a few bravely sent their greetings to the God.

"Oops, I forgot to hide myself....." The continuous message prompts made Huang Shaotian's eyes go blurry, so he hastily logged out.

Because of his special status, his short-lived appearance instantly brought a lot of attention.

Troubling Rain had gone online! This news was already being discussed in the world channel.

A pro-player's character was being played in game? This type of occurrence wasn't anything new. In the Heavenly Domain's Arena, pro-players would frequently play a few rounds. Many normal players had the experience of playing against a pro-level player. However, God-level characters like Troubling Rain truly hadn't appeared in the Arena for a long time. Pro-players didn't use the in-game Arena for practice. The game company specially provided them with an environment with which to play in. Apart from this, they also had map editors, setting editors; they could design their own maps with which to practice certain things. The game? These types of top-tier accounts rarely appeared in the game.

While the players were talking about Troubling Rain in the world channel, Huang Shaotian quietly logged into the game, making himself invisible to his friends. Even though many still sent messages, Huang Shaotian calmly acted like he wasn't there.

But the name on top of his head couldn't be hidden, and the name Troubling Rain still was capable of causing a lot of wide-eyes. So he went to a small town in a normal server after leaving the Heavenly domain to be away from the prying eyes.

His journey through could have been considered as smooth. Huang Shaotian entered the small town and went directly to the Arena. He set up a room in the Fixed Field. But he began to sweat after opening his friends list.

Troubling Rain and Lord Grim weren't in the same server. Lord Grim wasn't in the Heavenly Domain either, so he couldn't add him as a friend.

Helpless, he could only alt-tab out of the game and open up QQ. He didn't care whether Ye Xiu really wasn't on there or if he was faking it and sent him a few messages. However, there was no response.

Just as Huang Shaotian was feeling helpless, he suddenly discovered that Su Mucheng was on, so he immediately sent her a message.

Through this, he was finally able to connect to Ye Xiu. Huang Shaotian waited bitterly for a long time. Su Mucheng finally returned with a reply: "He won't be playing. He doesn't have time. He's about to go dungeon."

"Dungeon? Which dungeon?" Huang Shaotian asked.

"He'll probably go to Line Canyon first." Su Mucheng said.

"F*ck!!" Huang Shaotian felt depressed! What status did he have? How could he be less important than a stupid dungeon like Line Canyon! Fine..... Huang Shaotian had no choice but to admit defeat. To be able to fight with an expert like him, such an opportunity would be extremely hard to come by for a normal player, but to Ye Qiu, this wasn't anything special.

"Ask him to come fight with me! I'm using my main account! My main account! I've opened a Fixed Field, so I won't be bullying him. Let me see how strong this unspecialized is." Huang Shaotian chattered.

"

But Su Mucheng automatically replied: "In the middle of a dungeon....."

"Hey hey hey!!!"

“In the middle of a dungeon.....”

“Su Mucheng, you have no future! You talk in the same way as him!!! You only need to pass on what I’m saying to him! Did you pass what I said to him?” Huang Shaotian quickly typed out.

“In the middle of a dungeon.....”

“Hey! I do what I want to do, it’s none of your business!” Su Mucheng had clearly been looking at the chat and suddenly replied to Huang Shaotian’s taunts.

No future? Same? Huang Shaotian’s words didn’t make her mad, but they rather suited her quite well.

Huang Shaotian continued to roar, completely displaying his talkative personality. Unfortunately, they couldn’t move Su Mucheng and all he received were “In the middle of a dungeon.....” automatic replies.

Helpless, Huang Shaotian got off his Troubling Rain and went onto Flowing Tree. This account had Lord Grim as his friend, so as soon as he got on he spammed “Hey hey hey hey hey”.

“What?” Ye Xiu calmly replied.

“PK! PK! PK! PK! PK!” Huang Shaotian shouted.

“I’m in a dungeon!” Ye Xiu said.

“What dungeon!! If you still have any pro sense in you, how could running a dungeon be something you should be doing? Hurry up and come to the Arena. You need a high-skilled opponent to help you maintain your condition.” Huang Shaotian said.

“In the middle of a dungeon.....”

“You two are so shameful!!!” Huang Shaotian almost flipped the table. He wasn’t easily irritated on stage. But in private, he was more carefree, so there was no need to control his emotions.

“I’m in a dungeon right now. Wait until I’m free!” Ye Xiu said.

Huang Shaotian was helpless. He could only go offline and watch the recording again.

In game, Ye Xiu and the others really were dungeoning.

