

The Boss Behind The Game

Chapter 191: Titanic (Part Two)

“Roger that, Boss Liu! I shall complete the mission without fail!” upon receiving orders, Ye Xue'er summoned the Guardian Warship. After all of their crew had boarded the warship, they began cruising toward the spot where Chen Ziyu had fallen into the water.

Meanwhile, near the Zero Guild Warship, Chen Ziyu and the others along with him were attempting to jump aboard the warship in order to confront the players face to face. However, the spiritual energy bullets constantly raining down from above did not give them any chance to do so as they were struck down one after another.

Even if they were able to avoid the spiritual energy bullets by diving underwater, it was merely a momentary escape. The moment they resurfaced, they would still suffer the constant bombardment.

Under such circumstances, the members of the Great Dragon Guild were slaughtered continuously.

Watching the glowing orbs of spiritual materials and equipment in a floating state of protection, Li Xing and the others that boarded the Zero Guild Warship laughed in elation.

Just then, their attention was caught by a pink warship that emerged from the water far away.

“Brothers, we’ve got new cargo coming our way, hurry and get rid of these few people underwater! Let’s begin the next round of hunting!” a fleeting sneer flickered in Jason’s eyes. He continued bombarding the water surface with spiritual energy bullets, killing Chen Ziyu who had just resurfaced and only had a sliver of health points remaining.

“Let’s dive underwater and scavenge the spoils! Then, we shall move on to our next target!”

Jason sneered viciously as he noticed that the Guardian Warship from afar had fled after becoming aware of their presence.

After all the glowing orbs were looted, a huge rumbling noise sounded from the interior of the Zero Guild Warship as it zoomed toward the Guardian Warship like a released arrow.

“Boss Liu, the target is coming after us. They’re too fast – we might not be able to hold on. It’s best if you prepare another warship to use as bait, too!” Ye Xue’er grit her teeth as she watched the super warship approaching.

Hearing this, Liu Chai’s expression grew serious. He had not expected that they could possess such a powerful warship.

The Great Dragon Warship and the Guardian Warship were both considered top-tier in their fleet, yet they still paled in comparison to the European server’s super warship. It was clear that this was an extremely high-level ship.

Liu Chai began his preparation immediately. He dispatched another warship in the direction of the Guardian Warship.

Just as Ye Xue’er had predicted, the Zero Guild Warship caught up with them quickly. The large naval ram plowed a huge hole through the rear of their warship, causing the seawater to gush in.

As the Guardian Warship began sinking, cheers erupted from the crew aboard the Zero Guild’s Warship.

Such an overpowering victory gave them enormous satisfaction.

However, at the same time, another warship emerged not far away. The moment it appeared, it veered sharply and sped away.

“This time, let’s sink the other warship first before returning for the loot!” as he spoke, Jason willed the Zero Guild Warship to crush over the half-submerged Guardian Warship, letting it completely sink into the water.

“Looks like our presence is already known to the others,” Reinhardt let out a smile on his face.

“If you take a look at the forum, you’d see that they planned to launch a siege attack against us!” Li Xing shrugged.

Upon hearing this, the rest of the crew cackled in amusement.

They had full faith in the Zero Guild Warship. At the very least, its speed was unrivaled in this territory. Even if a large fleet of enemies were to appear before them, there would be no difficulty in escaping.

While they were still goofing around, densely scattered heads began emerging on the surrounding water’s surface.

A single ship appeared... then a dozen... followed by hundreds...

Numerous warships suddenly appeared in all directions, leaving Li Xing and the rest in shock.

In the blink of an eye, hundreds of thousands of ships emerged and formed multiple layers, encircling them at the center.

“Oh my god, what’s going on? Why are we surrounded? Where exactly did they come from?” Jason looked around in disbelief.

“Oh no, the two ships earlier were meant to lure us in. They were lying an ambush underwater as we came closer, waiting for us to enter their trap!” said Li Xing with a somber look on his face.

“Quick, retrieve the warship! We’re going offline!” Reinhardt bellowed furiously as he looked at the huge number of warships scattered around them.

Yet, at that moment, a Mage player, who was aboard a ship close to them, condensed a globe of water in his palm and launched it toward them.

Splash! The globe of water struck the surface of the warship and dispersed into a spray of water droplets.

[Under battle mode, players may not retrieve their warships or go offline!]

The faces of the crew aboard the Zero Guild Warship fell as the game notification appeared before them. They finally realized that they had truly been ambushed.

Although being killed was not a terrifying thing, being killed in an inter-server battle would cause a random amount of one’s supplies to burst out. Each player was carrying a large number of supplies, so the cost of each death would be very high.

Moreover, if this Level 12 super warship was destroyed, the spiritual materials needed to repair it would cost a fortune.

“On my command, smash into the enemy’s warship and surround them! Mages on the remaining warships, ready the cannons! Warriors and Assassins, rush forward and strike them down!”

Hearing Liu Chai’s orders, the warships near the Zero Guild Warship disregarded their damage losses and rushed forward wildly, surrounding it. Behind them, more warships sailed forward, further tightening their hold on the super warship.

The gap between the warships grew smaller. Warriors and assassins leaped over the warships toward the Zero Guild Warship in an attempt to board it and fight in close combat with the enemy.

Facing an ambush of such a scale, the players aboard the Zero Guild Warship were dumbfounded and at a loss of what they should do.

Waves of spells sent ripples spreading across the protection layer outside the warship. It was only a matter of time before the spells broke through.

“There’s still a chance, we must go underwater! We haven’t tried going underwater before. Hurry, Jason!” Li Xing bellowed.

He knew that once the enemy players came aboard their warship, they would be dead for sure.

Upon hearing this, Jason quickly instructed the warship to dive underwater.

Roar!

A deafening roar sounded as the huge warship began submerging underwater.

Seeing that the strategy of diving underwater was effective, Li Xing and the rest of the crew cheered. Once they were underwater, escaping the encirclement would not be a problem at all.

On the other hand, Liu Chai and the rest of the old players stared furiously at the scene unfolding before them. They did not expect that this warship was capable of doing such a thing.

As the Zero Guild Warship dove underwater completely, the only thing that was visible from the surface was a dark shadow slowly traveling forward.

“All warships, after them! Surely they won’t be able to remain underwater forever!” upon command, the fleet of warships altered their directions and began moving forward as they maintained their circle around the shadow in the water.

An hour later...

Below the water surface, a solemn expression remained on the faces of the Zero Guild’s members.

Since resistance was stronger underwater, their speed was restricted. As a result, they were unable to shake off the pursuers. If this were to go on, they would be back in the trap when they eventually resurfaced.

They tried diving deeper into the sea, too, thinking that this would prevent the others from locating them.

Yet, this was to no avail either. They seemed to have locked them under target. No matter where they went, their warships would tail after them. They simply could not think of a way to shake off the warship fleet's encirclement.

The situation was distressing to the crew of Zero Guild members.

"Oh right, we could try the ocean safe zone! Attacks are prohibited there, so there's nothing they can do about us!" Reinhardt suggested suddenly.

"You're right! Once we're in the safe zone, they won't be able to cause damage to us!" Li Xing's expression brightened.

