

The Boss Behind The Game –

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Chapter 221: Mo Xiaoxin

Dragon Nation, Wei City.

Mo Xiaoxin had just resigned and walked out the company's door. He lit a cigarette pleasantly and strolled toward the subway station.

It was rush hour where traffic was at its highest. The subway was cramped. After swiping his transit card, Mo Xiaoxin managed to squeeze into the subway train with a little extra effort.

As the subway train started moving, Mo Xiaoxin scanned his surroundings for a less cramped space.

However, the moment he lifted up his foot, the middle-aged woman beside him let out a piercing scream.

He noticed that he had accidentally stepped on someone's toes. Mo Xiaoxin apologized at once, "I'm so sorry!"

"Don't you have eyes? Are you a pig? How do you even manage to step on other people...?"

Facing the unrelenting middle-aged woman who kept on rambling, Mo Xiaoxin took out his earphones. He unlocked his smartphone and launched the Talking Tom app.

Five minutes later, when the woman paused, the app on Mo Xiaoxin's phone started to speak...

"Don't you have eyes? Are you a pig..."

It pissed off the woman and she continued scolding at once. Mo Xiaoxin, who was holding the handrails, maintained a calm expression and raised his smartphone without having to open his mouth.

The passengers could not resist laughing as they listened to the middle-aged woman bickering back and forth with a phone app.

Mo Xiaoxin seemed like an outsider to the conversation, as though the woman was simply just arguing with a phone.

Reaching his station, Mo Xiaoxin got off the train and quickly shuffled back home.

His resignation meant that he had lost his main form of a steady income, but he was not concerned about this at all.

Since he was a player of Battle Online, he could do some labor in the game and live on that instead.

When he thought of Battle Online, Mo Xiaoxin couldn't help but smile.

He felt that everyone in this game was talented and they knew how to sweet talk. He liked it very much.

He did not enter his gaming pod when he reached home. Instead, he switched on his computer.

Logging onto the forum, a smile appeared on his face.

He scanned through the posts in the forum. His attention was caught by a post which was debating whether a Knight or Drought Zombie's defense was stronger.

After reading the original author's review and the players' replies, Mo Xiaoxin typed a sentence and attached a picture.

[A Knight is obviously stronger than a Drought Zombie, because (The Dog and The Knight.jpg). Didn't you know? (laughing emoji)]

As expected, Sun Qi the dog soon heard about the reply and threatened him to delete the picture.

Mo Xiaoxin calmly lit a cigarette and inhaled before typing another sentence.

[Good dog, pats head (laughing emoji)]

Then he closed the post, clicked on another one, and continued his inspection.

Yes, Mo Xiaoxin was the legendary player known as Crayon_Shinchan, the ultimate troll of the forum who had pissed off countless players.

Even though the forum was full of hatred toward him, he was good at keeping his identity anonymous. Nobody ever found out his identity in the game, which was why he got off completely scot-free.

He had to thank his mother for that. If not for the training given by his mother since he was very young, Mo Xiaoxin felt that he would be hunted down like they did with Hu He.

He remembered his youthful days when his mother told him not to drink water that has been left overnight.

Having the inclination to troll others since a young age, Mo Xiaoxin asked his mother, "Can I drink water that was boiled at 6 o'clock in the morning when it is 6 o'clock in the evening?"

His mother said yes.

He asked again, "What about water boiled at 9 o'clock in the evening to 9 o'clock in the morning?"

His mother said no.

Therefore Mo Xiaoxin started his trolling.

"If the water has been equally left for twelve hours under the same storing conditions, why can't I drink the latter? After all, the low temperature at night is better for storage."

This time, Mo Xiaoxin's mother did not answer. Instead, she raised her feather duster and beat him while praising him for using his brains. Why did she beat him then? It was probably because she was in a bad mood, that's all.

That very moment, Mo Xiaoxin knew he had to hide his talent. He should never reveal his aptitude or he would suffer.

However, the Internet was without boundaries. After getting in touch with this world, he realized that he really liked it there.

He could troll as much as he wanted. They couldn't do anything to him even though they were enraged. They wouldn't be able to climb out from his computer monitor, at least.

After offending people for half an hour, Mo Xiaoxin decided to retreat from the forum and return to his gaming pod, despite the players repeatedly demanding him to expose his actual address.

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His figure appeared in the game. Looking at the purple staff he bought with his own hard-earned money, Mo Xiaoxin nodded with content.

Suddenly, his Friends Menu started beeping.

Opening it to check, he realized that most of the notifications were requests from friends in the game to team up with them or venture the seas together.

After some thought, Mo Xiaoxin rejected their invites one by one with goodwill before heading toward the beach.

He decided to try his luck on the seas by going fishing for some spiritual fish and then selling them at a good price.

Of course, the main reason was that he could check out the forum while fishing.

He arrived at the beach on the Liuli Coast via the transport array.

As Mo Xiaoxin was about to call for a private Specter Ship, he noticed two people staring at him.

He immediately smiled at them while returning his gaze. He was about to have small talk with them, only to find their faces familiar.

It was the lovebird killers, Murphy and Little Pomelo.

“How are you? Is there anything I can help you with?” Mo Xiaoxin smiled and asked.

He was rather worried, but he did not think that the duo would have found out that he was Crayon_Shinchan. He had never exposed any personal information.

After all, in the game, he was a backline mage that was pretty nice toward his fellow guild mates, had a soft personality, and was someone people could easily make friends with.

“Do you know the player named Crayon_Shinchan?” Little Pomelo flicked her dagger which was balanced on the tip of her finger while smiling cunningly.

Mo Xiaoxin was shocked as he heard her, but he smiled again before saying, “You mean that forum troll? How would I know him? He’s trolled me before and I don’t like him very much, either.”

“Quit pretending. We know it’s you. What else did you think we came here for?” Little Pomelo dissipated into a shadow and drifted forward, appearing behind Mo Xiaoxin.

Mo Xiaoxin was confused upon hearing her words.

He was sure that other than being a troll in the forum, he hadn’t done anything which would expose his identity in the game. He wondered how they found out his identity.

When he thought about it properly, though, he realized that something was wrong.

He had spent years on forums and he had seen bounty killers streaming their killings live.

According to their style, if they had secured a target, they would act immediately instead of prolonging their fight. As for now, something must be wrong if they were attempting small talk.

When he thought of this, Mo Xiaoxin sighed.

“I think you’ve got the wrong person. Even though my name has the homonym Xiaoxin in it, I’m really not that shameless guy Crayon_Shinchan. If you don’t believe me, try asking my guild mates. They can tell you what kind of person I am!”

Mo Xiaoxin did not show any sign of fear even when he felt the chill on his neck. He spoke as though he was complaining.

At that moment, the dagger on his neck was removed.

Mo Xiaoxin turned around to find Little Pomelo bowing to him politely.

“We’re sorry to have bothered you. Looks like we’ve found the wrong person.”

Fuck, of course they were trying to bait me. Luckily I’ve been smart since I was a kid!

Mo Xiaoxin sighed a breath of relief. While smiling at Murphy and Little Pomelo, he said, “It’s no big deal. I hope you guys find him soon and kill him until he flees the server!”

“We will. Even though we don’t personally hold a grudge against him, the crowdfunding for the operation has reached 30,000 soul coins. We shall kill him!”

Mo Xiaoxin’s face twitched when he heard this, “Good luck!”

Chapter 222: A Massacre Triggered By A Fish

At the Void Ocean, the Demonic God who was floating in mid air was holding a red fishing rod that was infused with Blood Qi.

From time to time he would look at the crystal blue sky, the mysteriously deep ocean, and the seagulls cawing in his ear. The beauty of nature pleased the Demonic God very much. For the first time in his life, he realized that happiness was in fact this simple.

As the fishing rod bobbed, a smile appeared on the Demonic God’s face.

Although he could easily catch fish by himself, he was enjoying the beauty of the world and was against using such a brutal way. He enjoyed the fun of fishing tremendously.

Seeing a red spiritual fish jumping from the water and the splashing droplets shining under the rays of the sun, the Demonic God smiled joyfully.

He reached out his hand and was about to take it.

Suddenly, an enormous black figure a thousand meters wide emerged from the surface water.

As the Demonic God gaped in bewilderment, a giant creature leaped from the water and swallowed the red spiritual fish in one gulp. At the same time, it snapped his fishing line that was condensed by Blood Qi.

Splash!

The giant fish dove into the water once more, splashing waves that drenched the Demonic God.

What the fuck...

The massive black figure slowly faded away. The Demonic God felt his negative emotions brewing inside him.

"I'll beat you to death!" the Demonic God roared and leapt into the water to chase after the giant fish.

...

Little Pomelo and Murphy looked dejected as they saw Mo Xiaoxin leaving with his private Specter Ship.

"Murphy, do we really have to approach every single player with Xiaoxin in their names?"

"We don't have a choice. Crayon_Shinchan hasn't left any clues. We can only try one by one," he sighed helplessly.

...

Mo Xiaoxin sighed a breath of relief when he saw the backs of the retreating duo.

He had a narrow escape this time.

If they really had their eyes on him, Mo Xiaoxin felt that it would be much better if he stayed in the safe zone. After all, that Hu He player was a great example. The future would be more than pain and sorrow.