Line Canyon was a dungeon record they could already try and challenge. This dungeon was a Level 30-33 one. There wasn’t any large five-level equipment or skill difference, so the levels weren’t as significant. It was similar to that time’s Level 25 versus Level 27 run at Boneyard.

Ye Xiu’s five-man team had good equipment and after the addition of Qiao Yifan, they no longer had any weaknesses. They completely had the ability to contest with the elite teams of the big guilds.

And this time, after Blue Brook Guild’s Blue River found out who Lord Grim was, he had already prepared a deal. Now, they were figuring out how to conduct the negotiation. In this dungeon record, the guild who was in the most troublesome position was Tyrannical Ambition.

Blue Brook Guild was their warning.

Blue Brook Guild had tried to compete against Lord Grim for the record, but were stepped on in the end. There didn't seem to be any hopes in turning that over. Blue Brook Guild's carefully established power had fallen and for now, they had no way of climbing back up. And for Tyrannical Ambition? The effects from the previous blow to them still remained. The number of players who were applying to their guild was declining, but they still had a chance. Line Canyon was the place where they could prove themselves.

But, Lord Grim..... how were they going to deal with this huge mountain?

After witnessing Blue Brook Guild's miserable state, Tyrannical Ambition's guild leader Jiang You decided to bravely go to the Club for help as well.

But when he got to the practice room, he happened to come at a time when the team captain Han Wenqing was reprimanding the team members. Besides his criticizing shouts in the practice room, there were no other sounds. No one dared to speak out, how could Jiang You dare to go up?

Jiang You had waited for the session to end before cautiously moving forward. But once he saw Han Wenqing's strict glare, Jiang You's mustered up courage suddenly disappeared. He pretended like he was just passing by and slipped away.

No good..... even if he went to the Club to ask the experts for help, he couldn't go directly to the captain, Han Wenqing. It'd be better to go look for the vice-captain Zhang Xinjie!

After pacing back and forth outside of the practice room, he finally decided on this.

Zhang Xinjie was also a famous player in the Alliance. As Tyranny's vice-captain, he wasn't a person who just offered sympathy after Han Wenqing's reprimanding. Zhang Xinjie was solemn, strict, and precise. He was the current record-holder in the Alliance for the least number of mistakes on average in a match.

Zhang Xinjie was publicly recognized as more outstanding than any other God-level character in this area, showing just how serious his style was.

For a serious person like him, Jiang You believed that he would have an appropriate solution. At least, he wouldn't be like Han Wenqing and start shouting at him. Zhang Xinjie was serious, while Han Wenqing was stubborn.

Jiang You left first and prepared to look for a chance. In short, after looking at what happened to Blue Brook Guild, he knew only using their in-game experts wouldn't be good enough. Jiang You completely recognized this.

In game, the first-string teams in the big guilds were already Level 33. They were currently looking to set the final record for Line Canyon. Even though they knew about the large mountain that was Lord Grim, they also knew that they still had the chance to set a record before the limit was reached. Even if the record wouldn't last until the very end, they could still appear on TV and earn experience as well as Purple equipment rewards.

Today, Line Canyon's record had been made with a time of 30:41:12. Afterwards, it hadn't been broken. But right now, the tenth server were mostly paying attention to that match between Poplar Beach and Chasing Haze. Not many people noticed this dungeon besides the big guilds.

Jiang You put this record in his eyes. If he had experts from the Heavenly Domain come, then they'd definitely be able to break it. But, what about Lord Grim's team? Where was their limit? What were they doing now? At midnight, when the dungeon entries refreshed, Jiang You quietly pondered.

Chapter 188 – Difficult to Say

"Information from Line Canyon has arrived. Lord Grim and his team went to Line Canyon. That One Inch Ash who set the record with them at Desolate Land the other day is there as well." After Cold Night received the info, he sent it over to guild leader Jiang You. Jiang You logged into the Elementalist Crowd Lover he used last time and began directing work in the tenth server.

In the afternoon, Jiang You went to the Club, but didn't get anything done. When he returned, he said he saw Han Wenqing and was too afraid to talk. Cold Night understood him well, extremely well.

He had also had the opportunity to see Han Wenqing with his own eyes. He truly was a person who made your heart chill. If he had been taking a night stroll and ran into him, the other side wouldn't even have to say anything and he'd give him his wallet.....

"The current record isn't the limit. If any big guild had their elite experts go all out, then they'd all be able to reach the limit. But looking at the previous records, Lord Grim's team clearly has the ability to exceed this limit. Although they aren't yet Level 33, with their skill, they should already be able to compete with us." Jiang You analyzed.

"Yeah." Cold Night agreed with this analysis: "If they set an extremely fast record right now, then things would be difficult for us. We'd have no way of taking back the record and it would be too late to negotiate with them. From now on, I don't think any guild will ask them to substitute in."