"Hahaha, why hadn't I thought of this? We can still remain underwater for two hours, it should be sufficient to cover the distance. Hurry, toward the safe zone off the Liuli Coast!" Jason laughed as he heard Reinhardt's suggestion. He hurriedly turned the warship around and cruised toward the Liuli Coast.

On the surface of the water...

"Boss, something's not right. It looks like they're moving toward the Liuli Coast. That's our territory though – are they looking for death?" a player asked, peering at the tracking compass he was holding.

"Damn it, they're aiming for the safe zone, we have to stop them!" Liu Chai barked into the army live chat channel immediately.

Upon hearing him, most of the players realized that the situation had taken a turn for the worse. If the enemy were to enter the safe zone where battle was prohibited, it would be equivalent to allowing their escape.

Instantly, numerous spells were bombarded underwater. However, the Zero Guild Warship had dove deep enough to ensure that none of the spells were able to reach it.

As they approached the Liuli Coast, Liu Chai's expression darkened.

"Boss Liu, I know a way to defeat them!" a voice sounded in the live chat channel.

During the third hour of pursuing the Zero Guild Warship, an enormous warship surfaced within the safe zone off the Liuli Coast.

Behind it came a flurry of warships of different sizes, which proceeded to encircle it at the center.

“Safely arrived, perfect!” Li Xing and the guild members stood at the bow of the ship. Witnessing the original players’ infuriated looks, they felt a pang of triumph.

As all damages inflicted within the safe zone would be nullified, they were not afraid of being sunk.

“Brothers, I beg your pardon, but we’re now as safe as can be!” Jason climbed to the top of the mast and laughed as he overlooked the scene below.

Watching the smug enemy, a hint of a smirk flashed across Liu Chai’s eyes. Then, he faced the live chat channel and shouted, “Brothers! All aboard the enemy’s warship!”

Upon his command, mobs of players crowded the Zero Guild Warship and climbed up the ship’s body. One after another, they occupied the deck.

Jason shrugged as he watched the scene occur.

“Brothers, I remind you that this is a safe zone and we are protected here. It’d be useless no matter how you attack us!”

As the number of players occupying the deck grew, Li Xing and the others could feel their anger. However, they were not worried at all since they were invincible in the safe zone.

“Brothers, dump out the heaviest objects you have within your inventories. Let’s weigh this ship down!”

Upon his orders, the players aboard the Zero Guild Warship broke into devilish smiles and began rummaging through their inventories.

Watching the players as they dumped objects onto the deck, Li Xing and the others were dumbfounded. They had no idea what was going on.

However, Li Xing soon caught on to the problem as he frantically turned to the ship’s status menu.

[Weight capacity: 34/100]

“They’re trying to weigh us down!” Li Xing cried in disbelief.

Hearing this, the Zero Guild’s members turned white. They finally realized the enemy’s intentions.

“Damn, buddy, I can’t believe you kept two boulders in your inventory! You’re fantastic!”

“Hey, you’re not bad yourself... walking around with such a huge bunch of rusty old metal – how interesting!”

“Woah, that chap over there, you must be a genius to be carrying an elephant carcass around with you!”

COMMENT

“You there with an inventory full of rubble, perhaps you can enlighten me on what you were using them for?”

As the supplies on the deck piled up, the Zero Guild Warship’s weight capacity gradually transformed into a yellow hue, which eventually turned into a shade of red symbolizing the maximum weight capacity.

At this moment, someone began playing the theme song from the Titanic in the live chat channel...

In the midst of the music, the Zero Guild Warship began sinking. All the original players heartily began cheering!

Chapter 192: Mu Te Coffin

Liu Chai broke into a smile as he watched the super warship gradually sink into the water due to the overwhelming weight.

When the Zero Guild’s Warship had entered the safe zone, he was certain that the operation to encircle it would be a complete failure. Yet, at that exact moment, a player gave a quick suggestion.

His strategy was very simple, which was to gather the strengths of each player. By stacking up their supplies, they would be able to overwhelm the weight capacity of the unsinkable warship that had invaded them.

At the same time, to prevent the crew from escaping the Zero Guild Warship after it had entered the safe zone, that player also provided a key solution, forcing the opponent to remain in battle mode.

As he listened to that player’s explanation, Liu Chai realized that at the current stage of this game, there were still certain loopholes present within the ocean’s safe zones.

It was similar to the time when they intruded on the Mansion of the Dead. Despite the fact that it was a safe zone at the time, the rules were utterly inapplicable to other living

creatures that were not players. If they were to attack, even within the safe zone, players would still be forced into battle mode.

On a similar basis, the strategy was for the players to release tamed but not-yet-digitized zombie wolves before the Zero Guild Warship resurfaced. The zombie wolves scratching the surface of the warship forced the players aboard to enter battle mode, making them unable to go offline.

Under these conditions, they immediately boarded the huge warship and began stacking supplies on the deck. The increasing weight of the supplies eventually overwhelmed their weight capacity, causing it to sink.

As for the Zero Guild Warship, despite its ability to dive underwater, they had already exhausted all three hours of its diving skill's time limit. The underwater protection layer had dissipated a while ago, causing large volumes of seawater to flood the warship, further increasing its weight. This, combined with the weight of the supplies, led to the warship sinking deeper and deeper, which resulted in the durability of the ship degrading tremendously as well.

Soon, cracks began appearing on the body of the ship. Under the expectant looks of the more experienced players, the Zero Guild Warship's durability eventually depleted, disappearing into a black mist.

Without the protection of the warship, the Zero Guild's members quickly swam to the surface of the water. Update by vip novel

Yet, as soon as they reached the surface of the water, they watched in horror as enormous zombie wolves leaped down one after another from the surrounding warships, pouncing toward them.

The forum was in a celebratory atmosphere after they successfully managed to seize victory in the end by counterattacking in unity.

Crayon_Shinchan: "Who's your daddy now!? Haha! To defeat a super warship by taking advantage of loopholes in the game – where's the guy who came up with this idea? You've got to be a genius (laughing emoji)!"

Captain_Of_Demolition_Officers: "I have to agree that the player's strategy was truly ingenious. He gave two suggestions: first, force the opponent into battle mode using external creatures, then overwhelm the warship's weight capacity. How amazing!"

Crayon_Shinchan: "New GIF added into the Battle sticker collection – sinking due to unbearable pressure.gif"

Xueli_The_Strongest: “Hehe, great job brothers! Since they were the one who attacked first, once we get rid of the Rocks, we’ll invade their territory (laughing emoji)”

Strike_Gold: “We’ll leave them to develop in peace for a while, then we’ll pay them back double when the time comes! Our Beiqi Army is the strongest, there’s no need for explanations (laughing emoji)”

Invincible_Loneliness: “This is strangely soothing to my mood, how exhilarating!”

This naval battle lifted the spirits of many of the original players.

The crisis stirring in the Void Ocean for the past two days caused by this humongou warship’s harassment had finally been resolved as well.

In anticipation of future invasions, the players began diligently upgrading their warships to prepare themselves for the next big naval battle.

As a result, materials in the shop experienced inflation once again.

This elated Lu Wu as each transaction completed in the shop yielded commission for him. His depleted stock of soul coins had once again received significant replenishment.

