

The Boss Behind The Game –

Chapter 241: Close Your Doors, Let The Great Demon King Out!

Just as Lu Wu and Bei Li had hoped, this extremely clever and talented person named Yin Xiaoqi officially joined Battle Online.

Naturally, she did not let Lu Wu and Bei Li down.

Although she did not have a default class, she soon found a way to quickly defeat monsters and level up during her early stages using the comprehensive guides that the more professional players had posted in the forum.

In just three days, she had already set up her own guild in the game, without purchasing any soul coins.

Just as Bei Li predicted, she was gradually starting to show her talents in the game.

Whether she could obtain the military power of Beiqi against external forces with her own abilities, Lu Wu and Bei Li would not provide her any help. She would have to slowly build her reputation and prestige among the players.

This was also something that she had to go through if she wished to proceed in the Ultimate Quest.

Besides, Lu Wu was sure that once she found out about the contents of the hidden reward obtained after completing each Ultimate Quest, Yin Xiaoqi would definitely be firmly bound to her Adamantium Pirate Ship.

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Recently, just as Lu Wu was about to publish a strategic Reconnaissance Quest in the Land of the Nine Luminaries, some bad news came from the European server.

The European server's territory had expanded a lot more than before and its overall development had increased significantly.

However, as time passed, Yuanxu had forced most of the old ministries of Cangxu to surrender. Soon, the military strength of the entire Land of Cangxu would be integrated.

When that time really came, unless all the players of Beiqi supported them in battle, it was impossible for the Xian Xu Army to contend with a military-integrated Yuanxu.

Everyone in the European server forum was discussing the countermeasures they could take.

High_Ping_Warrior (Europe): “I feel like if we really were to wait for Yuanxu to integrate their military, can we evacuate the Hidden Dragon Zone first, and return after we have grown stronger? Otherwise, it is impossible to beat them.”

Star_Universe (Europe): “If we go to war at the current stage, dealing with a Ghost General Army wouldn’t really be a problem. However, if a few Ghost Kings formed a coalition with some Ghost Generals, then we definitely do not stand a chance at winning. We can consider evacuating!”

Knight_Of_The_Abyss (Europe): “Actually, as players, unlimited respawning is our biggest advantage. We would definitely win when fighting a protracted war, so we can choose to evacuate and develop first!”

The_Flash (Europe): “Please don’t, I already have feelings for the Hidden Dragon Zone, I don’t want to leave. Let’s pledge our lives to fight back. We still have our brothers from Beiqi, another wave of Expeditionary Forces will work!”

Crayon_Shinchan replied to The_Flash: “We also hope that the Expeditionary Forces will come again, but Yuanxu’s strength has reached the Ghost Emperor Realm. If we were to go head to head with them, there is no way we could beat them. But a few more waves to wear away their military strength sounds good. (laughing emoji)”

...

Right now, the European server’s players were very anxious about a possible attack by the Yuanxu Army, and many of them were voicing out their own views.

Basically, it was either they evacuated or died defending themselves with the help of the Beiqi Expeditionary Force.

However, even the original server’s players were not very optimistic about being able to protect the Hidden Dragon because of Yuanxu’s growing strength.

After all, they had experienced the combat power of a Ghost Emperor. The strength of the players was no match for them at all.

Just as the European server players were at a loss for what to do, a player posted a suggestion, and it quickly became a hot topic on both servers.

[About the Xian Xu Army possibly going to war with Yuanxu – I have a suggestion, everyone can refer to this!]

Author: Classy_Lady_Yin_Xiaoqi

I'm a newbie. Before I joined this discussion topic, I've looked through many videos and materials, so I've got the gist of the situation that the European server is in.

The whole thing was caused by our dear friend, Hu He, the Great Demon King, who only digs for disasters every day.

Besides, I have also tried to understand this player, Hu He the Demon King.

Before that, I would like to bow down to Hu He, the Great Demon King. Your ability to create trouble is already at maximum... how amazing!

However, has anyone noticed something?

The disasters that our beloved Demon King usually brought us don't differentiate between friend and foe. They consume anything that is alive.

As this problem extends, what if we let Hu He the Great Demon King out, and have him unleash his destructive talent unto the Land of Cangxu as he pleases, digging up a considerable amount of natural disasters locked away by the Primordial Seal?

At the current stage, Yuanxu wants integration, so eliminating the Xian Xu Army is an inevitable process.

However, right at this moment, if many natural disasters break out and pose an even bigger threat to his territory, what would he do?

Put yourself in his shoes. If you were Yuanxu, and just when you were about to integrate the Land of Cangxu, large-scale disasters erupt all over. Would you try to stop these disasters that affect your reign over Cangxu first, or would you let these disasters run rampant while eliminating an extremely weak Xian Xu Army?

The basis of my viewpoint is that Yuanxu doesn't understand the potential of the players, and neither does he know that we can respawn.

Indeed, Yuanxu truly does not understand the players!

So, I shall make a suggestion here:

Close your doors! Let the Great Demon King out!

...

The moment this suggestion post appeared, it caused a stir on both servers.

Crayon_Shinchan: “Awesome! Amazing! How did I not think of that? Fight fire with fire, keeping Yuanxu in check by using a malignant player to dig up disasters. I give full marks for this suggestion, this will definitely work. (laughing emoji)”

High_Ping_Warrior (Europe): “This could work! Meanwhile we can take advantage of the disasters to develop more rapidly... I agree!”

Knight_Of_The_Abyss (Europe): “I approve! If I were Yuanxu, I would definitely try to suppress the disasters first. After all, the Xian Xu Army is only a weak force that occupies the Hidden Dragon Zone, which is not even worth mentioning!”

Xueli_The_Strongest: “Is she really a newbie? She took everything into consideration. Such a comprehensive trick to fight fire with fire, it would definitely work!”

Invincible_Loneliness: “She has a cunning point of view when thinking about a problem, are you interested in joining our Myth Guild? (handshake emoji)”

Classy_Lady_Yin_Xiaoqi replied to Invincible_Loneliness: “Nope! I have my own guild. By the way, let me just casually advertise, my guild is named Battle and I only take in elite players who can pass my personal assessment (yay! emoji)!”

Watermelon_Taro: “The Great Demon King can finally be useful in the hopes of the people. I reckon the Great Demon King would be very happy now that he can dig as he wishes without any restrictions, as much as he likes. (laughing emoji)”

Taoist_Zombie_Hunter: “Did any of you ask me about this? How is it okay to decide this among yourselves? I refuse, I swore an oath to never dig again! I already have a traumatic experience because of this. (drawing circles in a corner.jpg)”

Crayon_Shinchan replied to Taoist_Zombie_Hunter: “Giving you a look filled with the backstab of justice, experience it yourself. (laughing emoji)”

...

After multiple persuasions by the players and with the promise that they would let him out of the safe zone without the disturbance of the backstab of justice, Hu He the Great Demon King finally gave in. He was determined to go out there himself and turn the Land of Cangxu upside down.

Actually, Hu He had been waiting for such a day for a long time.

The reason he made excuses and refused to do it was so that the players would make the subsequent promises.

Besides, he was incredibly happy to be able to resume his old business, to continue digging up corpses and seals.

Hence on this day, the European server players gathered to bid farewell to Hu He, who stuck his chest out, holding his shovel as he walked out of the glowing circle of the resurrection point.

An intoxicated expression appeared on Hu He's face as he took a deep breath, breathing in the fresh air outside the resurrection point.

He could hardly remember the number of days and nights that he had suffered in the resurrection point. Finally, those days had come to an end.

From now on, I am the savior of the world!

Chapter 242: Let's Have Some Fun!

Battle Online official web forum...

At this moment, the live stream platform was bustling with activity. One of the live streaming channels had reached a horrifying number of more than nine million viewers.

Most of the players in the game were watching the live stream on this channel.

The Demon King Hu He, generally acknowledged by the players as the most powerful villain in the game, was digging up seals in a live stream.