As he thought about it, Mo Xiaoxin reached his hand to wipe the sweat on his forehead. He could not help but feel lucky.

His Specter Ship drifted away with the bobbling waves, approaching the Void Ocean.

Mo Xiaoxin took out his fishing equipment from his inventory and prepared to start his daily carefree labor.

What Mo Xiaoxin didn't notice were the two figures squatting on top of the ship's mast.

Their gaze scanned him from time to time, suspicion clearly written on their faces.

Murphy and Little Pomelo had decided to give up, but the more they thought of it, the more they found it strange.

Their killer instincts told them that this person was suspicious. They decided to carry on with their observation as there might be unexpected gains.

However, after following him for half an hour, they hadn't observed anything fishy, and this left them even more puzzled.

Pondering, Little Pomelo started a livestream.

If the two of them couldn't recognize him, they might as well gather everyone from the forum to identify that person.

Soon, a post showed up on the official forum page.

[Instinct tells us that this person is Crayon_Shinchan. Does anyone have a way of proving it?]

Peppa_Boar: "The bounty killers are finally going to carry out a backstab of justice on the master troll from the forum. Good luck (laughing emoji)!"

Xueli_The_Strongest: "From my months of experience of reading Crayon_Shinchan's comments, you can try asking him a question. If he trolls you in response, kill him (laughing emoji)!"

Watermelon_Taro: "Crayon_Shinchan should be responding to this post soon. Otherwise, his suspiciousness +50%"

A_Large_Wolfdog: "My keen sense of smell tells me he is the one!"

Assassin_Creed: "He is too good at hiding. If you really want clues, you probably won't find them in the game. But his characteristics of trolling seem obvious, so you can only try starting with this."

Lost8kToOnlineDating: "Not a good idea. He's not stupid. He won't troll if he recognizes both of you. The only way is to wait for him to launch the forum and observe carefully. The forum interface will show his ID."

...

The players started working together to figure out whether that person was Crayon_Shinchan or not.

Under normal circumstances, Crayon_Shinchan would respond instantly when he saw posts like this. Surprisingly, he did not appear and mock them for being overconfident in the forum. It caused everyone to suspect him even more.

However, it was better to play it safe. They couldn't conclude that this person was Crayon_Shinchan with that single point. It could also be that he was busy today.

Everybody started intensely discussing all kinds of methods to test him. There were even players who overreacted, shouting slogans like, "Rather kill all than miss one."

It was obvious how much everyone in the forum hated the troll.

Reading the players' reply, Little Pomelo nodded and started observing Xiaoxin closely.

There was an agreement among everyone's viewpoints, and that was how it was impossible to identify Crayon_Shinchan in the game. It could only be done through the forum.

The two of them squatted and watched over Mo Xiaoxin intently, waiting for him to launch the forum dashboard and to pick up any vital clues.

Down below, the forehead of Mo Xiaoxin, who was holding a fishing rod and had his back to the duo, was full of sweat.

Fuck... luckily I was smart enough to spend a sum of money to upgrade my exploration skill to the max. Otherwise, you people would have blown my cover.

Mo Xiaoxin acted calmly and did not launch the forum. He held on to the fishing rod and gazed across the boundless ocean as though he was enjoying the scenery.

It started to dispirit the twin assassins.

Why is it this hard to take a look at the forum menu!?

After a three hour battle of wit and courage, the duo finally gave up and jumped from the mast, appearing beside Mo Xiaoxin.

The thud of something landing could be heard.

Faking surprise, Mo Xiaoxin turned around.

“Huh? It’s you guys! Why are you guys on my ship?”

“Just passing by!” Murphy said coolly.

You goddamn liar! There is nothing but water around. Why don’t you show me how you passed by?

Mo Xiaoxin wanted to troll him, but he restrained himself.

“That’s not very good, is it? I’ve already said that I’m not Crayon_Shinchan, yet you still followed me in secret.”

“We’re truly sorry, Crayon_Shinchan!” Little Pomelo apologized.

Hearing her, Mo Xiaoxin raised his hand, “Don’t even think of trying. I’m really not Crayon_Shinchan... so stop probing me!”

You guys are still too young to bait me out! Mo Xiaoxin was pleased with himself.

“Then we have nothing else to say. Launch your forum to prove your innocence!” as they spoke, Murphy and Little Pomelo pulled out their daggers.

“Why... why should I launch the forum? I don’t like forums... I don’t even have an account!” after hearing that he had to launch his forum, Mo Xiaoxin started to panic.

“Then create an ID now. You won’t lose anything anyway. Furthermore, the forum ID and account are linked... this will prove your innocence!”

Seeing Mo Xiaoxin start to sweat, the players who were watching the stream started to get heated up.

Watermelon_Taro: “Wow! Looks like they’ve actually found Crayon Shinchan. It’s getting exciting! Let’s spectate!”

A_Large_Wolfdog: “Kill him! I’ll be waiting for him in the safe zone (sly smile emoji)!”

Xueli_The_Strongest: “Hahaha, look how his face changes. He really looks like the character Crayon Shinchan!”

Invincible_Loneliness: “Who was the person who said he had escaped the three worlds and the five elements, and mere humans could not find him? (laughing emoji)”

...

The players discussed furiously. Most of them agreed that this person was indeed Crayon_Shinchan.

Murphy and Little Pomelo smiled, resting their daggers on Mo Xiaoxin’s neck.

“It seems like it’s you!”

However, it was at this moment that a figure appeared in the live stream.

Crayon_Shinchan: “You foolish humans; I already said that I am beyond the three worlds, nor am I within the five elements. Why don’t you guys accept the fact that you’ll never find me? (laughing emoji)”

Crayon_Shinchan: “Looks like someone is about to die. Let me spectate +1 (laughing emoji)!”

Crayon_Shinchan: “Just do it, or else I’ll go and have my meal (exasperated emoji)!”

His appearance shocked everyone in the forum.

The ID name could not be repeated. If Crayon_Shinchan appeared in the forum, then that person in front of them in the game would definitely not be Crayon_Shinchan.

The sudden twist caught everyone off guard.

Even the twins were shocked.

They were speechless as they looked at Mo Xiaoxin who was equally shocked.

You could have proved it by launching your forum if you’re not Crayon_Shinchan. Why did you have to make it so complicated? What a waste of everyone’s time and reaction!

Annoyed, the duo kept their daggers and apologized while bowing once more.

Mo Xiaoxin breathed another sigh of relief in his heart. He was basking in his intelligence again because he already understood what happened.

Half an hour ago, he contacted his mother, who was playing Battle Online next door, through his Friends Menu. He asked her to come to his room and use the forum on his computer, where he had already logged in with his account.

If it was not for the preparation earlier, he would not have been able to survive this crisis.

Good thing I'm that smart... any normal antagonist would have died!

"Can you guys leave now?" Mo Xiaoxin who was now confident spoke impatiently toward the both of them.

"No. You may not be Crayon_Shinchan, but we suspect you to be a member of the trolling community. Launch your forum for us... you may be on the wanted list, too!" even though they had apologized, they had no intention of letting him go.

Mo Xiaoxin was dumbfounded.

Just as Mo Xiaoxin was panicking and the both of them pulled out their daggers again, the ship suddenly tilted toward the right.

All of them struggled to keep their balance, grabbing onto the ship's side to avoid falling into the water.

They could see a huge semicircle swirling on the water surface and a gigantic fish head parted the water, rapidly enlarging in their view.

It was a fish... a huge fish... an enormous fish!

Seeing the behemoth in front of them, they and the viewers of the livestream were nonplussed.

They knew this fish. It was none other than the legendary monster inhabiting the Void Ocean, Tao Wu.

What was even more shocking was that there was a creature inside Tao Wu's mouth.

It was a boy with red hair and skin.

Furthermore, with his physical strength, he was able to keep Tao Wu's mouth open. It was unbelievable.

"Ah!"

As the redhead boy roared, Tao Wu's humongous body was pulled out bit by bit from the water.

"Give me back my fish!" the redhead boy shouted angrily.

Tao Wu did not answer him. Instead, it continued to struggle.

It seemed to anger the redhead boy as he instantly threw it toward the surface of the ocean, spattering waves that were hundreds of feet tall.

The trio who stood there with shocked expressions were struck by the wave, and the ship dismantled at once. They were thrown into the water and swirled in the rumbling ocean.

They struggled to float to the surface, but before they could, they were pounded deeper back into the sea by the current. The impact caused all of them to pass out.

Even up until their deaths they didn't know what had happened.

Was it a quarrel triggered by Tao Wu owing the boy a fish?

Chapter 223: The Onlookers

The battle between Tao Wu and the Demonic God attracted the attention of all the players.

In order to see what was happening more clearly, many of them started going out to sea to get a firsthand look.

Currently, there were many media agencies in the game, and they definitely did not want to miss a great scoop.

This battle had an impact so large that it even surpassed Lu Wu's prediction.

The Demonic God and Tao Wu were creatures that had thick skin and were almost impossible to kill. And the rainstorm that formed due to their battle in the Void Ocean affected many forces.

The Death Clan was the one that was affected the most.

At this very moment, numerous players' warships harbored on the Void Ocean. The players took out their telescopes, turned on the recording function and started to spectate.

Other than the players, there was another great force that straightaway joined in the battle.

It was the Death Clan.