In the meantime, a personal Specter Ship bobbed up and down upon the crest of the Void Ocean’s waves.

Hu He, who was seated on the ship, was staring intently at a compass in his hands. Occasionally, he would raise his head and glance at the water surface, as if he was reconfirming his location.

At that moment, the compass value suddenly jumped and its needle began spinning.

“Here it is!” Hu He glanced at the surface of the sea excitedly.

Recently, he had tried more than a hundred ways of cultivating Hiderigami. Due to the huge strength difference between them, though, merely breaking through his protection layer was challenging enough, much less any attempt to fully cultivate him.

After being convinced that cultivating Hiderigami was impossible, Hu He proceeded to spend a significant effort in escaping the safe zone. Since then, he had sailed the Specter Ship, starting his escape journey on the sea.

After all, he would not dare to return to land anymore as long as those two jinxes were there. No matter where he hid, he would still be sentenced to the safe zone by the cruel backstab.

Left without a choice, Hu He decided to go on a corpse-searching journey at sea, returning only when he was powerful enough.

He had originally planned to search for islands where powerful individuals might have been buried, but as he passed by the northern region of the Void Ocean, his compass suddenly responded.

Realizing that there might be a powerful corpse nearby, Hu He decided to probe around a little.

He glanced at the empty-headed Cha Na zombie spirit beside him before opening the store and making a search in the special tools inventory. He reluctantly bought a special diving suit, which he proceeded to change into.

With everything prepared, Hu He leaped into the water and anchored the Specter Ship before heading deeper to explore.

Despite the diving suit's protection, the temperature underwater was freezing. Rays of light swayed in ripples underwater. Looking down, there was nothing but darkness.

As he dove deeper, Hu He had the illusion that he was swimming down into the gaping mouth of a giant water beast.

The deeper he dove, the greater the water pressure upon him. The limit of diving for humans is 332 yards, but by relying on strengthened physical fitness levels within the game as well as protection from special gears, diving to a depth of 500 yards was still easily manageable.

At this point, Hu He was completely enveloped in darkness. A person's perception of fear usually intensified under such environments, and even a slight movement of the currents around him made him feel like an enormous sea creature was swimming past him. If it was not for his desire for powerful corpses and assurance of immortality, there was no way Hu He would be doing such a thing.

As his vision was unclear, Hu He turned on the lamp fastened to his forehead.

A strong beam of light streamed forward, lighting up the darkness within ten yards before him.

Hu He suddenly turned pale.

At the end of the light, an enormous fish eye, three yards in diameter itself, was staring straight at him, the capillaries within the eye socket clearly visible.

"Holy shit!" a stream of bubbles escaped Hu He's mouth as his heart thumped in his chest.

This experience was way more terrifying than a horror movie, the shock almost knocked him unconscious.

[Giant Grouper (Spiritual Fish): Docile giant spiritual fish, with a diet mainly composed of seaweed, small shrimp, and fish.]

Seemingly disturbed by the intense beam of light, the giant grouper quickly dove downward with a flick of its tail. It was gone in the blink of an eye.

Hu He was still recovering from the shock even after the giant grouper swam away.

As he checked his compass to determine the intensity of the surrounding zombie energy, he felt a little hesitant. Even his ancestors were not as hardcore as himself, to extend the search for corpses all the way into the sea. Was this considered a business expansion?

"I don't need to be afraid of dying anyway!" Hu He grit his teeth and continued diving downward.

He continued on for a further 200 yards. By now, the water pressure could clearly be felt as Hu He sensed his breathing growing more difficult. However, he was not going to give up after coming so far so he continued swimming downward. Behind him, Cha Na's zombie spirit followed along thoughtlessly.

After diving for a while, Hu He glanced at his current depth on the map and realized he had already reached a depth of over 1,200 yards.

Just as he was about to continue his journey downward, a ghostly beam of green light shone through the darkness from his right. Hu He's heart jolted as he turned abruptly toward the source.

A worn and decayed Specter Ship was cruising slowly toward him from the right.

The Specter Ship appeared ancient, its surface covered with a thick layer of green moss. What Hu He found eerie about the ship was the oil lamp hanging on the half-broken mast that was still giving off a ghostly green light.

Each time the oil lamp swayed, the dark inner parts of the ship became vaguely visible, as if numerous black silhouettes were hidden within, writhing with each sway.

Hu He shuddered at the sight of the eerie scene before him.

"A game, this is only a game!" Hu He mumbled words of encouragement to himself.

As the underwater Specter Ship drew closer, Hu He's compass began twitching. The value displayed turned red almost instantly as a beeping noise sounded.

The powerful corpse is in the Specter Ship? Hu He was surprised.

However, the creepy aura given off by the Specter Ship made him hesitate a little.

As he watched the Specter Ship cruise by him, Hu He grit his teeth and muttered in his heart, "The bold will be full but the timid will starve to death!"

He reached out and grabbed onto the decaying rails, drifting along with the ship as it slowly continued forward.

He steadied himself and landed slowly on the ship's deck.

Then, he waved at Cha Na's zombie spirit hovering next to him.

Upon receiving his command, Cha Na's zombie spirit drifted toward the inner part of the ship as Hu He trailed after it cautiously.

In the endless darkness of the deep sea, Hu He was without a doubt under heavy psychological stress. It was similar to watching horror movies, even if one knew that everything was unreal, the approaching terror would still be enough to cloud up one's judgment. Currently, being in the midst of a horror scene, the chilling atmosphere made him extremely tense.

Huff! Hu He inhaled deeply and calmed himself down. He then began swimming toward the cabin of the ship.

As he went in further, Hu He noticed that there were still small organisms residing within the mossy habitat of the decaying ship. However, the interior space was closely packed and most of the objects were already severely corroded, disintegrating into a cloud of musty dust upon the slightest touch.

The further he went in, the stronger Hu He's compass vibrated.

Eventually, he stopped before an inner wooden door that corroded in several parts.

A little force from Cha Na's zombie spirit caused the wooden door to break into smithereens of drifting rubble.

There was a cloud of fine sawdust wafting in the dim light. Hu He waved his hand around in an attempt to dispel the sawdust obscuring his vision.

He then turned his gaze slowly beyond the wooden door frame.

The light pierced through the dusty, brownish water to reveal half of a black skeleton within Hu He's line of sight.

Seeing the skeleton, Hu He's expression lifted. He knew that he had found his target.

However, his expression clouded as he noticed something odd about the black skeleton. It appeared as if it had been gnawed upon before. The torso's fracture did not match up with the lost half, and the surface of the fracture was jagged and sharp, with multiple bone spurs poking out. It looked as though the owner of the skeleton had been forcibly torn in half.

Despite his suspicions, Hu He did not dwell on the matter. He was only after the corpse anyway. Moving his arms, he entered the room and swam toward the black skeleton.

As he got closer, the black skeleton's statistics appeared.

[Mu Hu (Mu Te Sea Warrior)]:

Character details: Clansman of the ancient Mu Te Sea Empire. A martyr in the battle against the underwater Dead Clan's invasion. As a warrior of the Mu Te Sea Clan, he was buried in a Mu Te Coffin and left to wander at the bottom of the sea with only a ghost lamp for company.