[In response to a huge amount of requests from the players to dig up seals in a live stream, I shall represent justice this time as I am the savior of the world!]

He was walking through a marsh area, holding a shovel in his right hand and a compass in his left.

Tick! Tick! Tick!

Following the sounds of the compass, Hu He paused. Cha Na's zombie spirit behind him stepped forward, taking the shovel from Hu He's hands and started to dig, sparing no effort.

Meanwhile, the players in the live streaming channel had looks of anticipation on their faces.

Although they had always heard about Hu He's destructive ability, this was the first time they were seeing it for themselves through the live stream, so they were full of curiosity.

Under Hu He's direction, Cha Na's zombie spirit dug fervently, and soon, a black cave appeared in the muddy ground.

This time, Hu He, who had no psychological burden at all, looked at the cave and smirked. Then, he pulled out a searchlight and other tools, before jumping into the cave.

After he landed, he started to explore his surroundings.

The inside of the cave looked like an underground palace. Moss and cracked slabs of greenstone covered the ground. The searchlight swept across his surroundings in a circle, its light never reaching an end. There was so much open space around him.

“The Zombie Energy Value is not as strong as the time I dug up Yuanxu, but it’s still considered high... there must be a big corpse somewhere around here. Now I need to check if there are any seals here, too,” said Hu He as he raised the searchlight, walking forward.

“The smell of decay in the air is very strong, with a slight toxicity. This underground palace has probably been here for a very long time and judging from the smell dissipating in the air, I suspect the poisonous mist marsh up there was caused by a huge tomb...”

As the players listened to Hu He’s explanations, their visions followed Hu He as his footsteps carried him forward, little by little.

The players could not deny that they truly admired the professional competence that Hu He demonstrated. They had also gained a lot of knowledge from his explanations along the way.

After walking for about ten minutes, a wall covered in rust appeared before Hu He. There were numerous strange characters engraved on the wall.

As these characters had been significantly damaged, even the artifacts were unable to interpret its contents.

However, what piqued the curiosity of Hu He and the players were the six pearls glowing with a dim luster, embedded in the middle of the wall.

[Demon-Sealing Formation (Seal)]:

Item Details: High-level seal array, formed by arranging six Demon-Sealing Pearls. It can only be broken by a specific method. Forcefully breaking the seal open will trigger a curse set by the one who cast the seal.

Damage sustained: 0.1%

Upon seeing the item information, Hu He immediately furrowed his eyebrows.

This seal was different from the others, it even had a curse set to prevent damage.

He had a feeling that he'd seen these kinds of seals before in the ancient book.

If the seal was forcefully damaged, not only would he be unable to break the seal, but he would probably be sent back to the resurrection point, too.

Watching Hu He deep in thought, the players in the forum started to get excited.

Crayon_Shinchan: "Is digging up seals really this hard? I thought he could just dig with a shovel and be done with it. (laughing emoji)"

Xueli_The_Strongest: "You can do it, Great Demon King, you're the best!"

Watermelon_Taro: "I'm starting to suspect that he's a grave robber in real life. Warning, call the police (laughing emoji)!"

...

Hu He glanced at the comments before looking at the Demon-Sealing Formation again.

This was his first time coming across this kind of seal, for a second he didn't know what to do.

Anyway, it's not entirely impossible. He opened the photo album and started to flip through the ancient book.

This book, The Secret Code of Zombie Spirit Sect, had recorded numerous techniques that the seniors of the Zombie Spirit Sect had used to deal with special seals when digging up graves.

Hu He flipped through the pages in his search and eventually found a page filled with written content about breaking and dealing with a Demon-Sealing Formation.

After reading through it carefully, Hu He stood up and walked over to the Demon-Sealing Formation. He pressed his right hand on the Demon-Sealing Pearl in the center, pushing it downward slowly.

The players watched curiously as Hu He moved the six Demon-Sealing Pearls back and forth according to the method recorded in the ancient book.

Meanwhile, the luster on the surface of the pearls flickered and dimmed during Hu He's attempt.

After about five minutes, as Hu He pushed a Demon-Sealing Pearl from below to the center, all six Demon-Sealing Pearls flashed dimly at the same time.

Click!

Several cracks appeared on the six Demon-Sealing Pearls, as a rich green mist dissipated from the cracks. Hu He decisively moved back a step.

Boom! Boom!

At that moment, the underground palace started to shake. Everyone in the live streaming channel had astonished looks on their faces as a gap gradually appeared through the middle of the rust-covered wall, which then shifted toward both sides.

Hu He and the players were all wide-eyed as they stared at the sight beyond the wall.

There was a large green pool beyond the wall. Hideous-looking half-man, half-monster creatures were densely packed and immersed in the pool.

There were roughly a few thousand of them and this was only an estimation as far as he could see.

The green liquid in the pool corroded the creatures, whose bodies melted quickly and rapidly turning them into skeletons.

However, this was not what shocked Hu He and the players. Instead, these creatures that turned into skeletons a second ago grew flesh and rebuilt their bodies in no time at all.

[The Shebi Corpse Clan]:

Character Details: An ancient clan of the Land of Xianxu, cursed by the Ancient God to lose their souls yet remain immortal, constantly suffering in pain. The only way to relieve the pain is to consume the flesh and souls of others.

Status: Dormant

Hu He smiled as he read the information about these creatures, while the players in the forum let out a big cheer.

Crayon_Shinchan: "How awesome! After watching the whole live stream, I dare say we can't allow him to stay around. Let's trick him into settling the dangers of Cangxu, then use the resurrection point to seal him again. He's more than terrifying. (laughing emoji)"

Xueli_The_Strongest: "Bravo! Amazing! Found a large tomb and broke a seal, how proficient he is in his operation. However, even though I'm happy, for some reason I feel a sense of danger in my heart!"

Watermelon_Taro: "The Great Demon King truly is horrifying, no wonder he is generally acknowledged as the most powerful villain by all the players. (laughing emoji)"

Lost_8k_To_Online_Dating: "After watching the whole live stream, I just want to say that I feel uneasy if The Great Demon King is not sealed away. But don't worry, this time you can dig as you please because that's what the people want. (laughing emoji)"

Taoist_Zombie_Hunter: "Remember, all of you made a promise, you can't go back on your words..."

...

After seeing the players assuring him through the screen, Hu He had a little peace of mind. He turned his attention to the pool in front of him.

Now that he had broken the Demon-Sealing Formation outside, awakening the Shebi Corpse Clan would be a piece of cake.

As the players watched in anticipation, Hu He took a speaker out from his channel.

After he pressed a few buttons on the speaker, the lights started to flicker and loud music exploded from the speaker.

At the same time, waves gradually surged in the green pool.

The viewing players were rendered speechless.

Chapter 243: The Terror Of The Great Demon King (Part 1)

The players in the live streaming channel were stunned as they watched Hu He take out a speaker.

The lights flickered and the music blasted into everyone's ears.

Ripples gradually appeared on the surface of the green pool, as one by one, the Shebi Corpses opened their ghostly green eyes.

Roar!

The angry howls of the Shebi Corpses rose and fell.

The bodies that had been motionless for countless years had finally been awakened.

At this moment, each Shebi Corpse had their gaze locked on Hu He. Their eyes were glowing with a thirst for blood.

Agony and endless pain were spreading all over their bodies.

After being awakened, they had once again fallen into the painful phase, like they were stuck in a living hell.

Under the Ancient God's curse of being immortal yet constantly suffering from the torture of not having a soul, they longed for fresh blood, even more so to consume souls.

At that time, Hu He was surprised as he noticed a Shebi Corpse in the middle of the pool that was significantly bigger than the others. It was staring right at him with a face full of anger, looking as though it might shoot fire out of its eyes anytime.

In Hu He's uncertainty, a server announcement appeared:

[Server Announcement: A Primordial Demon-Sealing Formation has been broken by player Hu He in the Land of Cangxu, and thus, the Shebi Corpse Clan has been born. This clan bears a curse of the Ancient God, which renders their flesh body immortal. All players please be careful!]