Being creatures of the Abyss, they would engulf any living being in front of them, regardless of whether it was the Demonic God or Tao Wu.

Therefore, such creatures who were like ants in the eyes of the Demonic God and Tao Wu began to harass them from every corner.

The players were extremely entertained.

During this epic skirmish, nobody dared to venture deep into the Void Ocean territory, except for a few large guilds.

That was exactly because it was inhabited by the Death Clan. Not only did they have a massive population, but they also had immense power.

However, these creatures challenging Tao Wu and the Demonic God were biting off more than they could chew. The players naturally welcomed such a scene.

While Tao Wu and the Demonic God were brawling, the Death Clan was crushed to powder after being hit by their energy. There was so much of it that the ocean was dyed black.

Watermelon_Taro: "Nice show, keep fighting! Eradicate the Death Clan!"

A_Large_Wolfdog: "I'm more concerned about who Crayon_Shinchan actually is... I thought I would get my revenge today!"

Crayon_Shinchan replied A_Large_Wolfdog: "Good dog, pats head... (The Dog and The Knight.jpg)"

173's_Media_Department: "How exciting! Writing scripts while watching the battle is the best!"

Starsea's_Media_Department: "This game is amazing. The architecture of the world does not revolve around the players; the entire universe creates its own system, just like this battle (exciting emoji)!"

Xueli_The_Strongest: "Don't you guys ever sleep? Here you are watching Godzilla vs Ultraman (slamming desk emoji), count me in!"

Lost8kToOnlineDating: "I have a bold idea. Can we loot them the moment they barely have any health left?"

...

At the seabed of the Abyss.

The Sea King who was wearing black thorned armor opened his black eyes.

"It's been quite some time. Those at the surface of the ocean should have been able to gather enough combat power already. Time to get our revenge!"

"Hehehe, you really fit in our clan as you have the desire to destroy everything," a black frog said as he hopped onto the Sea King's shoulder.

"Shut up!" the Sea King pushed the frog off his shoulder and stomped it with his foot.

"You..."

Splat!

The black frog turned into black vapor. Then, it floated upward and gained shape again.

"Mu Hai, I'll have you know that your power belongs to me. Without me, you're nothing!" the black frog's tone turned cold.

"Is that so?" the Sea King took out the Death Halo from his chest.

"Mu Zhiguang's weapon!" terror could be seen from the black frog's face.

"Isn't it mine if you're dead?" the Sea King smiled cruelly. This holy artifact of death which he had not been able to control earlier shone with bright rays before sucking the black frog into it.

"Let me out. How dare you betray me!"

Shouts of rage echoed from the black halo, but the Sea King merely smiled scornfully.

Even though he could not eradicate the origin of the Death Clan, after gaining their power, he could have them sealed off as Mu Zhiguang did.

Without their leader, the Ruler of Death, all of the powers which he possessed now would naturally belong to him, including the Death Clan's.

Glancing at the spiritual bodies of the Death Clan that are continuously flying from the seal, the Sea King felt ecstatic and swam toward the surface.

He had waited too long. It was finally time!

Excited, he whirled toward the surface and jumped out of the water. Sprawling his body in mid air and stretching his limbs, he looked up at the moon.

"Evil subjects of the Death Clan, follow me..."

Bam!

An energy ball was shot from afar and blasted him away.

After stabilizing himself in mid-air, he turned around furiously to see who ambushed him.

However, what he saw shocked him.

The sea was dyed black with the bodies of the Death Clan that had been shredded into pieces. The scene was a total massacre.

“Who, who did this!?” the Sea King’s temper flared up and he could not help but howl.

At that very moment, the water bubbled and Tao Wu’s gigantic body leaped from the water, leaving a crescent trail in the air. His tail slapped hard onto the Sea King’s body, pounding him into the water.

“Bravo, bravo!”

The onlookers from afar started to applaud upon seeing what happened.

“Nice! That’s what he deserves for all of that pretense!”

“Cool, I give that hit a 10 out of 10!”

“Hahaha, isn’t that the Sea King? What is he trying to do when the gods are battling? What an ostentatious entrance he’s made!”

...

The excited onlookers cheered. Some of them even took out a tablecloth and food and started cooking on the spot, as though they were going to stay there until the show finished.

At that moment, a dozen warships sailed from the north. Among them, the mega warship was especially appealing.

The players turned vigilant at once.

“Everyone, don’t panic. We saw your livestream post on the forum, so we’re just here for the show!” Li Xing shouted on the live chat channel.

They were all shocked when they heard him.

However, Li Xing’s fleet of warships from the European server were closing in.

True to their words, they didn't do anything excessive. They took out their telescopes to watch and would applaud occasionally as though they were one of the spectators.

Later, players from both servers started exchanging local delicacies. Some even played some background music on the channel for Tao Wu and the Demonic God's battle. They looked like they were having a lot of fun.

Lu Wu facepalmed at the lazy attitude of the players. How preposterous!

Watching Tao Wu and the Demonic God fight instead of leveling up! Can they be any less promising?

The players' actions angered Lu Wu so much that he slammed the ground with disappointment plastered across his face.

...

The Sea King was really upset as he probed out of the water.

He planned to use the Death Clan, who was now scattered all over the ocean, to invade Beiqi. However, all of them were wiped out in just half a day without his supervision.

He could not accept his fate, especially after spotting Tao Wu.

He knew what Tao Wu was like. Even though that monster was a true terror of the Void Ocean, it didn't do much except sleep throughout the year and occasionally woke up to eat. What the hell is wrong with it today that it went on a rampage and killed the entire Death Clan?

The Sea King believed that there was no way Tao Wu despised the Death Clan on his own.

The scale of the battle was much larger when the Death Clan fought against the Mu Te Sea Clan. So how come it was nowhere to be seen back then?

It was at this moment that the sea boiled up again. When the Sea King saw this, he quickly dodged.

After he had evaded Tao Wu, a giant red figure leaped up from the surface and grabbed Tao Wu's tail.

Tao Wu started to struggle and gave a loud cry.

Nonetheless, the Demonic God didn't care about this. He grabbed its tail and whirled it for a full circle before throwing it to the right fiercely.

The flabbergasted Sea King who thought he evaded the attack was once again hit by Tao Wu.

“Bravo, bravo!” the onlookers were roaring with applause.

“Nice!”

Chapter 224: Death And Calamity

The Sea King was utterly flabbergasted as he was sent flying again.

As far as he could remember, Tao Wu’s power was second to none in the Void Ocean, but it was now being punched by someone else.

Who is that red figure? The power he possesses is frightening! The Sea King exclaimed to himself.

Nevertheless, that was no longer important. Staying alive was now the most vital goal.

He wanted no part in this scary battle. He might be squashed to death if he participated in it.

Turning around, he jumped into the water and quickly dove deep toward the seabed of the Abyss.

He decided to set aside his plan of invading Beiqi for the time being. After all, he had the Death Abyss, which was an inexhaustible source of creatures, as a countermeasure. Thus, his Army of Death would take shape again very soon.

To the Sea King, it was just a matter of time when Beiqi would be his. As for Beiqi’s forces, he would exterminate them in the most brutal way possible.

As he thought of this, a cruel smile appeared on his face.

He looked forward to that day...

...

To the players, the Sea King’s disappearance put a damper on the battle between the Demonic God and Tao Wu.

The players were disappointed that the Sea King didn’t come out for a good beating. It was outrageous! Did he even have respect for them?

Anyway, the speculation carried on.

The battle between Tao Wu and the Demonic God lasted for another two hours before it ended.

During the final phase of the battle, Tao Wu seemed like it had succumbed to the Demonic God. While enduring blows, it managed to catch a spiritual fish similar to the one that the Demonic God had fished, and only then the latter stopped punching. He took the red spiritual fish and swept away with glee.

Meanwhile, Tao Wu floated on the water and let out sounds as though it was crying.

After it stopped its depressing cries, the humongous Tao Wu dove once more into the sea.

The players were exuberant as they witnessed this epic battle. Even though the battle was over, the discussion was not.

They still sat under the moonlight feasting and drinking while chatting away. It was a lively scene.

Lu Wu was observing them from behind the scenes and was at a loss for words.

Didn't you guys promise to work hard, level up, and earn soul coins to take care of me?

You guys have changed. You're no longer as diligent as you were before.

Alas, the melancholy!

Although the Death Clan's control over the sea was relinquished, they still had an endless army at the seabed of the Abyss. Thus, Lu Wu believed that the battle was not over.

However, the players did not level up with enthusiasm after their gathering at night had ended. In fact, they had their focus entirely directed toward this battle.

Posts analyzing the battle were everywhere.

There were even talented players who drew a humorous comic about the Demonic God and Tao Wu's battle, which even earned them a good amount of soul coins.

Lu Wu could not stand seeing the players this carefree.

As the creator, he decided to unleash the ultimate move that he had long prepared for.

The information for counter attacking the Death Clan was released.

[Game Update: Death and Calamity]:

The invasion of Beiqi had the King of the Mu Te Sea Nation, Mu Zhiguang, battling to his death in the war. The Sea King barely made it out alive, but he has not given up his evil plan of colonizing Beiqi. He was willing to embrace death and therefore became the Ruler of Death, releasing the Death Clan buried deep in the Abyss.