Strength level: Mid-Stage Ghost Commander

Chapter 193: 35,000 Yards Under The Sea

Mu Te Sea Empire? Dead Clan?

As he read the descriptions on the Analysis Menu, Hu He averted his gaze toward the remaining half of the broken corpse in puzzlement.

Like I'd care what you are, I'll dig up anything as long as it's a corpse!

Thinking of this, Hu He grabbed the black skeleton and tossed it into his channel.

"Sigh..."

All of a sudden, a long, drawn-out sigh echoed down Hu He's ear canal, scaring the wits out of him.

Just as he whirled around in search of the source of the sigh, the Specter Ship began trembling. Looking through the cabin, Hu He noticed that the ghost lamp hanging outside the ship was flickering as if something had happened.

Hu He could feel the Specter Ship accelerating, causing him to float backward, pressing him against the moss-covered wall.

It feels like something's about to happen!

Realizing the terrible situation he was in, Hu He swiftly moved his arms and slipped out of the cabin. He swam toward the exit in an attempt to escape the ship.

The two figures stumbled about the narrow pathway hastily, bumping into each other as they scrambled forward. The cloud of sawdust wafting around made their vision hazy.

However, at this point, Hu He could not be bothered about it at all. He had a bad feeling about this situation.

With only his memory to rely on, Hu He finally managed to find his way out of the tangle of pathways after a good bit of effort, appearing outside the Specter Ship.

As he looked forward, he was dumbfounded by the scene before him.

A bottomless trench stretched out before him. Pairs of ghostly green eyes appeared on both sides of the trench as an enormous snake-like figure floated about, probing toward him and the Specter Ship.

Hu He stared blankly for a moment, before deciding to return to the inside of the ship along with Cha Na's zombie spirit.

[Death Sea Viper]:

Creature information: Inhabits the surface of the Death Abyss. Mutated from black sea vipers after prolonged exposure to death energy, highly venomous.

The surface of the Death Abyss?

Looking at the bottomless trench, Hu He had a hunch that this alleged Death Abyss was probably the intended destination of this Specter Ship.

As the Specter Ship descended, Hu He began experiencing difficulty in breathing. It felt as if there was an invisible force compressing against him.

The ocean depth displayed on the map was steadily decreasing.

-2500 yards

-2700 yards

-3000 yards

By now, Hu He's face had turned an abnormal hue of red from the pressure. He felt as though his blood vessels were ready to burst apart at any second. If it was not for the diving suit's protection, Hu He felt that he would have probably imploded on the spot.

Glancing at Cha Na's zombie spirit, Hu He tapped the zombie storage bag with his trembling fingers to keep the zombie spirit. Then, with an expression of despair, he awaited his death.

The thought that he would have to return all the way back to the resurrection point made Hu He feel terribly frustrated. After all, there was no guarantee that he would make it out in the first place.

At this point, he had already reached a depth of 3400 yards. Hu He could no longer breathe as he felt his lungs being compressed and jumbled up inside him.

He was not the only one affected. Even the Specter Ship had begun falling apart under the pressure, numerous holes appearing on its hull.

However, at that moment, the ghost lamp hanging upon the mast of the Specter Ship swayed gently, releasing a ghostly green light that flowed like liquid, slowly covering the body of the entire ship.

The ship immediately stopped falling apart, and Hu He discovered in surprise that his discomfort had faded.

Looks like I've been saved!

A look of relief appeared on his face. That experience he had moments ago was horrible.

It appears as though the ghost lamp has protected me along with the Specter Ship, Hu He hypothesized as he looked at the ghost lamp.

However, the crisis had not ended as the Specter Ship was still continuing its rapid descent.

-4000 yards

-6000 yards

-8000 yards

The ship's descent grew faster and faster as smoke-spewing underwater volcanoes began appearing in Hu He's line of sight. The smoldering lava flowed along the slanted clefts of the trench toward the endless darkness below.

-16,000 yards

-19,000 yards

-25,000 yards

By the time the map displayed a depth of 30,000 yards underwater, Hu He was left absolutely flabbergasted.

This was way too much of an adventure to think that he had arrived at a depth of -30,000 yards! To put it simply, that was a depth much deeper than any point of Earth's ocean floor that had been discovered by humans.

As the ship reached a depth of 35,000 yards, its descent suddenly slowed and it began traveling forward. Hu He stared in bewilderment as a huge, green glowing statue appeared in the vicinity.

Upon approaching closer, Hu He estimated the statue's height to be at least a thousand feet or more.

For a statue to remain erect 35,000 yards below sea level and under such horrifying pressure, Hu He felt this place was increasingly spooky by the minute.

The Specter Ship was slowly advancing toward the statue.

When the body of the ship touched the statue, the protective green energy dissipated and the ship started falling apart instantly. Just as Hu He thought that he was done for, a wave of energy appeared on the surface of the enormous statue and enveloped him, gradually bringing him closer to the statue.

The wave of energy expanded abruptly as it reached the tip of the statue, separating the seawater surrounding them. At the same time, it formed a pale green protective layer covering the entire statue. Thanks to the protective layer, Hu He managed to land on his feet.

Glancing at the pale green protective layer above him, Hu He found the situation extremely eerie no matter how he looked at it. He had a strong urge to simply burst out of the protective layer and start all over again from the resurrection point.

After all, who knows what kind of terrible monsters may be around here.

Yet, when his gaze landed on a figure on the shoulder of the statue, his expression suddenly became solemn.

Wait a minute... I'm not going to leave just yet!

[Mu Zhiguang (Final-Stage Ghost Emperor)]:

Character Details: The ray of hope of the Mu Te Sea Empire that controls the Power of Death. In order to avenge his clansmen following the collapse of the Mu Te Sea Empire, he sacrificed his physical body to suppress the Dead Clan within the Abyss (main body).

Character Status: Unknown.

When he saw that the figure sitting cross-legged upon the statue's shoulder was, in fact, a Ghost Emperor, Hu He suddenly decided not to leave.

Even if he could not cultivate a Ghost Emperor Elite at his current stage, there was no doubt that he would be able to do it one day. Furthermore, as a Zombie Forgemaster, there could never be too many powerful corpses in his possession.

Hu He rubbed his hands together, his eyes shining brightly as he inched toward Mu Zhiguang.

First, he circled around Mu Zhiguang. When he was certain that there were no longer any signs of life in Mu Zhiguang, he pulled out a short shovel and knocked on Mu Zhiguang's head with it.

Still seeing no response from him, Hu He chuckled as he grabbed Mu Zhiguang's shoulder and proceeded to stuff him into his channel.

[Game Notification: You may not store live objects within your personal channel...]

"Hmm? He's still alive?" Hu He was astonished.

The game notification placed him in a dilemma. He badly wanted to bring it with him, but he would be dead the moment he stepped out of the protective layer. If he could not keep it in his channel, there was no way he could bring it back with him.

Hu He crossed his legs and sat down opposite Mu Zhiguang, as he thought hard on how he could kill off the half-dead Ghost Emperor Elite before him.

After a moment of thought, Hu He hauled the golden shovel and smashed it over Mu Zhiguang's head.