"We won't, but that might not be true for other guilds. This is the most difficult part." Jiang You laughed bitterly.

"Others?" Cold Night doubted.

"Our guild needs the dungeon records to show our strength, but some other guilds might not. And for Lord Grim, there's no difference between earning items from them or us....."

"But other than our big guilds, who else is able to pay his price?" Cold Night said.

"Four Scarlet Moon Parts..... do you still not understand?" Jiang You said.

Jiang You understood. Lord Grim was willing to set the price at four Scarlet Moon parts. What did that mean? It meant that Lord Grim's price depended on the buyer. Big guilds might not feel like it was fair, but they had no choice. The initiative was all on the other side's hands. Being bought with four Scarlet Moon parts by Full Moon Guild was a show of his attitude.

"Would you like me to contact him so we can discuss the records?" Cold Night said.

"Oh? What are you planning on saying?" Jiang You asked.

"Uh, we're still thinking about the conditions and we hope he'll stay put for now?" Cold Night said.

"Hm..... you can try it. Let's see if we can let him drag things out." Jiang You said.

“Huh.....” At this moment, Cold Night suddenly cried out in astonishment.

“What is it?”

“I received a message.” Cold Night said.

“What message? From Lord Grim?”

“No, from Excellent Dynasty.” Cold Night said.

“Excellent Dynasty? What’d they say?” Jiang You was surprised.

“They want to talk with us face to face.” Cold Night said.

Jiang You furrowed his brows. Looking at the two guild’s backgrounds, Excellent Dynasty and Tyrannical Ambition were absolute enemies. This enmity was even greater than the enmity between Tiny Herb and Blue Rain. Tiny Herb’s and Blue Rain’s enmity started from season six playoffs, when Team Blue Rain defeated Team Tiny Herb, while their Tyrannical Ambition and Excellent Dynasty’s enmity originated long before that.

The two teams were both old brands in Glory. They had both fought against each other to be Champions ever since the first season. Their rivalry began there. Excellent Era had won the Championships three years in a row, but in the fourth season, they were finally dethroned by Tyranny. From then on, Excellent Era began going downhill year after year. Tyranny, on the other hand, continued to maintain their strength. However, they hadn’t been able to win their second Championship yet. For this reason, both sides taunted each other. From the Club’s fans to the media, from the matches on-stage to those underneath, their relationship was much tenser than Tiny Herb’s and Blue Rain’s.

Herb Garden’s Plantago Seed and Blue Brook Guild’s Blue River could still add each other as friends and chat with one another, but such a relationship would be very difficult for Tyrannical Ambition and Excellent Dynasty. The reason Cold Night was able to receive the message was because the other side had temporarily added him as a friend.

“Excellent Dynasty is looking for us..... it’s probably related to Lord Grim.” Jiang You said.

“In fact, Excellent Dynasty was the first to begin fighting with Lord Grim.” Cold Night said. Their Tyrannical Ambition hadn’t been in conflict with Lord Grim yet. As for Excellent Dynasty, they had engaged in a large battle against Lord Grim for Frost Forest and Boneyard. From the records, each side had won one battle, but it seemed like Lord Grim had lasted the longest. Everyone had originally been looking forward to seeing Excellent Dynasty act out again, but after being stepped on in Boneyard, there was no other movement from them.

“We can go and see them. When? Now?” Jiang You asked.

“He didn’t say the time.” Cold Night said.

“Then schedule it now! Face to face..... writing method?” Jiang You said.

Writing method meant that even though the two were face to face, they would still type out messages to communicate. Usually, when both sides conducted important meetings, they would use this type of

method. The content they typed out would appear above their character's heads. If the meeting was being recorded, then these could be used as proof.

"The other side wants to talk first." Cold Night replied.

"No problem. Let's go and take a look." Jiang You answered.

"What about Lord Grim?" Cold Night asked.

"Try to contact him and ask!" Jiang You thought for awhile and then spoke.

"Okay....." Cold Night replied. He had his character move forward and sent a message.

"Brother."

"Yeah?"

"That, are you able to set a record for Line Canyon tonight?" Cold Night asked.

"Hard to say." Ye Xiu replied.

This answer made Cold Night surprised. Even if Ye Xiu wasn't going to set the record, he had expected him to bluff and give them pressure. What type of answer was that?

"What difficulties do you have?" Cold Night asked.

"We met a hidden." Ye Xiu said.

Tears streamed down Cold Night's cheeks.