Endless kinds of Creatures of Death will be unleashing their terror on the Void Ocean. This sea next to our land awaits our conquest. History shall propel and the battle shall begin once more!

[Update Details]:

Update #1: Complete Launch of the Prestige System.

Details: This is not a cross-server event. While the existing Prestige System remains unchanged, killing creatures from the Death Clan only awards 10% of prestige points.

Update #2: The Launching of the Guild Station System.

Details: After this update, guild stations at the Liuli Coast and the borders of the Mansion of the Dead shall be available for auction.

Station Details: The space within the guild station and the world is separated. There will be a portal placed outside, while the inside will be used for the development of the guild.

Specific Features:

Assembly Hall (Core): The core building of the guild station. Decides the maximum level of a guild. After upgrading, it expands the area of the station's land and improves the features of various buildings. Contribution points are required to upgrade. (Contribution points are earned when members of a guild donate spiritual material, spiritual ore, or any other valuable materials to the station keeper!)

Tavern (Entertainment): Entertainment for members of the guild, alcoholic beverages provided within, purchasable with soul coins. Free drinks available every Sunday. When the size of the tavern increases as the guild levels up, more entertainment facilities will be installed.

Guild Warehouse: Guild members can store their personal items here (the initial storage space is twice the size of a personal storage space).

Residential Area: This area provides the accommodation for the guild's NPC (initial accommodation space of five people).

Training Area (Important): Guild members can use their contribution points to exchange specialized cultivational skills:

Specialized Attack Skill (1%): Increases damage by 1% (attack and spells combined)

Specialized Defense Skill (1%): Increases defense by 1% (endurance and vitality combined)

Specialized Speed Skill (1%): Increases attack speed and movement speed by 1%

Lessons for Special Fighting Specialization.

Lessons for Special Mechanical Specialization.

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Note: The higher the percentage of the specialized level, the more the amount of contribution points required.

Astronomical Pavillion: Guild members can spend 300 contribution points for a random ten hour blessing (limited to once a day). After leveling up, it increases buffer types and chances of getting rare buffers.

Additional features in the guild's later phase: Processing Workshop, Equipment Workshop, Playground, Farm, Spiritual Field, Hall of Fame, Guild Shop, etc.

150 stations are available at the moment, where the winner of the Hundred Fortress Hegemony City of Beiqi will be awarded a free station. The remaining 149 stations will be put up for auction and the Tournament's City Mayor will have the priority for auctioning.

Update #3: New Shopping Items.

Sapling of Death (Level 1): Can be fertilized with the bodies of the Death Clan, bears a one-time Death Warrior. After reaching the maximum of Level 100, it grows to a Death Tree Demon (bears fruits of spiritual material).

Price: 1,000 soul coins

Wings of Death (Level 1): Tool for flying. Bodies of the Death Clan can be used to redeem death points at the Battle Online Management Hall in the Mansion of the Dead where the NPC is stationed to promote growth (flying enabled after Level 10).

Price: 10,000 soul coins

Death Coffin (Level 1): Can be activated offline. The player's character will be in an idle state and can earn little amounts of experience. Bodies of the Death Clan can be used to redeem death points at the Battle Online Management Hall in the Mansion of the Dead where the NPC is stationed. The points can be used to level up, and with each level up the amount of experience will also increase slightly.

Price: 1,000 soul coins

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The game update made everyone go nuts.

Not only had the long-awaited flying equipment launched, but also an offline, idle state equipment that aided in leveling up. As for the major guilds, the most attractive part was the multifunction guild stations.

Wu Guoyi, Ye Xue'er, Gu Yu, and some of the other guild leaders were ineligible for the purchasing privileges because of the City of Beiqi tournament. Their regret could not be put into words.

They did not expect guild stations to have so many functions.

Not only could they learn specialized skills, but there was also an astronomical pavilion that provided a ten hour buffer. These were all great for the development of a guild, and other facilities made them even more envious.

Due to this, the official forum of Battle Online became lively. Everybody was discussing the new information.

Commander_Of_Demolition_Officers: "The guild stations are awesome, but it seems like I don't need to participate in the auction. Sigh~ I feel like competing with you guys! That's so sad!"

Strike_Gold replied to Commander_Of_Demolition_Officers: "(bleeding knife emoji)"

Ye_Xueer_Is_The_Cutest replied to Commander_Of_Demolition_Officers: "(bleeding knife emoji)"

Invincible_Loneliness replied to Commander_Of_Demolition_Officers: "(bleeding knife emoji)"

Watermelon_Taro: "My hands are shaking. This means the fight between Tao Wu and the Demonic God yesterday wasted us a good amount of death points. Now I feel like strangling them!"

Crayon_Shinchan replied to Watermelon_Taro: “You didn’t say so when you were spectating and applauding yesterday (laughing emoji)!”

A_Large_Wolfdog: “No one dared to go to the Void Ocean back then, but now I think the Death Clan is at the brink of extinction. Please take care of the new inhabitants and refrain from endangering them (laughing emoji)!”

Xueli_The_Strongest: “How careless of the Death Clan to offend the game developers! The latest update is the proof that they want them extinct. That’s so evil, but I like it (laughing emoji)!”

Junior_Captain_Of_Demolition_Officers: “My hands are shaking, too. Now that I think of it, yesterday’s epic battle was a complete waste! I’ve lost at least a few hundred million death points! What a pain! If I had all those death points, I could have grown a world tree! I could have afforded a pair of wings that could take me around the world and also a supreme coffin that could level me up whenever I lie in it (exasperated emoji)!”

Crayon_Shinchan replied to Junior_Captain_Of_Demolition_Officers: “Why don’t you ask the boss of Battle Online to give you his address and force him to give you an official god-transformation cheat code (laughing emoji)?”

Peppa_Boar: “I strongly condemn the wasteful acts of Tao Wu and the Demonic God. Please make up for the players’ loss (laughing emoji)!”

Lost8kToOnlineDating: “Yesterday you enjoyed the show, but today you regret it. This is definitely referring to you guys! Don’t fret though, let us cheer for our good old enemy the Sea King to produce more Creatures of Death. Please seek revenge as soon as possible, because the evil forces of the players can’t wait anymore. They’re bursting (laughing emoji)!”

A_Mammoth: “Good luck Sea King +1”

Assassin_Creed: “Good luck Sea King +2”

Grateful_Person_Who_Drinks: “Good luck Sea King +3”

...

Everybody realized that they started to like their old enemy, the Sea King. He was so generous to give them such a huge gift.

The Void Ocean once again became a favorite destination for the players.

Before that, it had creatures swarming around it and it was hard to survive there. Moreover, going out to sea had little harvests. It was all different now, though. To the players, the Death Clan was a treasure and they absolutely loved them.

Under the temptation of great rewards, the players were preparing to head out to sea. The Sea King probably hadn't planned for that.

One hour after the update, loads of guild ships departed for the Void Ocean.

However, almost all of the Death Clan were slaughtered by Tao Wu and the Demonic God. The newly appeared Creatures of Death were simply not enough to share amongst the players.

There were some guilds who even fought over the allocation of the Creatures of Death during extermination operations.

Everybody was upset. Many of them strongly requested in the forum to improve the Sea King's skills and the reproductivity of the Death Clan. How could they be so weak?

The players' requests amused Lu Wu.

For now, he wanted to expand the area of Beiqi's land and the Void Ocean was a major problem. Initially, he wanted to wipe out the Death Clan before expanding. But now, not only was this problem solved, even the players were not happy about the power of their opponent.

He could not fulfill the player's requests, however. It all depended on the Sea King himself.

Anyhow, the passion of the players was exactly what he needed. As he saw the soul coins grow exponentially, even Lu Wu wanted to cheer for the Sea King.

"Good luck, Sea King!"

Chapter 225: The Meeting Of The Seven Nations

In the East of the Void Ocean, deep under the center zone of the Kuilong Ocean.

The surrounding water was glowing with soft blue rays which lit up the underwater utopia.

Seven majestic statues surrounded the venue, each of them holding a weapon while looking downward.

There stood a figure in front of each statue.

A figure emerged at the center of the statues. He held an ancient book and slowly stepped onto the altar.

“The meeting of the Eight Sea Nations hereby commences. Prove your identities!” the elder who spoke had seaweed growing all over his body, as well as seashells and other barnacles sticking on his back, and he reeked of rotten flesh.

“King of Tian Yu Sea Nation, Tian Kun!” the man in front of the elder shaman raised the ice-blue spear in his hand, followed by a roar from the sculpture behind him.

“King of Xiao Yu Sea Nation, Lan You!”

“King of Hei Yu Sea Nation, Hei Sui!”

“King of Lan Di Sea Nation, Lan Hushan!”

...

Those who were present reported their origins and used their clan’s holy artifact and spirit of their respective nations to prove their identities.

After everyone had verified themselves, the elder shaman slowly raised his head, his yellowish eyes scanning the surroundings.

“Where’s the king of the Mu Te Sea Nation?”

“Elder shaman, the Mu Te Sea Nation was destroyed long ago!” looking at the elder shaman, Tian Kun spoke with respect.

“Gone?” the elder shaman looked astonished. He then shook his head, crossing out a line on his ancient book.

“Fine. From now on, the meeting shall be known as the Meeting of the Seven Nations.”

After that, the elder shaman raised his head again.