Seeing that he had successfully completed his first quest, a pleased smile appeared on Hu He's face.

Then, he gazed at the Shebi Corpse with a huge body while opening its analysis menu.

[Shebi General (Ghost King Peak)]:

Character Details: The most gifted clan leader of the ancient Shebi Corpse Clan. He had accidentally entered the forbidden area of the Ancient God and picked the Ancient God's natal spiritual plant, committing a heinous sin. That was the downfall of the whole Shebi Corpse Clan, turning every one of them into half-alive, half-dead, yet immortal Shebi zombies. In an endless slaughter, the Shebi General ultimately awakened his last sliver of Spirit Wisdom, resolutely sealing himself and his clansmen in the Shebi Underground Palace, in an attempt to use an endless sleep to put an end to his clansmen's agony, so they shall slaughter no more!

Character Status: Soul-Destroying Curse, absence of soul (In this state, no matter how strong the body's talent is, without the blessing of a soul, its realm is unable to be upgraded).

Upon reading its character information, Hu He was dumbfounded. Now he understood why the Shebi General would look at him with such fury.

Meanwhile, the players in the forum were bursting with laughter.

Xueli_The_Strongest: "Poor Shebi Clan, they could finally end their suffering after going through so much, but then they encountered the Great Demon King, who dug them out forcefully."

Crayon_Shinchan: "Great Demon King, hurry up and tell him, stop sleeping and let's have some fun! Now that there's so much going on in Cangxu, why is he sleeping? Kill!"

Assassin_Creed: "The Great Demon King: Want to sleep? No way! Move your body to the beat, let's have some fun!"

A_Large_Wolfdog: "Hahaha, the guy sealed himself in, perfect!"

Lost_8k_To_Online_Dating: "You want to enter a deep sleep? Our Great Demon King said, no way! As long as I'm alive, I'll be damned if you don't have some fun. (laughing emoji)"

Classy_Lady_Yin_Xiaoqi: "I'm laughing so hard, I reckon the Shebi General would probably feel like strangling the Great Demon King."

Watermelon_Taro: "The Great Demon King is mighty, the Great Demon King is the best!"

...

Looking at the players' comments, Hu He also felt a little awkward.

"Kill!"

The Shebi General's body gradually regenerated, before leaping from the pool toward Hu He.

Seeing that, Hu He immediately kept all the tools around him. At the same time, he adjusted his pain receptors to the lowest setting. After that, he opened his arms wide as he welcomed death.

Under the Shebi General's wrath, Hu He did not even last more than a second before being torn into a cloud of black mist.

Slurp!

The Shebi General sucked vigorously as though he wanted to suck out Hu He's soul.

However, Hu He's soul had already been absorbed into the channel by his artifact, so he was nowhere near to consuming it.

After many unsuccessful tries, the thirst for blood in the Shebi General's eyes skyrocketed.

Under such endless agony and torture, he lost his mind once again.

Roar!

The Shebi General's roar caused the other Shebi corpses in the pool to howl in anger, before leaping out of the pool and sprinting after the Shebi General.

Flesh, souls. These were the things that they craved the most.

The time for slaughter is here.

...

Although Hu He had died after digging out the Shebi Corpse Clan, he had completed the task entrusted by the players, bringing Yuanxu an enemy that could not be killed.

Nonetheless, this was just the beginning.

As Hu He entered the cooldown stage after death, none of the players left his live streaming channel. They were all waiting for Hu He the Great Demon King to respawn and continue stirring up the winds and the rains.

After three hours...

Hu He had just respawned at the resurrection point when he noticed that countless players were gathered near the resurrection point, and all of them were staring at him in anticipation.

"Welcome back, Great Demon King!"

"Good luck on your next expedition, Great Demon King!"

...

Seeing Hu He online, the European server players started to cheer, looking forward to him showing off again.

Although he was astonished, the feeling of being valued touched Hu He a little.

He thought of the days when he was beaten and yelled at, yet look at him now, the hope of all the people.

Sure enough, he was right to persevere. He was finally someone important now!

Thus, Hu He held his head high and left the safe zone amidst the farewells of the players, proceeding to look for sites of Ancient Seals in the Land of Cangxu.

As for how terrifying Hu He's lethality was, the players started to experience that themselves in the next few days.

Meanwhile, the European server was extremely lively.

[Server Announcement: The Primordial Winged Serpent Clan has been awakened from a deep sleep by player Hu He in the Land of Cangxu. All players please be careful!]

[Server Announcement: A residual corpse of an Underworld God has been awakened from a deep sleep by player Hu He in the Land of Cangxu. This residual corpse has lost its consciousness. Due to its natural urge, it will consume flesh and soul to repair its residual corpse. All players please be careful!]

[Server Announcement: The seal of an ancient Black Demon Tree has been broken by player Hu He in the Land of Cangxu. This plant is extremely dangerous and has the ability to produce plagues. All players please be careful!]

[Server Announcement: The Evil King has been awakened by player Hu He in the Land of Cangxu. This creature was transformed from the demonic thoughts stripped from the Ancient God before he became a god, and he has the power of a Fledgling Ghost Emperor. All players please be careful!]

[Server Announcement: The Zilean Vortex has been awakened by player Hu He in the Land of Cangxu. It is a storm born of the evil Spirit Wisdom Manifestation and does not have a physical body. It is considered a natural disaster and will rage through the region. All players please be careful!]

[Server Announcement: The seal connecting the Underground Clan to the earth's surface has been broken by player Hu He in the Land of Cangxu. There is a high possibility that the Underground Clan will enter the earth's surface. It is unknown if they are good or evil. All players please be careful!]

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In the beginning, the players were shocked, but slowly, they started to become numb. They no longer had the energy to complain about Hu He's lethality.

In just three days, Hu He had already dug up more than ten different seals, each one concealing beings of extreme lethality.

The arrival of these nearly indestructible evil forces made the Land of Cangxu much livelier.

The whole area of Cangxu could literally be described as overrun by demons.

The players in the east corner of Cangxu sat back and watched as the disasters raged on.

Although the players were slightly affected, they were still very ecstatic. After all, they had already prepared for their evacuation. It could not get any better now that the situation ended up like this.

Perhaps, in the eyes of others, the disasters were an endless bother, but to the players, it meant more experience points and soul coins.

Even though it might be troublesome for them to deal with it when the time came, they were very happy.

At this moment, Yin Xiaoqi, who was well-received and followed closely by the other players, published another suggestion post.

This time, her suggestion once again shocked all the players. It was such a creative suggestion, so clever that it sent chills tingling down the other players' spines.

Chapter 244: Yin Xiaoqi's Script (Part 2)

Yin Xiaoqi was placed under the spotlight amongst the players after sharing the first suggestion to release the Great Demon King.

She made another suggestion this time around and the page view of the post was growing rapidly.

The players' minds were once again blown by her unique brain circuit after understanding her idea.

[Here's another suggestion from me, all European server players can play the game this way!]

Author: Classy_Lady_Yin_Xiaoqi

My suggestion this time is mainly about analyzing the situation of the forces in Cangxu at this point. Do not take this too seriously, it's just an idea from me, whether to implement it fully depends on everyone's opinion.

Now, let's get into it!

Firstly, we have to talk about our gifted friend, the Great Demon King, who caused more than ten disasters throughout the Land of Cangxu which resulted in massive destruction. I tip my fedora to you, mighty Great Demon King!

I have been paying attention to the raging aftermath of the disasters and something interesting caught my eye.

There were different types of disasters this time around. Aside from the bloodlust and undead creatures, there was an unprecedented natural disaster, but this is not the most important point. Something unique out of these disasters is the Evil King, a Ghost Emperor level elite who possesses strong power.

The Evil King was introduced in the server announcement description as the transformation of a demonic thought removed from an Ancient God.