"Hidden BOSS!!!!" When Ye Xiu's group entered Line Canyon, they received a system notification. Steamed Bun Invasion cried out in joy.

In their team, Ye Xiu, Su Mucheng, and Qiao Yifan were all pro-players, so nothing in a little dungeon would surprise them. Tang Rou wasn't only a new player in Glory, but a new gamer too, so she still didn't know what was valuable in games. Only Steamed Bun Invasion was both a noob in Glory and an experienced gamer, so he was quite happy about anything valuable in Glory. If not, then why would he bravely gather a bunch of strangers at around Level 20 to fight for the Blood Gunner?

This was why at this moment, seeing this hidden BOSS, only Steamed Bun Invasion expressed his excitement.

"So we finally meet one!" Ye Xiu also followed. Their recent fights with the guilds over the records had gone smoothly, but they weren't so lucky in other areas. Especially for hidden BOSSes, they hadn't met one in a few days.

"Illusion Swordmaster Ahong." Tang Rou looked at the system announcement and read out the hidden BOSS's name.

"The most difficult BOSS in this dungeon." Ye Xiu said.

"What features does he have?" Tang Rou asked.

"Did you not look at the guide?" Ye Xiu asked.

"I haven't." Tang Rou said bluntly. When she watched the videos in the guides, she never looked at the dungeons. Her research was focused on PvP. She wasn't too interested in PvE. (Author Note: PvP is player versus player battles. PvE is fighting with monsters, dungeoning, completing missions, etc.)

"The Illusion Sword Master class is a combination of the Berserker and the Blade Master class, so every skill he possesses comes from those two classes. I don't think there's anything more that needs to be said. Pay close attention to his left-handed blade." Ye Xiu said.

"Left-handed blade?"

"Yeah, this BOSS is right-handed, but he also has a short blade at his waist side. While attacking, he might suddenly use his left hand to draw the short blade to perform a sneak attack. This type of attack is called a left-handed blade. There are many different ways he can attack with this. Any of his skills can be used through his left-handed blade, so everyone pay attention!" Ye Xiu said.

When Ye Xiu said everyone, he was actually only talking about Tang Rou and Steamed Bun Invasion. Su Mucheng and Qiao Yifan didn't need any warning.

Line Canyon's dungeon terrain was that of a canyon. There were two large cliffs on either side, so players could only move forward. The monsters were similar to those in the leveling area. However, they were elite types, so they did more damage and had more health.

This Illusionary Swordsman Ahong's background was described as someone who was hiding out in Line Canyon to escape pursuit. As a result, he treated anyone who intruded into the canyon as enemies.

This was what the game described him as. Of course, even if he didn't actively come and kill players, the players wouldn't let him go. In general, female players liked the story plot, but Su Mucheng was an old player at Glory, and she had finished the plot enough times to make her want to puke seeing it. Tang Rou wasn't very interested in the game itself. How could she care about any stories about some NPC? She would compare herself to Ye Xiu everyday to see whether she had improved, how much she had improved, and how much longer until she could crush the guy.

They slaughtered their way through the dungeon with Ye Xiu reminding them the tactics from time to time. The Illusion Swordmaster Ahong didn't have a fixed spawn point and could appear at any moment.

Sure enough, after clearing a mob of monsters at an intersection, a red-clothed swordsman hurried forward from the intersection. After seeing the five players, he cried out his lines: "That was quick!"

Chapter 189 – Illusion Swordmaster Ahong

Illusion Swordmaster Ahong, red-clothed, red-haired, with a red sheath; there was even a red scar that ran across his face. His two red eyes stared at the five players.

"Pay attention to the Swordmaster's eyes. The redder his eyes the stronger he'll be." Ye Xiu told the new players.

"If you want my life, come at me!!" The Swordmaster was anxious, even more than Steamed Bun Invasion, who was holding a Brick in his hands. The Swordmaster jumped into the air and his sword whirled a gust of air, starting off with a Collapsing Mountain.

“Pay attention! The shockwave from his Collapsing Mountain will be bigger than usual.” Ye Xiu hastily warned.

This meant that you would have to jump high enough to dodge the shockwave.

The shock wave from normal Collapsing Mountains could be dodged by jumping over it. But the Swordmaster’s Collapsing Mountain was different because the height of the hitbox was different, which was why Ye Xiu had warned them so that Tang Rou and Steamed Bun Invasion wouldn’t treat this Collapsing Mountain as normal.

Unfortunately, his warning was a bit too late.

Tang Rou reacted too quickly. Before Ye Xiu was able to finish his warning, she had already jumped up into the air to try and avoid it. And as she jumped, she also had her Soft Mist send a Dragon Tooth over at the Swordsman. Tang Rou was just that type of an aggressive girl.