“Can someone tell me how Mu Te Sea Nation fell? As the leader of the Eight Nations and ruler of the ocean, how could there be enemies they were no match for?”

“They were marked by the Death Clan in the abyss of the Void Ocean. The arrogant old king tried to fight Tao Wu but lost his life. No one else could defend against the Death Clan, and naturally they were demolished!” the king of the Hei Yu Nation seemed dissatisfied with the Mu Te Sea Nation.

“Why didn’t you send help?” the elder shaman asked again.

“The Mu Te Sea Nation thought they were the strongest when they conquered the ocean. They had no respect for anyone and bullied us frequently. We didn’t have a reason to help. Moreover, it wouldn’t have worked unless all the seven nations sent aid with our forces combined, for the Death Clan is immortal!” the king of the Hei Yu Nation spat coldly.

“All of you must understand that the Eight Nations work as one. We are the descendants of the Nether Sea Nation, and even though we have been split into eight factions, that fact does not change. Have you forgotten what happened?” the elder shaman looked furious, his body trembling as he spoke.

Everybody went silent hearing the elder shaman’s words.

Of course they knew this part of history well.

A few million years ago, the great Nether Sea Nation that dominated the Void, Kuilong, and Jade Spring oceans was the ancestor to the current Eight Nations.

Endless war and expansion caused the Nether Sea Nation to split into eight.

Even though they had never experienced the events, it was clearly written in the historical records in their clan. Everything was exactly as the elder shaman had described.

“Elder shaman, we have come here today as the ancestral teachings have instructed us. May we know the agenda of the meeting today?” feeling the shift in the atmosphere, Tian Kun asked the elder shaman again with respect.

“This meeting is held once every 500,000 years to remind the Eight Nations about our ancestral teachings. It serves to unite all of us and recover the power of the ancient Nether Sea Nation. But now, I don’t think it is necessary anymore!”

The elder shaman’s expression was ice cold, “From what I see, all of you have long forgotten the glory we once had. You have acted selfishly. If that is the case, today’s agenda will be changed to the unity of the seven nations, and the title of the nation shall be the Nether Sea!”

All seven of them were shocked upon hearing him. Some of them seemed to disapprove of the idea.

“I am not discussing this matter with you. Since the Mu Te Sea Nation has fallen, we won’t stand a chance to recover the entire Nether Sea if we don’t work together. Thus, today’s agenda is about the unity of the seven nations and the gathering of all our forces!”

“Then, elder shaman, who will be the king of the Nether Sea Nation?” Hei Sui asked with a cold expression.

This was also precisely what the other kings wanted to know.

Uniting the nations was not a big problem. They were not the strongest force in their respective regions so teaming up would bring them benefits as well. However, the biggest question was, who would be their new joint king?

If someone other than themselves became the king, the influence and power of their nations would be at the new ruler’s beck and call. Nobody would ever agree to this.

“Who will be king... what does that have to do with you?” the elder shaman sneered.

“Old man, are you thinking of becoming the king yourself? We respect you only because you are the elder shaman of our mother nation, but from what I see, you don’t want our respect anymore!” as Hei Sui spoke, his spirit behind him pointed its huge sword toward the shaman.

The situation was tense, but none of the other six kings moved, nor did they stop them.

They did not know how strong the elder shaman was. They were not clear about the shaman’s background either. Now that a hasty person was willing to take his chances, it was a good time to observe.

The elder shaman laughed. Just as he was about to speak, a figure slowly fell from the sky and entered the region. He then looked around curiously.

“My friends, ocean exploration is really fun. Guess what I’ve found!” as he was speaking, the strange man started climbing the large statue.

“From my experience, these statues have a long history. They definitely cost a fortune if they are sold as antiques. Sadly, nobody keeps antiques in this world,” as he spoke, the man swam forward once again.

Currently, in his livestream channel.

[67 Days of Ocean Exploration: I Won’t Level up If I Don’t Find the Inheritance!]

Host: Cloth_Is_Not_Mad

Rebar_Man: “Bro, look down, some glowing man-like creatures are below you. Are you blind!?”

OnePunchMan: "Are you blind? Look down! There are creatures! I think you are close to finding the inheritance. Quick, go and talk to them, and you will soon get the One Slash Health Inheritance!"

Sword_23: "Bro, you've definitely found the inheritance! This place is obviously a relic! There must be a legendary treasure there somewhere!"

Horse_Frozen_River: "Look down, stupid streamer, look down, quick! All you do is show off every day, and when you actually find the inheritance, you only focus on antiques! Low quality streamers like you should be blocked!"

...

The commotion in the forums attracted Cloth_Is_Not_Mad's attention. He looked downward and saw a few pairs of eyes looking back at him with expressions of astonishment.

As he saw the figures clad in shining armor, he was stunned, too.

As the region was glowing in warm blue light, he really hadn't noticed the living creatures below him. If it were not for the players' messages, he would have looked more into the statues and made up some historic story for his viewers.

Immediately, the player's eyes started to sparkle. He swam downward and landed beside the elder shaman.

"And you are?" the elder shaman was amazed.

This region was ruled by the seven nations. Nobody would dare to interrupt a meeting like this as they would have to face the wrath of the seven nations. That was why the elder shaman was quite confused to see this person.

"What are you guys doing here?" the player asked excitedly.

"We are holding a Meeting of the Seven Nations to choose the new king!"

The elder shaman did not know much about this guy, but he still decided to be honest. After all, it was not a secret. Since they had decided to return as the reunited Nether Sea Nation, the outcome of the meeting was to be announced to the world anyway.

The player's heart tightened. He realized that luck was on his side. Moreover, it was the Meeting of the Seven Nations.

Is it that any player who encounters this incident will unlock a hidden mission to inherit the seven nations and become king?

Instantly, there was a wonderful fantasy playing in his mind.

“Do you think I’m a good candidate?” he asked.

When the seven kings heard him, their faces turned ashen.

Who the hell is this guy, barging in and asking to be a king in such an important meeting? He had absolutely no respect for them.

The elder shaman was also processing his words. After carefully observing him, he asked, “And who exactly are you?”

“Me? I’m a player!” he answered matter-of-factly.

In the livestream channel.

Rebar_Man: “Idiot, can’t you tell him you’re a Beiqi citizen? How would they know what a player is? How is it that a terrible streamer like you is still not banned yet? You always humiliate our IQ!”

OnePunchMan: “I’ve reported your stream for humiliating our IQ!”

Sword_23: “A low quality streamer like you expects us to tip you soul coins? You’re better off dead! I suggest a permanent ban!”

99_Days_Without_Smoking: “I’m better off watching the ringmaster challenging the sea creatures. Learn from them, you trash streamer!”

...

As he saw the players’ angry comments and just realizing his mistake, replied, “I’m part of the Beiqi Army!”

Now everyone at the scene looked at him with even more skeptical gazes.

To them, Beiqi was not too far nor too close to them. Why would someone from the Beiqi Army come here and ask about becoming the king? After all, the power of the seven nations combined was far more than a single Beiqi force.

“A part of the Beiqi Army? What business do you have here?” Hei Sui’s expression was turning cold.

Cloth_Is_Not_Mad was at a loss of words. After some thought, he spoke softly, “To activate my mission!”

Slap!

Hei Sui did not hesitate this time. He slapped him so hard that he died on the spot.

As the stream turned black and white, the comments section got even rowdier.

OnePunchMan: "What a relief, that idiot host finally died..."

Sword_23: "Another player died while trying to find the inheritance. You're not alone, hahaha!"

Rebar_Man: "Nevertheless, even though his actions were stupid, he was lucky enough to find so many ruins. If it wasn't for luck, nobody would even watch his stream."

99_Days_Without_Smoking: "Brother, you make a good point +1"

...

After the incident of the stranger's interruption ended, the atmosphere grew serious once more.

Choosing the king for the seven nations was no small matter. They wanted to know what the elder shaman meant when he said that it had nothing to do with them.

As though he had interpreted their confusion, the elder shaman stomped his leg and a figure emerged from the underwater altar.

The figure was a young, good-looking teenager. He had a distinct feature, which were his golden eyes. The runes in his eyes kept spinning, giving off a sense of nobility.

"He is the immediate descendant of the Nether Sea royals. Since the seven nations are once again united, we shall appoint him as the king!"

The golden-eyed teen smiled devilishly upon hearing him. He seemed content with the decision.

"I disagree!"

"I disagree!"

...

Everyone else immediately voiced their objections.

Even though the kings were the descendants of the Nether Sea Nation, they would never agree to work together and serve the royals again.

"This is not up to all of you!" the golden-eyed teen smiled and raised his hand. Golden pillars appeared and surrounded them, locking them within.

"The Oceanic Seal of the Nether Sea Nation!"

The seven of them were appalled upon seeing this.

They had only heard about the Oceanic Seal in ancient literature. It was said that it had power second to none and was a holy artifact of the nation. Anyone who had not reached the peak of the Ghost Emperor Realm would be incinerated by it.

That was why they panicked when they saw the Oceanic Seal.

"This is your last chance! Pledge your allegiance to me now, or I will kill you and take over your Sea Nation!"

There was no objection this time. Everyone's face was pale.

Anybody who dared to voice out their opinion in this situation would definitely be killed as a warning to the rest. Therefore, they could not complain, even though they were unwilling to do so in the first place.