Did you guys notice that the Evil King has a completely different presentation compared to the other disasters?

I noticed something from the various posts describing the disasters.

Unlike the other disasters which caused massive destruction, the Evil King was occupied with developing his own force. He also proceeded to recruit Ghost Kings and Emperors from the various forces around Cangxu just as Yuanxu did.

What does that mean? This clearly shows that the Evil King is wild at heart and his aim is obviously to be the overlord of the Land of Cangxu.

Although the Evil King is still weak at this point, we shouldn't forget that he is still a Ghost Emperor Elite. Based on how he was only sealed instead of dying, it is highly likely that it will be extremely difficult to kill him.

The reason why the Evil King could be recruiting so blatantly is that he had many innate advantages. It can be said that he doesn't fear Yuanxu at all.

The forces in Cangxu are currently distributed as follows.

Players (oppose) Yuanxu, Players (oppose) Evil King, Players (oppose) Disasters.

Yuanxu (opposes) Players, Yuanxu (opposes) Evil King, Yuanxu (opposes) Disasters.

Evil King (opposes) Players, Evil King (opposes) Yuanxu, Evil King (opposes) Disasters.

Disasters (oppose) all forces.

Due to the unstable nature of the disasters, it can be categorized as a common enemy for all forces. Also, disasters can also be enemies of other disasters. Ruling out the instability factor, a triangular cycle is formed.

As the weakest force, we players do not have the power to be balanced to any of the forces at the current stage.

Therefore, under the position where other forces are opposing each other, we can be wiped out at any time.

I cannot help but get an idea from this.

Isn't the Evil King recruiting to expand his own force?

Does that mean that we can all surrender to the Evil King to expand his force?

Here are the benefits we players can get if we yield to the Evil King.

Firstly, the best advantage for us is that we can finally leave Hidden Dragon and advance to other places with the Evil King's support.

This also means that Yuanxu and the Evil King's forces will be more balanced.

Secondly, balanced forces will result in a prolonged battle.

I guess I don't have to explain in detail about the advantages of prolonged battles and continuous attacking of enemies for players, right?

This is definitely a good chance for character development! A prolonged battle will be a battle of resources and exhaustive to the other forces, but a great opportunity for our development. The longer and fiercer the battle, the more advancements we'll achieve!

Thirdly, another advantage that we players have is that we are more fierce in battles because we're not afraid to die.

As a force leader, the Evil King will definitely give us an important role since we are eager in battles and we are always at the frontlines.

Also, he is a Ghost Emperor Elite and an incarnation of an Ancient God's demonic thought, so he should have many precious valuables.

Since we will be his diligent subordinate force, he will definitely reward us generously.

That will be our bonus reward!

Fourthly...

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The players were totally convinced by Yin Xiaoqi's analysis suggestion post.

Crayon_Shinchan: “Damn, she’s asking us to surrender to the Evil King and utilize him to develop our own characters. I am convinced and I can’t think of anything to rebut you. (surprise emoji)”

Xueli_The_Strongest: “I’m impressed. I’ve read through the analysis post and I think that this can be implemented. We players will not lose anything anyway, we might even get some bonus rewards. (Tong Gua with a thumbs up.jpg)”

Peppa_Boar: “That just might work. Utilizing the Evil King’s force to develop our characters sounds amazing!”

Watermelon_Taro: “Evil King: These subordinates are really good to work with! They are always charging forward in battles as if they are not afraid to die and they have slogans like ‘the Evil King is the best’, I’m so touched. I’m rewarding every one of them with a set of purple equipment as encouragement. (laughing emoji)”

Crayon_Shinchan: “Players: The Evil King is so good to work with! Aside from providing us the opportunity to gain experience points and soul coins, he’s also rewarding us with gifts from time to time. How comforting, we shall charge more and don’t care about our lives in the next battle (laughing emoji)!”

Invincible_Loneliness: “The funniest thing is, when all players help the Evil King to get rid of Yuanxu, we will definitely have a mutiny to kill the Evil King on the spot. Classy_Lady_Yin_Xiaoqi has already provided a script for us. What an exciting operation, definitely impressive!”

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Yin Xiaoqi’s suggestion post was pushed to the top of the forum from the continuous replies from the players. It was really on fire!

Her suggestion of utilizing the players’ own advantages accompanied by the Evil King’s advantages to develop their characters could definitely aid them to get out of the tight spot they were in.

Regardless of their server, all players were giving good comments to Yin Xiaoqi’s ingenious idea and they decided to go with it.

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The Land of Cangxu, Spectral Dragon Tomb.

Yuanxu was floating mid-air in the center zone of the Spectral Dragon Tomb. His expression was livid as he looked at the chaotic storm in the distance.

Yuanxu made a few continuous claps when the Zilean Vortex was getting near.

A few invisible palm-shaped holes were formed beside the vortex instantly but it did not take long before those holes were covered. It continued raging and rumbled forward.

Observing the situation, Yuanxu snorted and summoned a black virtual beast. The beast detached itself from Yuanxu's body and soared high up in the air before it charged into the Zilean Vortex hard.

Crash!

The beast was strangled and killed by the vortex, causing the current to weaken. The insides of the vortex were getting disorderly and collapsing.

However, the current intensified once again within a short while. The disordered parts were recovered and the Zilean Vortex once again took its full form.

Fortunately, the vortex was affected by Yuanxu's act and shifted its direction away from that area.

Staring at the Zilean Vortex that was moving away, Yuanxu's expression was cold.

He was unsure of why the disasters which were sealed primordially were emerging on such a large scale. He remembered that some of them were even suppressed and sealed by himself when he was ruler.

These unusual phenomena were causing Yuanxu a massive headache. They were also tremendously affecting his operation to take over the Land of Cangxu.

He descended gradually to the ground and all the Ghost Kings and Emperors below him bowed with respect.

"Have you looked into this matter? What's going on? Why are all the Primordial Seals being broken!?" Yuanxu's expression was cold as he questioned one of his subordinates.

Chapter 245: We Are Warlike People And We Do Not Fear Death (Part 3)

Fenshui the Ghost King got a shock upon getting questioned.

"Your Majesty, I've investigated a few sealed locations and I realized that the seals were all sabotaged. These disasters are not coincidental, there is someone behind them!"

Yuanxu's expression turned ghastly upon hearing that.

He could not believe that someone was already thinking of holding him back although he was only released from prison a short while ago.

The first person who came to Yuanxu's mind was Cangxu himself, the one who defeated him and took the throne away from him.

Yuanxu subsequently disagreed with himself internally as the thought was far too unrealistic.

He was fully aware that Cangxu was long dead and his soul had already crossed the Bridge of Forgetfulness. It would be impossible for him to return.

After all, Cangxu was going against heaven. The gods in heaven would never let him off easily unless he was dead.

However, Yuanxu could not think of anyone else who would obstruct him in the dark other than Cangxu.

It had been hundreds of thousands of years and all his enemies were already gone. Even his biggest threat was also gone now. It would be impossible for him to have any enemies left.

Yuanxu was even certain that the throne was going to be his after understanding the situation in the Land of Cangxu these days.

"Your Majesty, there's one more thing. I found out that the demonic thought of the Evil Demon God was born!" Fenshui the Ghost King voiced again.

"What?" Yuanxu's face tensed when he heard that.

The Evil Demon God was within the Top 100 on the Underworld God List and his powers surpassed the Ancient God realm. He was also the original founder of this large domain. Therefore, Yuanxu had a bad hunch when he found out that his demonic thought was reborn.

"What is he doing right now?"

"He is recruiting and expanding his forces. His aim is very clear!" Fenshui replied with sorrow.

"He is just a strand of demonic thought. How dare he compete for the throne with me? He is biting off more than he can chew!" Yuanxu spoke dryly.