As for Steamed Bun Invasion, he hadn’t jumped. When he saw the Collapsing Mountain arrive, he hastily ran to outside of the shockwave’s range and then threw a Brick flying over. Steamed Bun Invasion was just that type of a thuggish guy.

When she heard Ye Xiu’s warning, Tang Rou knew that she was in trouble.

She hadn’t jumped at full strength. A perfect jump was to not use a single ounce of strength more or less than what was needed. Her jump to avoid what she thought would be a normal Collapsing Mountain was in an attempt to do this, but unfortunately the Swordmaster’s attack wasn’t normal.....

The shock wave from the sword slash emitted a faint red glow as if the slash had created a blood mist. Soft Mist was unable to dodge the shock wave and was hit spiralling into the air.

The BOSS seized this opportunity to follow up and combo. The Swordmaster immediately jumped and used the Blade Master skill Rising Dragon towards Soft Mist.

Even though Tang Rou had strong mechanics, she wasn’t able to stabilize her camera. All she saw on her screen was the camera spinning round and round. Under this situation, she was unable to perform any precise movements. Tang Rou randomly attacked not knowing if she was hitting the target or the air.

Ye Xiu’s Lord Grim rushed forward. He stabbed forward with his lance and threw out a Circle Swing in order to pull down the Illusion Swordmaster. However, he was met with the unique skill the Illusion Swordmaster possessed: Left-handed blade.

A cold light flashed.

It wasn’t anything flashy. It was thin, quick, and instantly disappeared. But this blade clashed with Lord Grim’s lance and the Circle Swing was smashed to the side.

Bang bang bang. Three gunshots.

At the same time the left-handed blade blocked the Circle Swing, Cleansing Mist shot Anti-Tank Missiles, hitting the BOSS. The three explosions blew the Illusion Swordmaster away. But a BOSS was still a BOSS and so the Anti-Tank Missiles that had a strong knockback effect normally was only capable of shaking

the Illusion Swordmaster a little bit. Hence, the Rising Dragon wasn't interrupted and the sword light flashed up, cutting Soft Mist.

The spiralling Soft Mist spun even faster. Her body smashed into the cliff. The blood from the cut sprayed down from the air. Soft Mist bounced off the cliff before dropping to the ground. It looked as if she had already been defeated. But the instant she hit the ground, she suddenly turned alive and used a Quick Recover to stand back up. In game, as long as the player controlling the character didn't lose hope, there was no such thing as being seen as dispirited.

The leap of the Illusion Swordmaster's Rising Dragon was much higher than when the skill was used by players. This was one of the more troublesome reasons about meeting a BOSS. Even though many of the BOSS's skills came from the in-game skill trees, the effects were different from the players' and the majority of them had stronger effects than the players' skills.

The high-up Illusion Swordmaster suddenly pointed his sword while descending and used Falling Light Blade directly towards the closest target, Lord Grim.

Ye Xiu swiped his keyboard and had Lord Grim step to the side. Not waiting for the Falling Light Blade, he drew out a sword from the Thousand Chance Umbrella. A silver light arced into a semicircle. At the same time, a similar arc of light flashed from the opposite side of Lord Grim. The two sword lights weaved together, merging into a brilliant moon.

The one who acted was Qiao Yifan, who had moved at the same time as Ye Xiu. They had used the same skill, the Ghostblade's knock-up skill, Moonlight Slash.

"Good!" Ye Xiu shouted. The Illusion Swordmaster's Falling Light Blade was interrupted by these two attacks. The two sword lights slashed across his body in midair, keeping him from falling. Two sword arcs flashed again at the same time, following the same path as the previous Moonlight Slashes. This time, they slashed in the other direction, creating a perfect circle.

Ghostblade Level 20 skill: Full Moonlight Slash.

This skill had a strong blow away effect, but because Qiao Yifan and Ye Xiu were on opposite sides, the two skills counterbalanced each other, keeping the Illusion Swordmaster in place. The sword lights faded. The moment the Illusion Swordmaster hit the ground, a laser flew forward, hitting him square in the stomach and caused him to stumble back a few steps.

This was Cleansing Mist's Laser Rifle.

"Ice Boundary!" Qiao Yifan had already begun casting the spell when Ye Xiu yelled towards him. Frost formed on the tip of his sword. The Ice Soul created a boundary that spread out. Ye Xiu utilized this opportunity to use Sword Soul and created a Sword Boundary.

The wily Steamed Bun Invasion cheered them on as he ran past them and tossed a handful of sand at the Illusion Swordmaster.

Blind!