"The royal blood of the Nether Sea flows in my body. My talent in the future is immeasurable! Under my reign, we will recover the power we once had as the dominion of the three greatest oceans. We can even exceed our achievements in the past. This is our ancestral teachings and it is also the edict of the Sea God!" the lad spoke with great anticipation.

Hearing the young man, the elder shaman nodded with satisfaction and looked at the seven kings.

"Just as our king has said, if you all are willing to obey him, we shall unite as one and become more powerful. All of you will become lords and even though there might be a dilution in power, the oceanic area which you'll rule over shall be far larger. What is it that you are not content with?"

"I shall obey!" the king of the Sha Shui Nation who stood at the very end suddenly spoke.

"You... good-for-nothing fool! No wonder the territory of the Sha Shui Nation has shrunk over time. What a loser!" Hei Sui casted a cold glance at the man who stood at the very end.

Originally, he thought that if everyone remained silent, that the descendant of the Nether Sea would not be able to do anything to them. However, someone had actually already succumbed to the little lad. He was furious.

“I shall also obey!” another person spoke.

“I shall also obey!”

The kings of Sha Shui, Lan Di, and Xiao Yu had decided to yield, leaving the other four kings flat-footed.

They immediately sensed that something was wrong. However, three nations have now yielded, and their combined power was rather strong. If the four of them did not form an alliance by themselves, they could only walk down the path of obedience with the others.

“You won’t lose anything. Stop being stubborn. Only under the king’s reign can we become stronger, and annex the forces that once had no respect for you!” the elder shaman berated at this crucial moment.

Facing such a situation, the four of them were in a dilemma. Their complexions were ashen. They didn’t know which option they should choose.

The golden-eyed teen raised his hand. The golden wristbands on his wrist shined, and four golden rays engulfed the four of them.

“This is your last chance!”

“I shall obey!”

“I shall obey!”

Another two of them decided to yield.

Only Hei Sui and Tian Kun did not speak.

Their faces were as pale white as pearls as they gazed at the rest of them with disappointment.

It was all over. They had no other choice but to obey. Otherwise, they would die in vain and their nations would be handed over.

As the golden-eyed teen saw Hei Sui and Tian Kun lower their heads, he started to laugh.

“You should have obeyed earlier...”

Before he could finish his sentence, a black halo sped in from afar and pierced through the golden curtain, stabbing into the golden-eyed teen’s heart.

"I, the King of the Mu Te Sea Nation, had yet to come. How could you choose a new king in my absence? Did you think that I was of no importance!?"

Chapter 226: Please Return, Great Demon King

The kings of the seven nations and the elder shaman were flabbergasted when a black figure walked past the golden pillars.

As the Sea King reached out his hand, the halo which was pierced into the golden-eyed teen's heart returned to his hand.

He then walked to the thunderstruck golden-eyed teen who was twitching, reaching out his hand to the latter's face.

"Young man, out of all the things you could learn, you chose to imitate the grownups by trying to become the boss. You're too young for that!"

As he spoke, the Sea King slashed the halo across the teen's neck. Golden blood dripped from it, and the teen fell to the ground. The rotating runes in his eyes instantly stopped rotating.

"Who... are... you!?" the pupils of the elder shaman shrunk as he asked through clenched teeth.

"Who am I?" the Sea King looked toward the elder shaman and smiled.

Roar!

A huge roar was heard from behind, and a spirit from the Mu Te Sea which was larger than all the other seven statues appeared.

"The Mu Te Sea Nation!"

The moment they saw the statue, the kings who were present immediately recognized the visitor's identity.

"So the Mu Te Sea Nation hasn't fallen?" the elder shaman's face went grim.

The reason he changed the agenda of the meeting last minute to unite the Eight Nations was solely because of the fall of the Mu Te Sea Nation.

This was because the Mu Te Sea Nation was always a pain in his neck.

The influence of the Mu Te Sea Nation was great. Moreover, every generation of king of the Mu Te Sea Nation was very powerful. It was easy for the Eight Nations to unite, however, seizing the throne would not be that simple.

The most possible outcome was that the Mu Te Sea Nation would annex the seven nations and become the overlord. The illusory Nether Sea Nation would never be restored to its former glory.

When he heard that the Mu Te Sea Nation had fallen, he was actually joyous rather than mad, and planned to launch the unification plan.

Who knew that it would end before they had even started.

Looking at the lifeless golden-eyed teen, the elder shaman was trembling internally.

He felt that he had let down the old king.

“How dare you kill your master, you traitor! How dare you come here when you smell so strongly of death!” the elder shaman yelled furiously, casting a fierce look toward the Sea King.

“Did I kill my master? He is your master, not ours. Right?” the Sea King smiled while looking at the rest.

Although the others did not say anything, their expressions made it clear that his words were undeniable.

“You... all of you...” the elder shaman knew the situation was beyond salvation. Nevertheless, he was still unwilling to admit it.

He knew why the Sea King had come here. He would never yield to the Sea King, even though the golden-eyed teen was dead. At that moment, his expression was somber as he spoke, “Is it that you want to be the king? From what I know, the Mu Te Sea Clan was annihilated long ago. Do you even have an army with you?”

Upon hearing these words, the Sea King laughed mockingly, “My army is not any weaker than the army of the seven nations!”

Just when he finished his sentence, countless black figures shrouded the entire area. The Creatures of Death were closing in, and they came in huge droves.

“The Death Clan!” the elder shaman’s eyes widened.

Not only the elder shaman, but everyone there was also astounded. They could not believe their eyes.

Only the Ruler of Death could order those creatures around. Those Creatures of Death did not have any consciousness at all. All they knew was to kill and devour. However, now they were under the Sea King's control.

"How did you do it? Where is the Ruler of Death?" Hei Sui, who was standing not far away, asked with furrowed brows.

"That's none of your business. I'll also give you all a choice. Surrender... or die!" the aura of the Sea King started to grow.

Even though he was battered and bruised, he was once the overlord of the Void Ocean, hence his overbearance was very much still present.

"I will never agree with this!" the elder shaman immediately expressed his stand.

"Why would I need your consent, you old geezer? Your time is up!" the Sea King hurled a punch toward the elder shaman.

The elder shaman snorted and closed the book in his hand. A golden curtain appeared in front of him.

Dong!

His fist landed on the curtain, causing ripples to show, but not being able to shatter it.

Just as the elder shaman breathed a sigh of relief, he saw the Sea King smiling wickedly at him.

The aura of death surrounded the Sea King's fist, passed through the golden curtain and enclosed the elder shaman's body. The barnacles and seaweed on his body immediately wilted and turned to gray dust. He felt that his life was being sucked out continuously.

He wanted to struggle, only to find that he had been bound to his spot. He could not resist as he aged bit by bit.

Under the corruption of the death aura, the elder shaman who was already weak could not take it anymore. His flesh disintegrated and only a pile of bones was left.

Everybody was at a loss for words when they saw what happened.

They knew they were in big trouble this time.

Especially after the Sea King showed his immense power.

In comparison, the golden-eyed teen was still young and needed their guidance. He had also promised to make them lords. The Sea King who had absolute control might not need to do so.

“Choose now... I’m giving you one chance!” the Sea King faced the seven people and smiled.

“What if we refuse?” Hei Sui asked with a grim expression.

“Die!”

“Then I surrender!” Hei Sui’s words surprised everyone else.

They were no stranger to Hei Sui’s attitude. He even lasted until the very end before he had no choice but to submit to the golden-eyed teen. No one expected him to succumb so easily to the Sea King.

“A wise choice!” the Sea King gave a thumbs up to Hei Sui.

“I surrender, too, but what do you want us to do?” Tian Kun asked as well.

“Invade Beiqi!” at the mention of Beiqi, the Sea King’s eyes sparkled coldly.

Ever since his conflict with Beiqi, he realized that everything was not going smoothly for him. His fruits were stolen, his precious jewels robbed, and the force of Beiqi always harassed his subordinates in his territory on the sea. They had even annihilated his navy that he once prided himself on. He swore to seek his revenge, even if Mu Zhiguang’s dying wish was for him to refrain from doing so.

He swore that he would seek revenge and never forgive what they did, even if it imprisoned him in the endless Abyss. True to his words, he acted as such.

The Meeting of the Eight Nations was another opportunity for him.

Now that he possesses the power of the Ruler of Death and controls a terrifying Army of Death, if the seven nations decided to join hands with him, there would be no reason for him not to seek revenge. Even if that Lie Shan makes a move again, he would not be afraid.

“Beiqi? Beiqi is a nation on land. What’s the point of taking them down? It has no benefit to our development in the future!” Tian Kun appeared doubtful.

“I am the new king of the nation. My wish is the nation’s wish! I don’t need you to understand why. You just need to obey!” the Sea King glared at Tian Kun, the overbearance on him enveloping forward.

Facing the tyrannical Sea King, the other kings groaned in their hearts. The Sea King was much harder to serve as compared to the golden-eyed teen.

They could already imagine what would happen to them when the Sea King gains control of the seven nations. They would all become his servants.

“Swear your allegiance to me now and from today onward, refer to me as your king. The new nation’s title shall be the Mu Te Sea Nation!”

As soon as he said that, the expressions of the kings who were present changed.