"But Your Majesty, this demonic thought is left by the Evil Demon God before he attains divinity so he must be at the Ghost Emperor level at the least. What's worse, he can be considered as undead or the first king would have decided to destroy him instead of just placing a seal on him. I'm afraid that he must be very difficult to deal with!"

“I’ll place a seal on him again then. How dare he fight me? He will regret this!”

A cold light flashed within Yuanxu’s eyes. He then proceeded to the direction of his new palace being built.

Seeing that, his subordinates gave each other worried looks.

They were willing to serve Yuanxu not just because they were fearful of his great powers, but they also saw Yuanxu as their pillar of support and they intended to develop themselves under his leadership.

However, everything was going out of their expectations. Their stable operation of unifying the Land of Cangxu was facing many unforeseen circumstances.

They felt lost as they were unsure of what to do under these states of affairs.

After all, if the Evil King really had the ability to build a force, they had to participate in his wars too since they were his subordinates.

They were not worried about the wars. They were only concerned that they might not obtain any benefits after surrendering themselves to Yuanxu. Risking their subordinates and their own lives for Yuanxu to fight for the throne didn’t seem worth it at all.

After all, wars would cause deaths!

Even if they were a huge clan, getting demolished in a large-scale war would not be totally inevitable.

...

Land of Cangxu, Hidden Dragon Zone.

A buddha statue swished over from a distance and fell in the Hidden Dragon Marsh Village swiftly.

Noticing the statue, the players started shouting and calling out in the zone channel as they thought that another disaster was here.

The statue landed right in the middle of the village with a boom, lifting debris and dust everywhere.

In the midst of the players’ astonished faces, a light flashed past the statue’s stone surface and it became animated in an instant as it became alive.

“Tell me who your leader is!” the stone statue spoke suddenly, its tone irrefutably dignified.

The players were unhappy with the statue's arrogant tone. They were ready to talk business with the statue by violence before some players who checked out the explanation guide called out in the zone channel.

"Stop, don't do it! He's the Evil King!"

"Hold up, brothers. He's one of us, one of us!"

"He's our future sugar daddy, the boss that we're going to rely on. Don't do anything stupid!"

"Fuck, the one with the sword, come back. It's our future boss, make some good impressions!"

...

Listening to the roars within the zone channel, the players who were ready to charge forward stopped instantly. Their faces changed into smiles instantly as they looked at the Evil King with some unknown intent in their eyes.

The Evil King was a little astounded by that.

He had been to many different zones for recruitment. His first meetings with the other forces always started with a battle because nobody was willing to yield to him.

He thought that the same would apply here and the players were just acting. Why did they stop abruptly?

Li Xing, Jason, and the other players rushed over when they received the news. They made their way through the crowd and stood in front of the Evil King.

"I am the leader!" Li Xing was the first to voice out.

After taking in Yin Xiaoqi's suggestion, the players from the European server had a discussion and concluded that they had to have a leader figure to be able to join forces with the Evil King.

The Zero Guild was the strongest guild in the European server without any question. Therefore having their guild leader, Li Xing, to be their clan leader was expected by all players.

Looking at the leader of the alleged force, a red light flashed across the Evil King's eyes.

"Good, you have two choices now! Pledge loyalty to me, or die!" the pressure exerted from the Evil King condensed and his momentum heightened as he spoke.

Right when he was ready to emit the pressure to the surrounding players, Li Xing replied suddenly, "We, the Player Clan, choose to pledge loyalty!"

The Evil King's condensed momentum dispersed immediately.

The players' actions were not going according to his expectations at all. He was not used to this.

He was entrenching a zone's force, after all. The process of this submission was smooth, too smooth that it was confusing to him.

"You can address me as the Evil King. All of you are my subordinates from now on. My aim is to be the new king of the Land of Cangxu!" the Evil King spoke again after some thinking.

He initially thought that the players would be shocked or even oppose his wild ambition.

After all, the demolishing of clans in the path to snatch the throne was inevitable as there would be a huge war.

Yet, Li Xing nodded forcefully and said, "Our clan will definitely aid the Evil King with our full effort for you to become His Excellency!"

"Aren't you all afraid?" the Evil King frowned.

"No... we, the Player Clan, do not fear death and we are a warlike people. It will be our biggest honor to die on a battlefield!"

The Evil King fell into silence by Li Xing's reply.

After talking to Li Xing, the Evil King's initial thought was that this clan must be weak with low combat power.

After all, the forces that he met previously were all feisty and they didn't yield wholeheartedly. He would never be able to get them to surrender to him without utilizing his great powers.

To the Evil King, Li Xing's forthright acceptance was indicating that they were weaklings.

However, having listened to Li Xing that his clan were warlike people without any fear toward death and dying in a battlefield would be an honor, the Evil King was repulsed and his impression toward the players had gotten worse.

Although they're weak, I'll give it to them that they are pretty good at boasting. This was the Evil King's first impression toward the players.

Chapter 246: The Garden Of Death

Although his impression of the Player Clan had dropped, they seemed to be loyal to him, so he had no major complaints, "Very well, from now on, the Player Clan shall be a force under my command!"

Li Xing immediately nodded in agreement and asked, "So, Evil King, how do you think we should fight with Yuanxu?"

Hearing this, the Evil King did not answer. Instead, he replied with a question while looking at Li Xing puzzledly, "Are you enemies with Yuanxu?"

The Evil King thought it was unnatural for Li Xing to proactively ask about his plans to counter Yuanxu. After all, Yuanxu's formidable strength was no secret. Should he not be trembling in fear, facing such a menacing enemy?

He couldn't figure out why Li Xing was so enthusiastic to fight Yuanxu.

"Yes, Evil King, our clan has a deep hatred against Yuanxu..."

Yin Xiaoqi's script was very comprehensive. It included the player's behavior before the Evil King and the lore of their own faction. So, the Evil King nodded in realization when he heard Li Xing's story.

When he understood the irreconcilable hatred between the Player Clan and Yuanxu, the Evil King was relieved. At the very least, this could be used to increase the Player Clan's combat prowess in the fight against the Yuanxu Army.

After listening to Li Xing's explanation, the Evil King nodded, "Regarding fighting Yuanxu, I think his main stronghold is in the northeast. We should start to expand our forces from where they are least present. At the current stage, the Hidden Dragon Zone where you are now, the Relic Ruins, the Hidden Mist Forest, and so on, a total of seven forces have pledged their loyalty to me. We shall set up our main base in this area and expand our forces up north..."

After listening to the Evil King's plan, Li Xing could not help nodding.

His plan was totally practical to Li Xing.

In their discussion afterward, Li Xing did not merely listen. Other than voicing his own doubts, he began to propose a counter-plan according to Yin Xiaoqi's plan.

Yin Xiaoqi's suggestion on the forum was to make the Evil King give up on the areas around the Hidden Mist Forest and focus on grouping in the Hidden Dragon Valley and the Relic Ruins.

Currently, the Evil King was at a disadvantage.

Blindly expanding his territory would not be a smart thing to do, which was why he should give up the remaining land and focus on defending his stronghold. He should fortify his strength because, the lesser his territory, the easier it would be for him to defend. After his forces had grown in strength, he could start to consider expanding his territory.

Li Xing's suggestions seemed very strange to the Evil King. He immediately began to consider their feasibility.

He was the embodiment of demonic thoughts, so he was not afraid of dying. However, he could not stand risking his troops in the early stages. After considering carefully, the Evil King felt that going on the defense seemed like the correct answer.

This time, the Evil King changed his opinion on Li Xing, "Excellent, I accept your suggestion. I shall inform them to leave their own territories, and camp in the Hidden Dragon and Relic Ruins. As for you guys, just stand by and await my command. This war will come sooner or later!"

Li Xing nodded respectfully. He was grinning inwardly and was extremely impressed by Yin Xiaoqi.

She had accurately predicted that the Evil King would approach him first and finally accept his suggestions. Everything was proceeding steadily according to her script.

The next thing they had to do was to display the players' strength so that they might earn the Evil King's favor and prepare for the next step of the script!