He intended to test out the hardness of Mu Zhiguang's body, after all, not all Ghost Emperor Elites trained their physique to the same level as Hiderigami's.

Bang! Bang! Bang!

After a series of blows, Hu He felt his fingers growing numb and he stopped his attacks.

Why in the world are you Ghost Emperors this tough? Don't you know anything about inner cultivation?

Hu He glanced exasperatedly at his personal channel. He dug out a bottle of zombie poison powder of his own creation, intending to poison Mu Zhiguang.

Faced with Mu Zhiguang's tightly pursed lips, Hu He stuck the shovel between his lips and began to pry them open.

However, this was to no avail either. After a good bit of struggle, Mu Zhiguang's lips were still not the slightest bit agape.

Running out of ideas, Hu He stuffed the zombie poison powder up Mu Zhiguang's nose. He was intent on finishing him off.

After all, it's just not a Zombie Forgemaster's style to leave such a precious treasure behind!

At that moment, Mu Zhiguang's eyes opened abruptly. Two beams of black ghostly light shone past Hu He, passing through the protective layer into the seawater.

Two black vortices formed instantly outside the protective layer, with faint flashes of black lightning appearing within them.

Holy shit! He's alive! Hu He was dumbfounded.

As Mu Zhiguang's gaze turned toward him, Hu He, still holding his self-made zombie poison powder, stared awkwardly at him. He slowly withdrew his hands and hid the zombie poison powder back into his channel.

"Uhh... hi!"

Chapter 194: The Surging Undercurrent

A white glint appeared in Mu Zhiguang's dark eyes. His mouth was moving slightly and a croaky voice resounded in Hu He's ears.

"You're not my clansman. How did you get here?"

Hu He was startled by the sudden voice in his ears for he had never dealt with the Mu Te Sea Clan before.

Mu Zhiguang's question somehow made him tongue-tied. After all, he could not just say that he got here accidentally while he was trying to steal his clansman's corpse.

“Why did the ghost lamp escort you here? What ties do you have with my clansman?” the croaky voice rang again.

“Ahem...that’s a long story,” Hu He revealed an awkward expression on his face as he met Mu Zhiguang’s blank stare. His brain churned as he tried hard to fumble for a worthy excuse.

“Just tell me your purpose for coming here!” Mu Zhiguang shook his head gently.

“My purpose... Boss Mu, do you know that your Mu Te Sea Empire is gone?” Hu He spoke after thinking for a moment.

“It has collapsed for a long time. What’s left to be gone?” Mu Zhiguang’s tone was plain.

“No, what I mean is... your remaining clansmen are all gone.”

Hearing this, Mu Zhiguang’s indifferent expression cracked a little.

He had dedicated his whole life for the sake of his clan. Even when they treated him as a heretic and intended to execute him, they were always his clansmen, bound by blood in Mu Zhiguang’s eyes. Such a bond will never dissipate, and it was his most precious possession.

So, when he heard that the last generation of his clansmen was gone, Mu Zhiguang could no longer remain calm.

“Tell me the reason!”

This time, the note of anger in Mu Zhiguang’s voice was obvious.

Thinking on his feet, Hu He blurted, “They were exterminated by the Sea King, the commander of the Sea King’s Navy!”

...

Meanwhile, in the Crystal Palace, the Sea King was pouring wine into his mouth from a giant golden wine cup. Suddenly, his countenance grew solemn.

For a moment, a vague premonition crossed his heart.

Most of them who had reached his level would have some form of premonitions. Although these premonitions might not be accurate, they would not show out of thin air without certain verifications. This made the Sea King feel agitated as he pondered on the unknown force that was targeting him.

...

“Who is the Sea King? And why did he exterminate my clansmen!?”

“He’s the commander of the Sea King Navy, the overlord of the Void Ocean! Does he even need a reason to exterminate your clansmen? He could’ve just done it because he felt like doing it!” Hu He explained hastily.

Mu Zhiguang was speechless.

“Are you sent by my clansman to inform me of this?” Mu Zhiguang asked.

“That’s right!”

“Why didn’t he just come in person?”

A tinge of suspicion flashed across Mu Zhiguang’s eyes. He had a hunch that Hu He was not very trustworthy, however, since it was the ghost lamp that brought him here, he had no choice but to believe him.

“He was severely injured and had passed on right after he placed me into the Mu Te Coffin,” putting on a sorrowful face, he tried to squeeze out some tears but to no avail.

“Understood. The new overlord of the Void Ocean, is it? It’s time for me to go out and have a look!” Mu Zhiguang said as he slowly rose to his feet.

At the same time, the statue beneath his feet began to shake with deafening wails reverberated from below. Large numbers of eerie green silhouettes swirled and expanded as they grasped in the upward direction ferociously.

“Hmph!” Mu Zhiguang snorted. All of a sudden, the enormous statue raised its foot and stamped furiously.

Boom!

An undercurrent started to surge and the wails ceased instantly. The eerie green silhouettes that had emerged were torn to shreds by this overwhelming power.

“What’s under there?” Hu He questioned as he stared at the statue’s feet.

He could clearly see a spiraling dark pit just now when the enormous statue raised its foot. He caught a glimpse of innumerable twisting tentacles inside it.

“The Dead Clan, a squirm of emotionless abyssal parasites!” Mu Zhiguang replied faintly.

“So you were suppressing them? What’d happen if you let them out?” Hu He could not hide his curiosity.

“Let them out?” hearing this, a hint of anger flashed past Mu Zhiguang’s eyes.

These intruders – the Dead Clan, were in fact the reason behind the collapse of the Mu Te Sea Empire, a once glorious nation. The hatred of genocide had once driven him mad, to the extent at which he plunged into the abyss and was resolved to perish together with them.

However, Mu Zhiguang realized that it was impossible to wipe the Dead Clan out after decades of endless bloodshed in the abyss. The only method was to suppress and seal them.

Mu Zhiguang was, by no doubt, unreconciled back then. Nevertheless, he still chose to sacrifice his physical body eventually to suppress the abyss beneath the ocean. With that, he intended to bury the Dead Clan deep under the abyss for all eternity and never to be reawakened.

This was his revenge against the Dead Clan of the abyss.

Thus, it really set Mu Zhiguang off when Hu He mentioned letting them go.

“Is there anything else that you want to say?”

“Ah, that’s it!”

“Okay, I got it!”

As he finished his sentence, two beams of black light shot from his eyes. It was then Hu He’s body was torn apart instantly and turned to a wisp of dark mist.

He got a feeling that Hu He was hiding something. Even if Hu He had been the benefactor of his clan, it did not make much difference to Mu Zhiguang since he was not his clansman. He had never been merciful toward people who were not of his clan.

Just then, Mu Zhiguang reached out his hand and grasped the place where Hu He had died.

Hmm? Slightly puzzled, Mu Zhiguang grasped once again... and again...

His soul disappeared?

He had originally planned to extract Hu He’s soul and check on the truth of his words. Never did he expect Hu He’s soul to simply disappear without a trace.

The scene was rather spooky to him. As a wielder of the power of death, he could clearly sense Hu He's soul just moments ago while he was standing before him. His soul was suddenly gone once he was dead. This was a little beyond his comprehension.