They would not object if the name was changed to the Nether Sea. After all, it was their original name, and it brought them ancient glory. There was no humiliation in doing so. However, to change the nation’s name to Mu Te was straight-up colonization.

“Swear your allegiance to me!” the Sea King stepped forward, and the golden halo flew from his hand, rotating above the seven of them.

This was his gift to Mu Zhiguang.

To restore the Mu Te Sea Nation was the deceased man’s dream that he had been chasing after his whole life.

He died for him, so he would create a brand new nation to mourn his death.

The Sea King never cared about the two words, Mu and Te. However, he remembered the words from that day onward.

“The King of the Mu Te Sea Nation!” the cowardly king of the Sha Shui Nation couldn’t take it anymore as he immediately kneeled.

“And the rest of you!” the Sea King glared at the remaining six.

“The King of Mu Te!”

When the rest realized what was happening, they chose to make a compromise, even though they were unwilling to do so. They kneeled and pledged their loyalty to the Sea King.

“Hahaha! Good!”

The Sea King laughed heartily while his Army of Death buzzed frantically behind him, frightening the seven kings.

They were worried about their own future.

...

The players were still complaining in the official forum.

Watermelon_Taro: "Are you all rabid dogs? It wasn't easy for me to find a Creature of Death in the Void Ocean! Four ships just barged in and snatched it from me! Do you guys not have any fucking manners?"

Xueli_The_Strongest: "Recently the price for the Death Clan skyrocketed. There are rich people everywhere collecting their bodies on the Liuli Coast. What a scene!"

Crayon_Shinchan: "You guys who are craving corpses remind me of a malignant player (laughing emoji)!"

A_Large_Wolfdog replied to Crayon_Shinchan: "You are the malignant player now (grinding teeth emoji)!"

Crayon_Shinchan: "Since you've stuck out your head, I'll have to pat it again... (laughing emoji)"

Lost8kToOnlineDating: "Stupid Sea King. I strongly request the developers to buff up the Sea King!"

Crayon_Shinchan: "I have an idea. Why not we invite Hu He the Great Demon King back, so that he can enlarge our death seals (laughing emoji)!?"

...

The entire forum fell into a brief silence after Crayon_Shinchan posted that message.

Now that the Death Clan was so scarce, it had become a problem, and many players were moved by his suggestion.

After some discussion, the players banded together as one and sent Hu He the Great Demon King a message, which guaranteed that they would not kill him nor backstab him in the future. They pleaded that he come back to Beiqi and make a seal. They were even willing to raise funds for him to do so.

Hu He who was in the European server opened the message, fell silent for three seconds, and deleted it without any hesitation.

"Bastards! How dare they use the seal as a facade to torture me? I won't believe you even if you show me the stats, you ungrateful demons!" the Great Demon King said through gritted teeth.

Then he glanced at the European server players who were surrounding the resurrection point.

“Don’t think that I’m scared of you. Wait till I’ve refined Hiderigami, and we’ll see about that!”

The European server players raised their heads to look at him for a brief moment, then continued to chat, play chess, and eat.

Chapter 227: Transform Into A Human

The Beiqi players felt helpless as Hu He refused to return no matter what they did.

They could not comprehend why Hu He, the Great Demon King, had suddenly changed. He used to love digging in every nook and cranny for seals. Was the other server really that fun?

Since Hu He was unwilling to lend them a helping hand, the players could only count on themselves. Since it was tough to capture Creatures of Death on the surface of the ocean, they had to go underwater.

An abundance of players started utilizing spiritual material to cultivate the underwater ability of their spiritual ships in preparation for their underwater hunt for the Death Clan.

The players kept having awesome ideas. They actually managed to invent submarine warships. With these subs, they started heading toward the deep sea and managed to intercept Creatures of Death that were yet to float to the surface of the water.

Consequently, the players who failed to cultivate submarine warships were not happy. It almost led to an internal conflict among the players.

Lu Wu couldn’t do much about it. The new expansion pack had a rich array of activities, perhaps too vast in variety that the players were now practically lusting for the Death Clan. This led to waves after waves of protests in the forum, requesting to strengthen the Sea King.

Even the authorization process could not keep up with their pace.

...

That day, Lu Wu was cultivating with Bei Li as she was looking at him with her full attention.

“Is it done? I think it has reached the limit!” he exclaimed while opening his eyes and looking inside himself. The energy inside him had condensed into a thick sludge.

“You are done!” Bei Li smiled and her eyes crinkled. She stretched out her arm and waved. Then, the soul power within the artifact overflowed and nuzzled its way into Lu Wu’s body.

The moment the soul power and Lu Wu’s bodily energy came into contact, an expression of ecstasy appeared on his face.

Once his soul power was fully charged, his body started to transform as well.

After months of cultivation, Lu Wu finally arrived at the moment that he had been waiting for. He could finally transform into a human again.

He had reached the required realm, and the only thing left was the right amount of soul power to bring about the change of the state of the energy within him.

Currently, Lu Wu had all the soul power he wanted, so he could spend it on himself lavishly.

His body underwent consecutive changes due to the soul power as he steadily transformed back into his original man-like state.

When Lu Wu felt his body bloating and expanding, he yelled for Bei Li to stop his intake of soul power.

Once the fluctuation of energy came to a halt, he gently rose up on his feet and clenched his fists. He felt energy pumping in his veins and his skin had never been more delicate and smooth. He even had a well-sculpted body with defined muscle tones.

He had acquired all of the basic skills of a Suan Ni in its default form. He had reached the Ghost Commander Peak and was one step away from entering the Ghost General Realm.

It feels great to be handsome... no, it feels great to be strong!

One million soul coins was money well spent!

Lu Wu turned around cheerfully to find Bei Li with her feet planted on the ground, her hands completely covering her eyes.

Lu Wu was stunned. He glanced downward and immediately darted like a bolt of lightning toward his wardrobe.

He was so used to running around naked for the past few months that he forgot about wearing clothes.

After Lu Wu got dressed, he returned to the room and saw Bei Li still fixed on the spot with her hands on her eyes. He could not help but let out a sigh, "Little Li, I have clothes on now!"

Bei Li slowly removed her hands from her face, revealing her flushed cheeks so red that they resembled a tomato.

At that moment, Bei Li felt like she was traumatized. It was a horrifying scene for a child like her. She could not believe what she actually saw...

I'm going blind! I'm going blind!

Lu Wu was about to respond when his mobile phone rang. He could only give her an apologetic glance before heading to the sofa to answer it.

"Hello, is this Mr. Lu speaking? I am a representative from the Jie De Corporation. I would like to discuss compatibility issues of your game."

"Oh, incompatibility. I can't do anything about that. The optimization of this wretched game sucks. I am struggling with this matter, too," after he got to know the caller's identity, Lu Wu replied irritably.

The Jie De Corporation had called plenty of times prior to this in hopes of a negotiation with him, but Lu Wu turned all of them down.

In Lu Wu's eyes, their actions were no different than steps taken to drive him into a dead end.

If it weren't for the loyalty of Battle Online's fanbase, he would have been brought down by the Jie De Corporation's devious actions. Thus, Lu Wu had little to no respect for them.

"Mr. Lu, I think there must be a misunderstanding between us. This time, I humbly request your presence in a meeting regarding a business collaboration. We are willing to provide you twice the money that the Black Sea Corporation has offered you in order to clear up this misunderstanding."

On the other end of the call, the business representative was drenched in sweat.

As a consequence of the problems of Battle Online, not only did they lose their market value, they also received a huge amount of negative reviews.

Back then, the executives dismissed Lu Wu's suggestions and decided to carry on stubbornly in the heat of the moment. They originally thought that even if they had willingly given up their local market, they would still have a variety of international markets for them to choose from. In fact, they were right, until the European server of Battle Online was launched.

Once again, they were drowned with waves after waves of subscription cancellations and negative reviews.

Finally, the executives at the Jie De Corporation couldn't stand it any longer. To the players who bought their gaming pods, they had to continually explain that they were in the midst of a business negotiation. At the same time, they also contacted Wu Guoyi in hopes that they could come to a consensus with Battle Online about removing their ban.

Nevertheless, Lu Wu chose to ignore them and this drove them crazy. Therefore, they couldn't do anything but watch as the market they could've owned get gradually engulfed by the Black Sea Corporation. All this happened despite the fact that the Black Sea Corporation's gaming pod was launched later than theirs and the former's specifications were also not any better.

However, that was not the worst situation yet.

Not long ago, they received news that Battle Online was about to launch their American server.

The news felt like a punch to the gut for the executives of the Jie De Corporation.

Previously, they never expected a game to affect the sales of their high performance products. Then, reality slapped them on their faces.

They had only experienced the jarring impact of Battle Online twice, and it was enough to cause them irreversible losses.

Correspondingly, the news made their blood run cold. They could already picture the storm that was going to come afterwards.

The executives at the Jie De Corporation couldn't stay put any longer. They traveled straight away in search of the only person who had contact with Lu Wu, which was Wu Guoyi. They begged him to meet Lu Wu.

They also spammed Lu Wu's number with calls. This time, before he could speak, they offered Lu Wu a high profit margin, which was five percent of their net profit from the gaming pods.

Even though the Jie De Corporation came with their utmost sincerity, Lu Wu knew that they would not have made such a compromise if it were not for the pressing situation.

He could only say that they deserved it.