...

Land of Cangxu, The Garden of Death (Forbidden Area).

Behind the towering statue of the Evil Demon God, wild grass was growing everywhere. Among them were vibrant and multicolored poisonous plants. A poisonous mist hung in the air. The plants were shaking their vines and dancing like ghostly snakes, it was a terrifying sight to behold.

This place was named a forbidden area because it was once where the creator of the Land of Cangxu, the Evil Demon God, planted his spiritual garden. The place was filled with magical and demonic plants, which meant danger was everywhere.

Hu He was walking on this land, searching for the next seal while streaming live.

Recently, as he continued releasing disasters, his fame shot up among the players and he enjoyed it a lot.

This, in turn, became his motivation to excavate more seals.

Other than solving the problems of the European server players, Hu He reaped bountiful rewards hunting seals. He had already obtained two Fledging Ghost King corpses.

Although he was getting stronger, he was still quite anxious and afraid when he reached the Garden of Death.

The plants here were too deadly. Ghost Commander level plants were everywhere. Hu He even suspected the existence of Ghost King level demonic plants, too.

With his strength, even though he possessed Cha Na's zombie spirit, a Greater Ghost Commander, and had been reinforced multiple times, he was barely qualified to enter this place. The only thing he could do if he encountered any powerful plants was to run for his life.

His compass was showing its peak value. Even though it was dangerous, Hu He did not have the slightest intention to leave.

As he walked further in, the compass would twitch a little after a certain distance.

Hu He looked at the soil beneath his feet and found nothing special.

Nevertheless, the compass would not be wrong. So, he commanded Cha Na's zombie spirit to start digging.

After digging for ten minutes or so, a huge pit was excavated there.

Suddenly, Hu He halted the zombie spirit's digging and jumped into the pit himself.

He did not want to stop, but Cha Na's zombie spirit could not dig any deeper. The layer of rock beneath could not be broken using a metal spade.

To find out the reason, Hu He slowly shoveled away the layers of soil. Finally, he found a black stone tablet.

When he saw the dents on the spade, Hu He was surprised at how hard the rock was.

Feeling curious, he began to command Cha Na's zombie spirit to dig from the side while he cleaned up the dirt stuck in the carvings of the stone tablet.

After working diligently for some time, the true face of the tablet gradually revealed itself.

It was a pure black stone tablet. Red blood-like spots covered its surface and many strange inscriptions were carved onto it. In the middle, there was a pitch-black recess which looked like a handprint.

Hu He stood up and began to investigate the tablet. The convoluted inscriptions began to unfold under the artifact's analysis.

Kill! Kill! Kill!

Kill! Kill! Kill! Kill!

Kill! Kill! Kill! Kill! Kill!

This is my grave. Hereafter, there shall be no end to the bloodshed, even the blood of the Great Emperors!

...

There should have been a few more words that followed after, but the black handprint had destroyed them. So, only the remaining few words were legible.

I... Kill... Destroy.

Return... Eventually... Apocalypse.

Beyond the region...

Hu He was shocked after decrypting the words. He did not understand the meaning of the Great Emperor, so he couldn't decipher its meaning. The only feeling he had was that the author held a profound grudge against someone or something.

His viewers were completely stupefied as well, as they couldn't understand what the tombstone was saying at all.

They began to speculate about hidden contents related to these inscriptions.

However, there were many trolls online, so the speculation became more and more twisted, turning into various jokes and memes.

Just when Hu He was planning to carefully study the tombstone, a dark shadow covered the sky.

Hu He immediately looked up and saw an overly gigantic bird creature resembling an eagle hanging in the sky, staring straight at him with its sharp eyes.

“It’s you!”

As he saw Hu He trying to check out the tombstone, Fenshui the Ghost King flapped his wings, stirred up a strong tornado from the ground, and sucked Hu He up to the sky!

Chapter 247: The Infinite Darkness

With the natural disasters happening frequently these days, Fenshui the Ghost King went to investigate and was in distress.

Other than knowing that the seal had been destroyed by someone, he didn’t have any other clues about who or why. He was yet unable to report anything to Yuanxu.

He decided to give up on searching and chose to wait idly for the person who dug the seals to show up.

The hideout he had chosen was Cangxu’s original palace.

He picked this place because there was a prison with a dark seal right underneath the palace. It had held many prisoners of former hostile forces and had been personally watched by Cangxu himself.

However, after a few days’ waiting, nobody was seen.

A thought suddenly dawned on him. The most terrifying seal within the Land of Cangxu would no doubt be the Garden of Death.

It was foretold that within this region hid the Evil Demon God’s body.

Of course, he was not sure whether the myth was true. Even the death of the Evil Demon God was unverifiable.

If everything was real and the Evil Demon God’s body was dug out, surely a ghastly disaster would erupt. A chill went down his spine just thinking of it.

Just when this thought went through his mind, he hurriedly rushed toward the direction of the Garden of Death.

Coincidentally, he bumped into the infamous Hu He digging out the seal.

Having finally found the culprit, Fenshui's eyes gleamed with a sharp gaze, but he didn't kill Hu He instantly. Instead, he apprehended him and was ready to report back.

But Fenshui realized that something was fishy about this hole that was dug out.

Other than Cha Na's zombie spirit, there was also an enormous pitch-black tombstone.

He didn't know much about ancient scriptures, but the dark handprint embedded on the tombstone made him stop dead in his tracks.

This was the God Spirit's breath!

Fenshui's heart skipped a beat as he turned and looked at Hu He who was still trying hard to get away from his grip.

It was so close, so close... don't tell me the one who's in a deep slumber down there is the long-gone Evil Demon God!

Fenshui the Ghost King really wanted to strangle Hu He to death.

Legend had it that the Evil Demon God had always been thirsty for blood. The reason why there were so many Demonic Plants growing in the Garden of Death was that the Evil Demon God had used the blood of different living beings to water them, making them all full of demonic power.

These legends were baseless but the Shebi Corpse Clan that came out of nowhere recently had verified the legend of the Evil Demon God's Soul-Destroying Curse.

A thought flashed across Fenshui's mind... if the Evil Demon God were to be dug out, then Yuanxu, the Evil King, and all the other natural disasters would no longer be significant. There was no point to even fight for the throne anymore... everyone should run for their lives!

Slap!

As fear crept into him, Fenshui gave a hard slap on Hu He's face and caught him off guard, causing his head to lean backward.

"Fuck! Big bird, how dare you hit me..."

Slap!

"Great, just you wait. When I finish refining Hiderigami, I will surely pluck out all of your..."

Slap! Slap! Slap!

...

After venting off his anger, Fenshui flapped his wings to bury the section that most probably contained the said seal and flew away with Hu He.

At the moment, Hu He's nose was still bleeding non-stop because of the beating. He had stopped talking and was in a daze.

In the live streaming channel:

Crayon Sinchan: "Motherfucker. Demon King, you should jot this down first. We'll find out where his ancestral tomb is for you. If he hits you, then you dig up his ancestors' graves and curse him for the next 18 generations. No, dig up an entire hundred generations. (laughing emoji)"

Xueli_The_Strongest: "Looks like he almost dug something out, it's a pity that he got caught red-handed by Yuanxu's subordinate. I almost felt for Demon King for half a second. (laughing emoji)"

Watermelon_Taro: "Amid the breeze and cold river water, the Great Demon King went and never came back. (laughing emoji)"

Assasin_Creed: "So unfortunate to see the Great Demon King get caught, but why do I feel somewhat good? There should be no hatred between us. (laughing emoji)"

A_Large_Wolfdog: "Look! The Great Demon King is flying, I wonder what's the line of blood flowing down. (laughing emoji)"

Crayon_Shinchan replied to A_Large_Wolfdog: "Look, isn't this a good little dog? Laughing and patting on the dog's head three times. (laughing emoji)"

...

This time when the gamers saw how Hu He failed to dig up the seal, there were no regrets at all. On the contrary, they were interested in how Hu He would be punished.