The Illusion Swordmaster had clearly lost his sense of direction. He couldn't find his opponents and walked around in a circle twice. The Ice Boundary's effect had been set and ice had begun corroding his

body. With a crackle, the Freeze effect triggered and the Illusion Swordmaster turned into a large block of ice.

Tang Rou, who had just taken a beating, quickly rushed forward. The instant the Swordmaster was frozen, she chained Double Stab, Dragon Tooth, and Falling Flower Palm together followed by three Magic Chasers that flew out.

After the three skills hit, the Freeze wore off. The Illusion Swordmaster then used Gore Cross. The scarlet Cross didn't look like two sword lights, rather, they looked like two blood arcs. The Cross flew towards Soft Mist, who immediately leaped back to avoid it. But just as she was about to counterattack, she unexpectedly realized that a smaller Gore Cross was hidden behind the original one. In that instant, Tang Rou saw the left hand of the Illusion Swordmaster move to his waist and realized that the Illusion Swordmaster had used his left-handed blade to use a Gore Cross at the same time. A big one to hide the small one, extremely smart.

The unfortunate Tang Rou was directly hit by the small Gore Cross. When she looked down at her body, fresh blood continued to flow from the cross wound formed by the attack. This Gore Cross had caused a Bleed to take effect. Her bad luck continued again.

The gloomy Tang Rou didn't dare to advance forward for a second time. She immediately used a health potion and retreated. The Bleed effect from the Illusion Swordmaster was very strong. Her health continued to drop even after using the health potion. Tang Rou began to panic. She didn't know how low her health would drop to or how to stop it.

"Rest for a bit." Ye Xiu's Lord Grim said as he rushed forward from beside her to block the Illusion Swordmaster. Tang Rou immediately relaxed. She believed in Ye Xiu's judgement and knew that she at least wouldn't die.

The low-health Tang Rou temporarily became a spectator, while Steamed Bun Invasion continued to act sly. He didn't dare get too close to the Swordmaster. Sand Toss and Brick became two long-ranged skills, which he used whenever there was a chance to. As a result, the only two who were left to face the Illusion Swordmaster directly were Ye Xiu and Qiao Yifan. Su Mucheng's Launcher naturally couldn't rush forward and fight in close-range.

Ye Xiu saw everything. A pro-player was still a pro-player. Whether it was him, Su Mucheng, or Qiao Yifan, none of them had any trouble dealing with the Illusion Swordmaster. The reason Tang Rou was half-dead was because of an old problem of hers: she lacked experience. As for Steamed Bun Invasion, he was currently wandering outside of the team. The usefulness of this type of performance was quite limited for a team.

Tang Rou and Steamed Bun Invasion, actually weren't very suited to be team players.

Tang Rou was too stubborn and aggressive. Her performance practically revolved with her as the center. Her problem was actually similar to that faced by Sun Xiang in his first match, when he had just joined Excellent era: stubborn individual performance causing the team to come apart.

However, in their current team, there was Ye Xiu, Su Mucheng, and Qiao Yifan. Their strength was far greater than Tang Rou's, so they still had enough strength to suppress this problem. However, as Tang Rou became more and more skilled, this problem would be exposed sooner or later.

As for Steamed Bun Invasion, this guy was too carefree. He had too much of an individual style. As an individual, he might become a player who was impossible to copy, but as a team player, this type of player wouldn't be able to completely merge because his style was simply too unique.

There were predecessors of this type of player.

Wang Jiexi. Team Tiny Herb's current captain, Wang Jiexi. His Magician style was the strangest and most graceful style in the Alliance. In the individual competition, Wang Jiexi had an extremely high win rate. But in the team competition, his individual performance was limited. Assimilating this style into the team was a problem Wang Jiexi hadn't been able to resolve. In the end, he made a sacrifice for the team and changed his style to fit in with the team. It was only because of these changes that Team Tiny Herb was able to become Champions twice in the past three years.

Chapter 190 – The BOSS's Shadow Steps

Steamed Bun Invasion's situation was somewhat similar to that of Wang Jiexi's. However, Wang Jiexi possessed the ability to adjust, while Steamed Bun Invasion probably didn't know how to do so. After all, even Ye Xiu wasn't sure how to help him develop. After Wang Jiexi changed, he was still at God-level, but if others did the same thing he did, they might fall to a mediocre level.