Thus, Lu Wu chose to decline the offer.

As for the fact that they were willing to provide double the profit, Lu Wu couldn't care less about it.

After all, he was not interested in money!

The Black Sea Corporation chose him for a reason. Naturally, he wouldn't let them down. Most importantly, the Black Sea Corporation hadn't forgotten his contributions while their gaming pods were selling like hot cakes. They had already given him a sales commission of five percent.

The face of the representative of the Jie De Corporation turned pale when Lu Wu declined their offer once again.

It was not the first time Lu Wu turned them down. The representative felt that he was already genuine enough, but he did not expect Lu Wu to be so heartless.

Once Battle Online launches their American server, it'll be over for them.

With that in mind, he spoke again, "Your current actions are against the Law on the Protection of Consumers' Rights and Interests. I can sue you for your monopolization that forces players to only choose the gaming pods from the Black Sea Corporation."

The voice from the other end sounded flustered and exasperated.

Lu Wu sighed when he heard that, "As I said, this is the game's problem and I have no control over the game's incompatibility. This is a bug in the game, and whether it can be fixed or not is solely my problem. What's more is that I am short of funding recently, so I cannot afford to fund the game's research and development. Thus, I shall leave the bug as it is. It will not cost me anything anyway."

The representative at the other end was at a loss for words.

Just as Lu Wu said, if he insists that it was a bug in the game which led to an incompatibility with their gaming pods, they could not sue him for any valid reason. As for the repairing of the bug, it was really up to Lu Wu, and the Jie De Corporation had no right to interfere with that.

In the spur of the moment, the representative from the Jie De Corporation had the urge to blurt out that they could provide funds for his research and development. Then, Lu Wu could fix it as soon as possible. However, he knew that it was impractical.

That had been their initial trick to block Battle Online.

They wanted to punish Lu Wu as a warning to other game developers, but it backfired.

It was too late for regrets now.

After he hung up, the business representative stayed silent for a moment. Then, he unlocked his phone and made another call.

Chapter 228: The Players' Blessings

Beep... beep... beep...

"Who is this?" a deep male voice sounded from the other end of the call.

"It's Abel, the Supervisor of the Technology Department from the Jie De Corporation!"

"What's the matter?" asked the voice.

"I think my boss has already briefed you guys on the plan... so I am calling to inform you that Plan B is ready for execution!"

After a moment of silence, the man answered, "Alright!"

"What are the test subjects that we can use now?" Abel questioned again.

"Number one and number three are available for usage. The other test subjects are mostly dead and the living ones have all been deployed for missions."

"Have #410 and #423 been found?"

"No, I don't think it's possible to find them, they do not have any markings on them and we cannot possibly rummage around the world for them. So their search is already a closed case for us."

"Number one and three it is, then... tell them to look for me at the address I already sent you!"

"Alright!"

The call ended after a clean agreement.

A hint of ferociousness flashed across Abel's face after the phone screen went dark.

He had witnessed the power of the Superhuman Weapon Experiment with his own eyes and all of them possessed extraordinary powers. He believed that no mistakes would arise as long as their plan was not foiled by the government.

At first, they did not want to use this method. After all, it was a serious matter regarding the underground classified human experiment at the Jie De Corporation. The outcome would be terrible if they were exposed.

However, Lu Wu's bullying had gone too far. They would lose massive portions of their market share and things would all go out of hand if they did not stop him.

This was their Plan B.

They had to do things the hard way since the gentle approach did not work.

...

After ending the call with the Jie De Corporation's representative, Lu Wu turned toward Bei Li who was still in a state of confusion.

After some contemplation, Lu Wu decided to not disturb Bei Li first and allow her to take some more time to calm down.

Then, he went to his bedroom.

With his supreme authorization, Lu Wu entered the forum and started browsing all the players' posts like a god.

All the obscene materials, deleted!

All the rumors, deleted!

All abusive posts that threaten peace in the forum, deleted!

Most importantly, all posts with public displays of affection, deleted!

...

After clearing up a bunch of posts, a livestream post by a player caught Lu Wu's eye.

[The Sea King has risen, believe me! Click to view!]

Lu Wu clicked into the livestream and found the player by the shore of a random island with various different intelligent ocean creatures surrounding him.

It looked like the area where all the living beings on the island gathered.

At this moment, this player and the intelligent creatures around him were all enclosed around a pole that resembled a public notice board. They were all craning their necks and squinting their eyes to read the text displayed on it.

Thankfully, the game had the ability to translate foreign languages. The players could easily understand the text with the help of an artifact even though the foreign words made no sense to them at first sight.

Notice to the Void Ocean:

I may have lost my Sea King Navy, but the Void Ocean is still my territory. Anyone who has the guts to invade my land and seize my resources will all be destroyed upon my return.

This is a public announcement to all the living beings of the Void Ocean. I have successfully obtained the support of the seven great nations within the three great oceans, Void, Kuilong, and Jade Spring. After three days, I shall hold a Nation Establishing Ceremony for the creation of the new Mu Te Sea Nation at Xinmo Island in the Kuilong Ocean.

All who are interested in joining forces with me are welcome!

...

The creatures around the player displayed immense fear when they saw the notice and the stamps of the eight respective nations below it.

Some of these creatures were under the forces that the Sea King mentioned, the ones that he would seek revenge and destroy.

There were also some naturally tiny and frail creatures who were terrified that the possible bloody chaos that would arise when the Sea King returns could cause them collateral damage.

Panic and unrest filled the air.

Never in their wildest imagination would they expect the Sea King to come back stronger with an alliance of seven leading nations after losing the Sea King Navy.

It was not good news for them.

The forum was bustling with players who gained insight from that livestream:

Watermelon_Taro: "All hail the Sea King! The most awesome Sea King! I am the first one to support him if he wants to build a new nation!"

Xueli_The_Strongest: "The most exciting moment that we have all been waiting for is finally here, our Lord King of Sea will rise again! Blessings from the forces of Beiqi!"

Peppa_Boar: "Seasons passed and finally the time has come for the uprising of the Sea King. Here, I would like to thank Battle Online for their planning and research, thank you so much..."

Strike_Gold: "Oh my god, the Sea King is really making a determined effort to do well. After a great fall, still, he stood again and even unified the seven nations. That is just awesome!"

Lost8kToOnlineDating: "To be honest, I feel kind of reluctant to attack the Sea King upon seeing him pour his heart and soul into building this new force (smirking while covering mouth emoji)..."

Assassin_Creed: "Why am I favoring the opposition more and more now? No wonder the Sea King topped the players-choice Top Villain chart and came out as first place. How adorable (laughing emoji)!"

Crayon_Shinchan: "Didn't anyone notice something important? The Nation Establishing Ceremony is in three days, and we even have the address. Am I the only one interested in attending the event to congratulate and give the Lord King of the Sea a gift? Why don't we go together and deliver our blessings? (laughing emoji)"

Junior_Captain_Of_Demolition_Officers replied to Crayon_Shinchan: "Damn, you do have a point. Our favorite villain is building a nation. Since we have taken so much of its treasure, experience, soul coins and spiritual material, we should at least send it our blessings (laughing emoji)!"

Cultivating_Longevity: "Let's go, let's go! War is war, but this is our time to congratulate him. I will bring some fine wine from the Wood Spirit Clan (smiley emoji)!"

A_Large_Wolfdog: "Woohoo, I shall go for the experience!"

Taoist_Zombie_Hunter: "I want to go, but I cannot make it (sighing emoji)..."

Crayon_Shinchan replied to Taoist_Zombie_Hunter: "I caught a great destructive demon king here. Just let me go through a short interview, when will you destroy the players' faction? You have already dug up the seals underwater and underground, when will you start digging other forces out of this domain? (laughing emoji)"

Taoist_Zombie_Hunter replied to Crayon_Shinchan: "(knife dripping with blood emoji)"

...

The news filled the players with joy and excitement. All of them agreed that they must support the Sea King in his efforts to build a new nation. Not only did they feel obligated to attend the ceremony, they also wanted to proffer Beiqi Army's most genuine blessings and most lavish gifts.

All the players felt the Sea King's devout hard work and dedication. It was different from the other kings such as the Rock Ghost King or the Hydra King, who were more stubborn and only fixated on a piece of land. They did not have the ambition to expand their territory nor improve themselves.

A boss like the Sea King was like a treasure mine to the players because he was definitely able to level up by himself. He was also a source of unlimited benefits because every time he is defeated, he would always grit his teeth and carry on to provide more resources for the players.

For that reason, the players wholeheartedly wanted to pay the Sea King a visit in groups to send it their heartfelt wishes.

Some players even started a discussion in the forum about gift suggestions for the Sea King.

Lu Wu did not know whether to laugh or cry when he saw this.

These players were really the malignant bunch of the Underworld. The Sea King was already in such a difficult position and came all the way to finally build a nation happily and peacefully. These players who were his arch enemies just had to interfere by sending their blessings shamelessly. That would surely piss the Sea King off badly.

He could already picture the chaos that would unfold then.

However, Lu Wu was not worried at all as the players were immortal anyway. They could fool around as much as they wanted to, it was all up to them.

Moreover, the news of the Sea King's newly-built nation came to Lu Wu's benefit as well as the players have been protesting about the lack of Death Clan creatures recently. This news came at the perfect timing to divert their attention.