They had even opened up a gambling port in the live streaming channel, listing out different proportions of choices for other gamers to place their bets on.

This scene made Hu feel a sudden sense of grief on the inside.

Building your happiness on other's suffering? Are you guys even human?

Gales whizzed at his ears whereas his nosebleed had turned into droplets and splattered all over his face in the wind. Hu He was in total melancholy.

About an hour or so in the air, Fenshui the Ghost King finally slowed down and started to descend.

The name of the place appeared on the map.

[Spectral Dragon Tomb]

Suddenly, Fenshui made a sharp dive. After gliding for a distance in a low altitude, he let go of Hu He, allowing him to free fall and eventually his body slammed onto the ground.

Using his wings as an advantage to balance his body, Fenshui touched down steadily. He then faced Yuanxu who was sitting cross-legged on the ground and said, "Your Majesty, this is the person who destroyed the seals!"

Hearing this, Hu He grimaced and slowly got up from the ground. When he raised his head, he realized that in front of him was actually an old acquaintance of his.

"I already guessed that it might be your doing... it was just as expected. Tell me what your intention is!"

Gazing at Hu He, Yuanxu was not surprised at all. After all, he himself was dug out by Hu He as well.

The only thing Yuanxu couldn't understand was why Hu He would do such a thing. It was an arduous and thankless task after all. Besides, in the Land of Cangxu, many dangerous seals were lurking around every corner, and he might lose his life without being careful.

Nevertheless, Hu He was his savior. That was why Yuanxu did not take his soul directly but chose to ask his purpose first.

"I... would you believe me if I said I dug for fun?" Hu He muttered.

"Looks like you are full of secrets!" Yuanxu held his hand out and sucked Hu He to his side, all the while sitting cross-legged on the ground.

"Last chance for you to speak the truth. If there's anything false in your words, I will take your soul personally and understand it myself!" Yuanxu uttered lightly.

Hearing this, Hu He couldn't help but feel resentment and humor at the same time.

As if I'm really afraid. Talking about death, my number of deaths is ranked the top in this game, will I be petrified just by that?

"I'm just digging for fun... if you don't believe me just take my soul!" now that Hu He knew he might not be able to make it out in one piece, he slapped his thigh and pressed his luck.

Yuanxu slowly turned his head and gazed upon Hu He, with his eyebrows furrowed, "I find that you're not afraid of me!"

"Why, we all have a head, a pair of arms and a pair of legs, have you grown wings? I need not be afraid of you!" Hu He fought back with grandeur.

Fenshui the Ghost King, who had been listening from the side, couldn't help but glare at Hu He.

Only I have wings here!

"Since you're not afraid of death, are you terrified of loneliness then?" when it came to the fearless Hu He, Yuanxu's face turned bitter cold.

"What do you mean?" Hu He was stunned.

"A seal of immortality and eternity. Aren't you obsessed with digging out seals? Then I shall seal you up and make you suffer in the dark!"

Not waiting for Hu He to answer, Yuanxu turned and said, "Fenshui, bring him to the Infinite Darkness and seal him up. Bring him back after a thousand years!"

Hearing that, a menacing grin crept onto Fenshui's face. With a flail of his wings, he grabbed hold of Hu He and drifted toward the direction of the original palace.

All the while, the most miserable thing in a place like the underworld was not death, but an infinite seal.

The torment of spending one's life all alone, even the gods would be mentally deranged!

Meanwhile in the Land of Cangxu, there was a place for the seal specially used for imprisonment, which was the underground of the original palace.

This place was personally built by Cangxu himself after a few ten thousand years after becoming king. The reason was to suppress all forces who dared to confront him.

The souls' perception of time in this prison was completely different from the outside world. An hour on the outside world meant 1,000 years in the Infinite Darkness.

Besides, there was no food and soul energy in it, so there was no way to perform sorcery either. Apart from that, a seal was made on the prisoner's body so that the prisoner would not be able to escape through death. It was truly a place of darkness.

Considering the existence of this seal, Cangxu's status was as solid as a rock when he was ruling back at that time. No one dared to revolt against him as anyone in their right mind wouldn't want to spend the rest of their life in darkness. That was a torture so much worse than death.

Chapter 248: The Great Demon King Got Banned

Land of Cangxu, His Excellency's Palace.

A large shadow glided toward the zone from afar at a fast pace.

While flying with high speed, Hu He had a hard time keeping his eyes open as the strong wind howled by his ears. Everything around him was blurry.

When they finally reached the sky above the palace, Fenshui the Ghost King dropped his body abruptly, and with that, Hu He experienced his first bungee jump.

The palace was in ruins. The supplies and resources internally were all divided between the lords of each region and now the place looked just like a stretch of wasteland.

When they almost reached the ground, Fenshui's body started to shrink as he carried Hu He into the palace and stopped at a corner of the Great Hall.

After having a good look at Hu He's unbending expression, Fenshui flapped his wings vigorously and suddenly, a crack formed on the ground. In the crack was total blackness.

"Big bird, what are you trying to do!?" Hu He asked vigilantly as he stared down into the darkness.

"Are you not afraid of death? So we shall meet after a thousand years!" Fenshui smiled menacingly and kicked Hu He into the black hole.

After entering the seal, the shadow engulfed Hu He in a split second, though currently he still maintained a calm composure. To him, getting sealed up for a thousand years was something that can be resolved just by committing suicide once.

Otherwise, getting sealed would mean getting banned, he believed that it was impossible for this kind of bug to exist in the game.

Therefore, without any worries about his future, Hu He started to take a good look at his surroundings.

Without a single ray of light, the place was in pin-drop silence. Hu He then took out a searchlight from his inventory, wanting to inspect the situation around him.

A cylinder of light from his torch swept across his surroundings.

However, what happened next left Hu He flabbergasted.

Just as the searchlight managed to light up a three-meter distance, the light ray started to shorten rapidly as though a monster in the dark was devouring the light bit by bit, until everything was back into darkness again.

Hu He was at a loss, so he kept his searchlight on and shouted, "Is anyone there?"

However, just when his voice exited his mouth, it vanished into thin air. Even Hu He himself wasn't able to hear his own shouts.

Unable to see or hear anything, Hu He began to panic.

After all, everything in this game was extremely real. In a situation where his senses were all blocked, Hu He's blood ran cold.

Originally, he was planning to do some exploration. But now, he was totally out of ideas. He took his shovel out and decided to finish himself off so he could start all over again from the safe zone.

After turning off his pain detectors, Hu He started to strike at himself.

Albeit, what happened after that scared the living daylights out of Hu He.

Every time his shovel hit his body, a shapeless darkness would shield the part where he was hurt and nullify all the forces.

He tried smashing his head, slashing his throat, and all the other methods of dying, but Hu He was left utterly dumbfounded.

I actually can't die here!

This scared Hu He out of his wits. If he couldn't die and return, did it not mean that he would have to stay there for 1,000 years?

I can't even live a thousand year... don't tell me I'll have to pass down this account to my future generations?

Realizing that the situation was not in his favor, Hu He swiftly logged out of the game.

Luckily, he was not in battle mode, so Hu He managed to log out of this sealed world easily.

After he was back to reality, Hu He logged back into the game again, with a sense of hope in his heart.

Darkness, everything was still in an infinite darkness.

Logged out!

Logged in again!

The dark world engulfed him once again.

...

Motherfucker, did I really get banned from my account?

After numerous attempts, Hu He was in the midst of falling apart. He shrunk himself into a ball in the dark, feeling wronged like a little child.

Meanwhile in the live streaming channel, the gamers were bustling with noise and excitement when they saw Hu He got sealed.

Watermelon_Taro: "Look, he was banned for a thousand years. I think this account can be inherited to his future generations after 1,000 years (laughing emoji)!"