After a moment of silence, Mu Zhiguang stomped his foot lightly. Immediately, the enormous statue began to glitter with dirt peeling off its body as if the statue was coming alive.

"Spirit of Mu Te, I leave this place in your hands for now. I'm going up to take a look at what's going on!"

Roar!

Huge waves spread across the surrounding sea, almost like a response to Mu Zhiguang's request.

After giving his instructions, Mu Zhiguang morphed into a beam of black light as he sped toward the water's surface.

In the meantime on the Liuli Coast, Liu Chai, who was enjoying roasted fish with his friends, was shocked to find his right arm trembling involuntarily.

"What's wrong, boss?" a guild member asked curiously.

"No idea, it just trembles uncontrollably!" Liu Chai was perplexed, too.

"Maybe you have overused it... take it easy!" Sun Qi the dog, who was seated close by, commented subconsciously.

"Scram!"

At the summit of the Cliffs of Desperation, the black skeleton next to the pillar pagoda started to vibrate all of a sudden, too. At the same time, the white-haired old man appeared and gave the black skeleton a good kick. It stopped vibrating at once.

"The atrocious Mu Zhiguang is back!" the white-haired old man stated plainly as he gazed toward the distant Void Ocean.

"Who's stronger, that lad or you?" a pair of crimson eyes emerged at the summit. It was staring tauntingly at the white-haired old man as it spoke.

"He might be comparable to me in his full form. But now, I can defeat him without my hands!" the white-haired old man glanced at the pair of crimson eyes before he replied.

"You're boasting, lad!" the Demonic God laughed.

“Oh yeah, I have never understood why you’ve never requested a pardon from the Great Emperor. With your capabilities, your name will appear on the Underworld God List once you pass the test. You will then become a god recognized by the underworld and take command of your own territory! Isn’t that wonderful?” the Demonic God asked suddenly.

“Request a pardon? That sounds boring. There’s actually another path to becoming a god!” the white-haired old man shook his head.

The Demonic God seemed surprised when he heard this. His crimson eyes constricted rapidly, “You’re a mad man after all!”

The white-haired old man gave a light smile at his remarks. His hair swayed wildly in the wind while he murmured and stared into the distant sky, “Things are only interesting with challenges, else I will be lost again!”

His long robe rattled in the wind, revealing a special ancient character amulet hung around his belt.

...

Back in the crystal palace, the Sea King was still contemplating the bad premonition he felt earlier during his meal. Suddenly, his expression changed drastically as a piece of half-chewed meat fell from his mouth.

“Damn it! Which bastard did this!?”

Chapter 195: The Ethnomaniac

To the north of the Void Ocean, a dark glow shot out from the bottom and turned into a humanoid in the air.

It was then that another streak of blue light came sprinting from the south and appeared ahead of the black figure.

“Mu Zhiguang, it’s really you! You’re still alive!” the Sea King was somehow taken aback upon looking at the familiar silhouette in front of him.

Turning around slowly, the same surprised expression crossed Mu Zhiguang’s face the moment he saw the Sea King.

“You’re not dead?”

With his eyes fixed on Mu Zhiguang, the Sea King could not help but swear internally. Deep down, he kept on mumbling. For God’s sake, this fellow is still alive! So now what? Is he going to rob me of the sea power again?

“Hahaha, I’m so glad that you’re still alive!” in a flash, Mu Zhiguang threw his arms around the cursing Sea King.

The Sea King was speechless.

“I thought the entire clan had fallen with everyone as dead as doornails. I couldn’t be happier to see you alive and kicking!”

Staring at Mu Zhiguang’s beaming face, the Sea King was at a loss for words.

Nothing has changed. This ethnomaniac is still the same old dumbass.

“Did you escape from the abyss under the ocean?” the Sea King asked tentatively.

“Escape? Why should I escape? I’ve been guarding the entrance to the death canal in the abyss all this while. That’s because I want to make sure that the Dead Clan will never see the sun again!” as Mu Zhiguang mentioned the Dead Clan, he revealed deep hatred in his eyes.

The Sea King was left speechless again.

At first, he thought Mu Zhiguang had died in the abyss under the ocean. He never knew that this fellow was suppressing the Dead Clan at the entrance of the abyss for a few hundred thousand of years. He felt rather frustrated thinking of how powerful Mu Zhiguang was.

The Sea King spoke righteously, “Then why did you come out? What if they try to escape again? Such a deadly feud shall not be taken lightly. In my opinion, you should keep guarding the place and lock them down at least for another million years.”

Mu Zhiguang’s face lit up with a gentle smile, “No, I have something more important to do!”

What on earth is that important? Can’t you please just go back? The Sea King scolded silently.

“I’ve heard that somebody bullied our clansmen, so I came to see what exactly was going on,” Mu Zhiguang’s face grew stern as he spoke of this matter.

“Who? Who did that? I thought all our clansmen had died,” the Sea King was puzzled.

Mu Zhiguang looked murderous as he uttered, “It’s a guy called the Sea King. I have heard that he has dominated the Void Ocean for millenia. But since he dares to bully my clansmen, I will make him pay for this with his life!”

Once again, the Sea King was left speechless.

He felt extremely awful as he swallowed his curse. Who the hell made him the scapegoat and even spread this rumor to the abyss under the ocean?

“Do you know this guy? Bring me to him and I shall take his life. This Void Ocean originally belonged to the Mu Te Sea Clan. After killing him, I will pass you the sea power for you to rebuild a whole new Mu Te Sea Nation.”

The Sea King was tongue-tied.

“Ahem... Brother Mu, this news is simply a rumor. You cannot believe them!”

“How can it be a rumor? A living creature purposely came to the abyss under the ocean and passed me this message. And even if this Sea King did not bully our clansmen, he shall at least die since this Void Ocean belongs to the Mu Te Sea Nation. We must not let it fall into the hands of outsiders!”

Embarrassed, the Sea King was hesitant to tell the lunatic in front of him that he was actually the one known as the Sea King. His stomach was in knots.

“What’s wrong? Is this Sea King a very strong adversary?” seeing the troubled look on his face, Mu Zhiguang could not help but ask.

He patted the Sea King on his shoulder like a big brother and said, “Don’t be afraid! No matter how strong that fellow is, as long as I find all my body parts, he will be no match for me!”

“Brother Mu, I have something to tell you but before that, promise me that you will stay calm and won’t beat me up!” the Sea King pondered and spoke with a sense of guilt.

Now that Mu Zhiguang was back, he knew that he could not hide the truth for long.

Mu Zhiguang smiled and replied, “Tell me then, why would I ever beat you up? You’re my clansman. You will always have my unconditional support regardless of whatever mess you’ve made!”

“I’m the Sea King!”

“What?”

“I’m the Sea King. The news that you got is fake. I would never kill my fellow clansmen. Besides, all our clansmen transformed into zombie ghosts and you scared most of them away. The rest likely fled from the Void Ocean long ago. There aren’t any of us left!”

Mu Zhiguang’s expression turned stiff upon hearing this.

“You mean, our clansmen are all dead?”

“Yes!” the Sea King forced the word out.

The Sea King’s affirmative reply made Mu Zhiguang look dejected. Once again, he hugged the Sea King with tears in his eyes, “So this means that you’re my only clansman now. How sad...”