A transformation wasn't something that easy to do. Even though Steamed Bun Invasion was a noob at Glory, he wasn't a blank slate in other areas of the game. In reality, he had some understanding of what he was doing. In this area, he wasn't like Tang Rou. Tang Rou truly was a complete blank slate. But it was a pity that this girl's personality was so stubborn. She had pretty much figured out her own style already and it wasn't possible to create a large transformation. Ye Xiu could help by instructing her about the game's mechanics, but he didn't have the ability to change her personality. Everyone was an adult so their ways of thinking had matured. Tang Rou's personality wasn't anything bad either. It just stopped her from becoming a good team player, that was all.

Ye Xiu pondered over this as he watched the two play. But his playing wasn't slow even though he was multitasking. With ten years of experience, he had experienced all kinds of battles. Many of the things he needed to do were done automatically without too much thought.

Taking the BOSS down wasn't a problem.

They were a team that could defeat a Level 36 Wild BOSS. If they couldn't beat a weaker Level 33 hidden BOSS, Illusion Swordmaster Ahong, then they'd be a joke.

The important point was that these types of dungeons could be used as practice for everyone.

Ye Xiu directed the team as he fought casually. His focus was naturally on Tang Rou and Steamed Bun Invasion. Su Mucheng rarely needed Ye Xiu to say anything. As for Qiao Yifan, Ye Xiu hadn't judged him wrong. He was the complete opposite of Tang Rou and Steamed Bun Invasion. His personality and awareness made him an outstanding team player.

He was adept at observing; he paid attention to the performance of every team player and tried hard to coordinate with each of them.

A part of why Tang Rou's and Steamed Bun Invasion's performances weren't too good was because they were too unfamiliar with the hidden BOSS. After familiarizing themselves with the Illusion Swordmaster's various skills, the two would gradually assimilate themselves into the team.

Correct, they could still assimilate.

But as their skills continue to grow, their styles would become more and more unique and their conflicts within the team would become greater and greater. This was what Ye Xiu was thinking about right now.

But as of right now, they were still a good team. Under Ye Xiu's orders, the Illusion Swordmaster was gradually suppressed as he was hit blow after blow under the cliffs.

Lord Grim and One Inch Ash's "Dual Linking Ghost Boundaries" never broke so the team was always in a boundary.

Waves of poison arose from Steamed Bun Invasion's attacks.

Three types of Magic Chasers flew out from Soft Mist.

Explosions erupted from Cleansing Mist's cannon.

They continued to bombard the Illusion Swordmaster with their skills. Ahong's eyes grew more and more red, his head was covered in sweat, and his expression grew more and more serious.

"Careful, almost red blood." Ye Xiu suddenly said.

"What happens when he goes into red blood?" Tang Rou immediately asked. In the beginning, she had suffered quite a bit because she didn't know what the BOSS's features were. Tang Rou had learned from her mistakes.

"Shadow Steps." Ye Xiu said.

"Oh? What's that?" Steamed Bun Invasion asked. He wasn't like Tang Rou in this area. Tang Rou had helped Chen Guo PK a few times before, so she had seen quite a few high-level skills. Even though she might not know the name, "Shadow Steps" had been used in the fight between Poplar Beach and Ye Xiu recently. Chen Guo had even called out the name, so Tang Rou knew what this skill was.

But Steamed Bun Invasion had only played on this account, so he didn't know of any skills above Level 30.

"It's an afterimage. There'll be five soon, one for each of us." Ye Xiu said. If this were a normal team, then they wouldn't dare split the team to fight each afterimage one on one. But Ye Xiu's team was strong, so they dared to fight them directly this way.

"Careful!" Ye Xiu, who had been paying attention to the BOSS's health the entire time, finally shouted.

The Illusion Swordmaster Ahong's eyes began to glow red. The white of his eyes could no longer be seen.

"Back!"

Following Ye Xiu's command, the five characters quickly leaped back. The Illusion Swordmaster roared towards the sky. The red light surrounding his body extravagantly burst outwards. The rocks and grass around him were blown apart and a burst of wind surged down. Fortunately, Ye Xiu's warning had been quick and the five players retreated fast enough to dodge this attack.

Next, the Illusion Swordmaster twirled his sword in a dance-like motion. His figure blurred and split into five towards them.

What was different from a Blade Master's Shadow Step was that the Illusion Swordmaster's Shadow Steps didn't have any distinction between real and fake. The five were all Illusion Swordmasters. This meant that the players had to fight against five BOSSes at the same time.

If this continued up until the end, then the battle would be impossible to finish. Fortunately, Shadow Steps only lasted for a certain duration. For the Illusion Swordmaster, it was 30 seconds. As long as the players could survive for 30 seconds, then the five afterimages would turn back into one. However, after combining together again, the amount of damage the players had dealt in this battle wasn't additive, but rather an average. This meant that the actual damage the players dealt was $\frac{1}{5}$ the total amount.

This made the battle longer. The Illusion Swordmaster's Shadow Steps wasn't a one time use skill. It would continue using it whenever it could until its life was completely gone.

Normal parties would run away during this time. Defense was their priority. They weren't looking for damage. The damage would only be $\frac{1}{5}$ of the total anyways. Once the Illusion Swordmaster merged back into one, the team would then begin attacking again. But Ye Xiu's team was more heroic. It didn't matter if the damage was split or not, they would still fight like normal.

The five Illusion Swordmaster afterimages were also very intelligent and each found a target to attack.

The left-rear Illusion Swordmaster sent a Sword Draw at Steamed Bun Invasion, who rolled out of the way. Steamed Bun hadn't even gotten up yet, when he threw out a Sand Toss at him. Even though the Illusion Swordmaster was a BOSS, it was still blinded for a short while. Steamed Bun Invasion took this opportunity and closed in to whack the back of his head with a Brick. After triggering the Dizzy effect, he Applied Poison onto his weapon. He then used Inject Poison and gave the Illusion Swordmaster a good dose of poison.

The right-rear Illusion Swordmaster hacked forward at Soft Mist with a Collapsing Mountain. Tang Rou met with this attack once again, but instead of retreating, she moved forward and once again, jumped up to attack. Except this time, she calculated the height of the shock wave. She leaped over it and stabbed forward with a Circle Swing. Her arms whirled in a circle and smashed the Illusion Swordmaster onto the ground. She had suffered once before and now she was going to return it all with even more ferocity. Tang Rou was just that type of girl who refused to accept defeat.

The left-front Illusion Swordmaster used Triple Slash directly to close in on Cleansing Mist. Su Mucheng immediately jumped up and blasted out an artillery shell, which exploded and sent herself flying backwards from the recoil. However, this shot wasn't able to interrupt the BOSS's Triple Slash. Three sword lights, one after another, chased down Cleansing Mist, but each slash missed Cleansing Mist by just a hair's breadth. Su Mucheng clearly had everything under control.

Qiao Yifan, on the other hand, took the initiative to close in on the BOSS. After casting an Ice Boundary, he not only hit his own target, but he also turned the one heading towards Lord Grim into an ice block. Even in this type of battle, everyone-for-themselves, if Qiao Yifan found an opportunity to, he would still coordinate with others.

Ye Xiu knew what to do. When Qiao Yifan casted Ice Boundary, he casted a Sword Boundary as well. The two began fighting inside these boundaries. His Thousand Chance Umbrella transformed into the Gun form and sent out Anti-Tank Missiles. The target was Qiao Yifan's opponent. The three missiles exploded and the Illusion Swordmaster stumbled backwards a few steps. Qiao Yifan made his move right at this moment; he used Moonlight Slash into a Full Moonlight Slash followed by a Ghost Slash. The three slashes sliced forward.

At this moment, he wasn't feeling happy because he had hit the BOSS, but rather he felt happy because he had coordinated with Ye Xiu.

Under his lead, the God had actively responded to his move, making Qiao Yifan feel he wasn't alone. Every team member depended on each other and this was what it meant to be teammates. This was an extremely wonderful feeling.

After helping Qiao Yifan block his Illusion Swordmaster, Ye Xiu shook the Thousand Chance Umbrella into the Battle Lance form and use a Sky Strike at the Illusion Swordmaster. The Illusion Swordmaster's right handed sword continued to attack, while using his left-handed blade to block Lord Grim's Sky Strike. How could Ye Xiu be tricked by this puny trick? His Battle Lance suddenly retracted. The Illusion Swordmaster's left-handed blade blocked nothing. The Thousand Chance Umbrella had already turned into two sections that hung on Lord Grim's arms. He rolled to avoid the right-handed sword. His two arms held the Illusion Swordmaster tightly and Flung the Illusion Swordmaster away.

After using the Grappler skill, he changed the Thousand Chance Umbrella back into a Battle Lance. Ye Xiu was just about to have his Lord Grim follow up, when he suddenly heard two ring ring sounds from outside.

Ye Xiu had lowered the in-game volume to very low because he frequently had to listen for these sounds.

When he heard this, Ye Xiu couldn't help but curse: "F*ck."

Having been on night-duty for so many days, he had to bring customers drinks many times. Finally, someone had called for his service at a crucial time.

Ye Xiu's left hand quickly left the keyboard and connected to the service line. He asked: "What would you like?"

"What?" The first to respond were the four players on the team. Ye Xiu hadn't taken off his headphones.

"Two Colas." The customer's voice came out from the service line soon after.

"Just a second." Ye Xiu said.