The Sea King looked embarrassed and tried to push Mu Zhiguang away but he found that he could not budge him an inch.

Mu Zhiguang grieved for a while before wiping off his tears and said, “If so, this means that fellow who came to the abyss under the ocean was trying to make me kill you? What a brilliant trick! And schemeful indeed! He even wanted to wipe out my entire clan by killing my last clansman! Fortunately, I’ve killed that fellow! He deserved to die!”

“And by the way, you must have some potential enemies around, or else why would they plan this to kill you? Don’t worry, I will help you get rid of all your enemies since I’m here!” Mu Zhiguang grabbed the Sea King’s shoulder and asserted angrily.

Mixed emotions flooded the Sea King as he fixed his gaze on Mu Zhiguang.

This fellow was the one who initially snatched his Mu Te royal power away. However, to be frank, Mu Zhiguang had no greed for power at all as his priority was always the benefits of his clansmen.

Anyhow, Mu Zhiguang’s words had triggered his thoughts of destroying all his current enemies and expanding his control over the ocean.

“Yes, there are some of them over at the Liuli Coast who are under Tong Gua the Ghost King’s influence. I suppose they are the culprit behind this. Previously, they had been sending out battleships to rob my supplies!”

“Alright, I’ll help you!”

The Sea King felt awkward but still, he replied, “Thank you, big brother.”

It was then that Mu Zhiguang took on a serious expression, “I shall leave for a while to deal with something. I will come back to you later!”

Before the Sea King managed to reply, he then saw Mu Zhiguang make his move and vanish into thin air in the blink of an eye.

At this moment, the Sea King felt very disturbed as he was unsure whether Mu Zhiguang’s reappearance was a good thing for him. Nevertheless, he felt quite intimidated by the presence of a lunatic with such strong power.

...

Meanwhile, on the south region of the Void Ocean, a private specter ship was moving forward. Sitting by his bed with a fishing rod in his hand, Liu Chai was looking out at the sea. He slapped his shaking right arm intermittently in frustration and cursed in his heart.

Suddenly, a dark silhouette came into sight on top of the specter ship and landed on the ship slowly.

“A fellow clansman? No, that can’t be right... but why do you have my power in you?” Mu Zhiguang asked curiously as he stared at Liu Chai.

Liu Chai could not help but yell, “Who are you?”

“I am Mu Zhiguang!”

“Holy shit! Really?”

Hurriedly, Liu Chai turned around and at the same time, Mu Zhiguang noticed his right arm. There was a trace of nostalgia in his eyes.

“You have been acknowledged by my right arm and now you can become my clansman!” kindness flashed across Mu Zhiguang’s eyes as he stared at Liu Chai.

“No, no, I don’t want to. Just a question, did you lose your memory? What was it about again?” Liu Chai blurted out his question as he thought of his mission.

Instead of answering, Mu Zhiguang gave another nod and his eyes were still on Liu Chai, “You are very talented, and you have the heart of a warrior. No wonder my right arm will choose to be at one with you. Surely you have great potential!”

“Are you going to take it away?” alarmed, he held the right arm to himself abruptly with his guard up.

“No. You can have it,” Mu Zhiguang shook his head.

Liu Chai sighed a breath of relief at his words. The glance that he stole from Mu Zhiguang’s solemn expression just now almost scared him to death. He feared that Mu Zhiguang might actually take his right arm back.

“Oh yeah! Do you want to be my son?” Mu Zhiguang asked smilingly.

“What? Your son!?” Liu Chai was dumbfounded.

Chapter 196: The Covenant

Mu Zhiguang's absurd request somehow gave Liu Chai a sudden urge to smash his head.

This guy was obviously trying to take advantage of him. How could he have his own way just because he was a Ghost Emperor Elite?

"What do you think? Once you're my son, no one in this ocean will ever bully you. You can even get plenty of resources for your own cultivation!"

Now that Mu Zhiguang had lost all of his clansmen, he started to value the Sea King more. He was the only one who had the bloodline of his clan. Seeing Liu Chai with his arm turned out to be an unexpected surprise to him. It was right then that he had the idea of recruiting him into the clan.

Frustrated looking at Mu Zhiguang's sincere face, Liu Chai snapped, "No!"

"I never had an heir in my whole life... if you would be my son..."

Liu Chai interrupted him abruptly, "Hold on! Why are you going on about sons? Watch your words, can't you? Do you think you can start insulting people just because you're the Ghost Emperor?"

Mu Zhiguang was astonished, "You really don't want to be my son?"

I want to be your father! Liu Chai whispered to himself.

"Alright, since you don't wish to, I shall not force you. But you do have my blood in your body, therefore you are one of the Mu Te Sea Clan. If you were to encounter any danger, you can always summon me. I will help you!"

Mu Zhiguang waved his hand as he spoke, and a dark glow pierced through Liu Chai's right arm. At the same time, a notification rang in his head.

[Game Notification: You have received a one-time skill, The Call of Death.]

The Call of Death (Binding: Mu Zhiguang): By executing this skill, Mu Zhiguang will be able to hear your request and obtain your exact location!

Seeing that Mu Zhiguang was about to leave, Liu Chai quickly asked, "You still haven't told me about your memory..."

Mu Zhiguang replied calmly, "I'm not sure about that either. It might be something related to the huge secret of the Dead Clan. I will have to collect all my body parts in order to awaken this strand of memory. So, I have no idea for the time being."

Liu Chai was dumbfounded after hearing what he said. How was he going to complete his mission if his brain knew nothing about the memory?

"So where are the rest of your body parts? Just go and collect them!" Liu Chai prompted.

"That's what I am planning to do now. But since my right arm suits you so well, I'm not going to take it!"

Stunned, Liu Chai questioned, "Does that mean that you won't be able to collect all of your body parts?"

"Yeah, the most I can do is to collect a few more parts of my body. Perhaps this can help to unlock some memories. I will let you know once I find them," smiling, Mu Zhiguang's figure started to fade.

Glancing at his right arm, Liu Chai felt rather depressed. This mission is getting increasingly harder.

However, there was another option for Liu Chai. He could wait until he was strong enough to kill Mu Zhiguang and collect the body parts himself.

Nonetheless, he sensed no malice from Mu Zhiguang despite being pissed off by his intention to make him his son. Being a righteous man, this made him even more ambivalent.

...

Liuli Coast, Beiqi.

Tong Gua was drinking and playing cards with Ye Chen and some other friends on the beach. A dark silhouette caught their attention as it descended from the sky.

The silhouette stood by the shore for a while before it slowly dispersed. When it reappeared, it was right beside Tong Gua.

Looking at Tong Gua, Mu Zhiguang said curiously, "The spirit of a Demon King in such a weak body? How rare!"

"Who are you?" Tong Gua threw his cards to the floor and ranted while pointing at Mu Zhiguang.

"I'm Mu Zhiguang."

"What a shitty name... Mu..." Tong Gua was about to burst out swearing before a look of horror crossed his face.

"You're Mu Zhiguang? The previous king of the Mu Te Sea Nation?" Tong Gua seemed skeptical.

"Mmhmm," Mu Zhiguang nodded.

"You're not dead?"

"It seems like many people thought that I was dead," Mu Zhiguang put on a smile. "Anyways, I've heard that there's a creature named Tong Gua here who has attained the Ghost King Peak Realm. Do you know where he is?"

Sensing that something wasn't right, Tong Gua coughed a little, "He went out to sea and hasn't come back for quite a long time. Right, boys?"

Upon hearing this, Mu Zhiguang shifted his gaze to Ye Chen and the others.

Ye Chen and the rest shook their heads firmly as if they had no idea either.

Mu Zhiguang looked disappointed for not getting a usable answer. He disappeared on the spot.

"Shit, things are getting interesting now that this lunatic is out!" Tong Gua stared at the spot where Mu Zhiguang stood just now.

Ye Chen and the others asked curiously, "Who is Mu Zhiguang?"

"He used to reign over the Void Ocean before the Sea King. He was also the Sea King's clansman and thus, in terms of status, could be considered as the Sea King's former boss."

Tong Gua's words made their faces taut with tension for they knew how tough this matter was going to be.

After all, their fight with the Sea King was at its peak. The sudden appearance of such a strong opponent would definitely give the Sea King an advantage over them. A full-fledged war might be triggered at any moment.

"But as far as I know, he should be dead in the abyss under the ocean. Why did he pop up all of a sudden? Unless someone went to save him from the abyss?" Tong Gua started to speculate.

...

The Peak of the Cliffs of Desperation.

A dark silhouette emerged and charged toward the black skeleton beside the pillar pagoda.

At this moment, the white-haired old man's silhouette came into sight and stopped in front of the dark silhouette.

"I've come to take back what's mine!" Mu Zhiguang, who had appeared physically, exclaimed to the white-haired old man.

"I've heard that you went to the abyss under the ocean, and I thought you were dead," the white-haired old man replied with a smile.

"Do you want to stop me from taking back what's mine?" Mu Zhiguang's face was grave.

"You sound so rude and I don't like it! What are you going to do if I don't return it to you? Do you think you can defeat me with your current incomplete body?" the white-haired old man retorted.

"I can't defeat you!" Mu Zhiguang replied honestly.

Feeling as if his reputation was tarnished, Mu Zhiguang added, "But if we are at the same level of power, you would be no match for me!"

Upon hearing that, the white-haired old man smiled, "You know about the new king of the Mu Te Sea Nation, right? What do you think of his strength?"

Mu Zhiguang nodded, "The king is strong. If it wasn't for that battle with Tao Wu that caused him to be drained out, his strength would be on par with me when I was in my peak realm."

Grinning, the white-haired old man waved and a hologram appeared amid the golden sparks.

"Stop beating me! Stop it! I promise you that the Liuli Coast is yours and I won't attack it!"

A voice arose, followed by the scene of a blue-skinned man with his upper torso exposed being ruthlessly beaten up. His face began to distort under the massive, ceaseless blows.

Seeing the king whom he remembered being regal and dignified was begging for mercy with his tail between his legs, Mu Zhiguang's jaw dropped.

"Do you see that? This was how I snatched the Liuli Coast from your Mu Te Sea King back in the day. So, frankly speaking, you are nothing to me," the white-haired old man grinned hideously.

"You..."

Mu Zhiguang clenched his fist and anger rushed through him as he thought of how this fellow in front of him used to treat his king.

"What? Wanna have a fight now? I might not be able to stop and kill you, but you better think carefully about this!" the white-haired old man threatened with the same nasty smile lingering on his lips.

Taking a deep breath, Mu Zhiguang's face became solemn, "King of Beiqi, I may not be your equal now, but I can still surpass you in the future. You keep this body, I will come and retrieve it someday."

The white-haired old man immediately blocked Mu Zhiguang's way as he saw that he was about to leave, "Oh, don't leave! I can give it to you, but you have to promise me something!"

Mu Zhiguang's brow furrowed when he heard that, "What do you want me to promise you, King of Beiqi?"

The white-haired old man let out a cunning chuckle, "I am no longer the King of Beiqi, so stop calling me that. Besides, this land is no longer under my dominance. I hope I've made myself clear. As for my request, it's simple. If you go to war with Beiqi, you must not be involved personally."

Mu Zhiguang was stunned as he heard that, "What do you mean?"

"Since you're out now, you must have thought of rebuilding the Mu Te Sea Nation. With that, the conflicts with those forces in Beiqi are inevitable. I don't care about this but you have to promise me that you will not be involved in the conflict!"

"Why do you still care about the power games of Beiqi since you're no longer the King of Beiqi?" Mu Zhiguang asked in puzzlement.

"Stop asking questions! Just tell me whether you agree or not. If you don't agree, I will grind this black skeleton and drink it up. It's time for some supplements now that I'm old," the King of Beiqi snapped and threatened him.

"You..."

Mu Zhiguang was holding back his frustration because he could not fight with a guy. Such a feeling was so unbearable.

“Do you agree or not? Tell me!” as the white-haired old man spoke, the black skeleton flew into his outstretched hand.

Mu Zhiguang shuddered as he saw the white-haired old man’s fingers randomly tapping on the black skeleton. He had crossed paths with many strong opponents in his lifetime but he had never met anyone like this before, who was powerful yet mean and graceless at the same time.

Mu Zhiguang inhaled deeply before nodding, “I agree, I won’t get involved. Give it to me now!”

“Ah, that’s how things should be. If you disagreed just now, I probably would have dismantled your remaining body into pieces.”

Now Mu Zhiguang was speechless.

Reaching out to catch the black skeleton thrown by the white-haired old man, Mu Zhiguang had a rather wistful look on his face. At the same time, the black skeleton started to melt and seep into his body in the form of blackish liquid.

A sudden gust of demonic wind swept through the place, followed by a dense mist of dark energy that expanded rapidly before shrinking back into Mu Zhiguang’s body.

The white-haired old man nodded after seeing how quickly Mu Zhiguang had improved, “Hmm, half a step away from the Ghost Emperor Peak Realm now. Not bad!”

Clenching his fist, he felt the surge of familiar energy circulating in his body. He then fixed his gaze upon the white-haired old man, “I will keep my promise!”

“Alright, alright. Just go. I want to go get some sleep,” the white-haired old man stretched his body lazily and disappeared with the wind.

Mu Zhiguang decided to get going when he saw the white-haired old man leaving. It was then that something unusual about the pillar pagoda caught his attention and his curiosity drove him to take a closer look at it.

Just as Mu Zhiguang stretched his hand out to examine it, a voice suddenly rang in his mind, “Young man, are you looking for a beating? I dare you to touch it.”

“Who’s there?”

Mu Zhiguang’s expression turned serious. He was sure that this voice did not belong to the white-haired old man.

“You are standing right on top of me, who do you think I am?” the Demonic God’s arrogant voice sounded again.

Immediately, Mu Zhiguang looked down and as his pupils started to be covered with darkness, he began to see through the ground.

Then, he saw a gigantic body bound by millions of metal chains. The Demonic God, with his head lifted up, was smiling sinisterly at him!

“The Demonic God!” Mu Zhiguang was appalled.

He was aware of an ancient demonic deity being sealed under the Land of Beiqi, but he didn’t expect it to be sealed here.