Crayon_Shinchan: "When Hu He's great great great great ... great grandson is about to leave his mortal frame, he holds onto his son's hand as tears roll down his cheeks. Dear son, this account was passed down by your great ancestor, Hu He, the Great Demon King a thousand years ago. I can't wait any longer, you must carry forward this account's legacy. According to the recorded history, this account was said to be a legend, an imperishable legend! Finishing his last words, he kicks the bucket (laughing emoji)..."

Xueli_The_Strongest replied to Crayon_Shinchan: "Hahaha! How can you guys say such a thing in such a sad case, hahaha!"

Peppa_Boar: "After a thousand years, Hu He's future generation logs into the account, lifts his shovel and shouts out to the world. I'm the Great Demon King in this new world, bow to me, you foolish gamers (laughing emoji)!"

Lost_8k_To_Online_Dating replied to Peppa_Boar: "Then, he gets dumped into the Infinite Darkness again by the new generation of players and continues to be banned for another 1,000 years. (laughing emoji)"

Roasting_Jade_Hare_While_Hugging_Chang'e: "Stupid netizens, a bunch of fools, hahaha!"

Captain_Dragonfly: "Hahaha, we have been waiting for this forever and it has finally come, what a mournful situation. The Great Demon King, bear the pain and look at the positive side, I'll introduce you to a game called Tetris. (laughing emoji)"

...

After reading the gamers' replies, Hu He felt disheartened. He literally felt like crying.

Yet even tears couldn't roll down in this darkness.

Nonetheless, jokes were just for humor. After playing around for a while, the gamers started to form a team and were ready to save the Great Demon King.

Although the Great Demon King had done a lot of wrongdoings in the past, now he had made an all-out effort for all the gamers in the Land of Cangxu.

Everyone had seen his hard work with their own eyes. So, with the jokes aside, they came together as one and headed toward the original palace to rescue him.

Watching his brothers on their way to save him, Hu He finally regained his spirits.

Oh yes! I could go to the forum and give feedback about the bug to the officials, let them handle it! A sudden self-rescue thought sparked in Hu He's mind.

Having that in mind, Hu He tried to open the forum.

Fortunately, he was still able to summon the game's interface no matter the circumstances he was under. This made Hu He feel so much relieved.

After that, Hu He logged into the forum and prepared to post a cry for help. He would then let other gamers help to stick the post on top of the forum.

Given the past, Hu He was dead sure that the gamers would try their best to overwrite his post. After all, it was the gamers' dream for his account to get banned.

Things had changed now, though. He was their life savior, the European server players' last ray of hope.

Just when Hu He was ready to hit the send button after typing the title and content of the post, he saw a beam of light above him. Following that, an unknown force pulled him upward.

"Hahaha, a thousand years have passed. How was it, were you afraid?"

Hu He was rendered speechless.

Looking at the arrogant Fenshui, Hu He glanced at the time on the lower-left corner of the interface. He was overwhelmed when he realized, Only an hour had passed, right?

...

All along, Lu Wu had been watching over Hu He's encounter.

However, he had the least worry about Hu He being sealed.

After Hu He was sealed, he went to Cangxu personally and asked about it. The Infinite Darkness that he had made was actually not something as terrifying as time control.

Creating a seal that was able to control the flow of time was never within his powers. In fact, the time inside the Infinite Darkness was just the same as that on the outside.

The only difference was that within the seal, the soul's senses would be confused by Cangxu's ritual, causing the prisoner to lose track of time. An hour inside the Infinite Darkness was equal to a thousand years in the outer world.

All in all, even the Underworld God could hardly master the Supreme Law of Time, which was the power to change the time in two different regions. How could he, a mere existence of the Ghost Emperor Realm, ever manage to acquire the skill?

So, Lu Wu was not a bit worried about something going wrong with Hu He when he knew the truth.

Besides, Hu He's soul was protected by the artifact.

Puzzling the souls in their sense of time would have worked on others, but as a gamer, it would never work on Hu He.

Moreover, even if Hu He were to be really sealed for a thousand years, Lu Wu was still able to summon him back into the artifact. Hu He didn't even have to break a sweat about it.

Of course, Hu He himself was not aware of it. Therefore, he had given himself some unnecessary heebie-jeebies.

...

"As expected, you were terrified. Fellow, weren't you unafraid of death back then? How do you feel right now? Speak up!" Fenshui the Ghost King smiled threateningly as he eyed the dazed Hu He.

Hu He was at a loss for words.

“Actually... it was quite okay!”

Chapter 249: Extending The Year

Fenshui the Ghost King was dumbfounded when he heard Hu He's blasé answer.

“Could it be that the torture has driven you to madness?”

Looking at the extremely indifferent Hu He, Fenshui began to feel uneasy.

In all honesty, he fully understood why Yuanxu wanted to seal Hu He away.

Not only was it because Yuanxu wanted to know about Hu He's goal in digging up the seals everywhere, but also because he had noticed Hu He's potential and wanted to recruit him.

The main reason to seal him up was mainly to pressure Hu He and inject some fear into him as he seemed to be unafraid of death.

If Hu He had really gone mad, there was no way he could get off scot-free when reporting to Yuanxu.

“I'm not mad, you're the one who's mad!” Hu He could not hold in this fierce outburst of denial as he looked at Fenshui.

He wasn't even the slightest bit anxious about this. With the entire legion of players backing him up, they would definitely provide him with support whenever necessary.

What's more, all his fears disappeared when he discovered that in reality, 1,000 years inside the crack of Infinite Darkness was equivalent to just one hour on the outside.

I knew it, how is it possible for Battle Online to have such a massive bug! Hu He couldn't help but think to himself and felt relieved.

Glancing at Fenshui the Ghost King, Hu He had already realized his own worth. At the same time, the urge to explore the seals once again broiled inside him. Therefore, in a tiny whisper, he tentatively asked, “Do you want to extend it for another 1,000 years?”

His statement left Fenshui at a loss for words.

Looking at the dazed Fenshui, Hu He continued speaking, “You asked me how I feel about it. I don't think I can fully explain what I felt just now, can I go through it again?”

Staring at the unusually calm Hu He, Fenshui the Ghost King suddenly felt extremely irritable.

Based on what he had predicted, Hu He's reaction after being released should have been one of teary relief. Hu He was supposed to kneel on the ground pitifully begging him... why and how was he even challenging him now?

His frigid gaze rested upon Hu He for a few moments, a guess slowly formed in Fenshui's mind.

This rascal must be acting when actually, he's probably quaking with fear!

He would never fall for the thought that Hu He was completely unaffected by it at all.

After all, he had witnessed numerous people released from the Infinite Darkness. The first thing that all of them did was to beg piteously, without any form of psychological defense. As long as they didn't have to return to the Infinite Darkness, they were willing to face death itself, let alone swear loyalty to Yuanxu!

With that thought in mind, Fenshui could hardly suppress his twisted smile, "Looks like it was too short of a time for you! I hope in the next meeting, you are no longer so stubborn!"

Then, with one kick of his leg, Hu He was sent back into the depths of the Infinite Darkness again.

The interior of the Infinite Darkness consisted of square-shaped jail cells, all of which could be controlled from the outside. From the inside, it was impossible to notice the existence of other prisoners. It was not that he was afraid of Hu He doing something unexpected. After all, Hu He had been examined before and no equipment or tools were found on him.

This time, Hu He remained calm and collected as he entered the Infinite Darkness again.

First, he opened the Menu tab and played some music.

The music was from the artifact and connected directly to his hearing, so even the Infinite Darkness was unable to block it out.

After that, he accessed the forum and went through all the posts.

Finally, he opened the live streaming channels and watched those silly netizens make fools of themselves online.

After a flurry of motions, a ray of light shone again and Hu He was sucked into the outer realm.

“How did it feel?”

Hu He earnestly nodded his head.

“I felt something this time!”

Fenshui the Ghost King immediately lost his temper and sent Hu He back into the Infinite Darkness with another ruthless kick.

He did not believe that Hu He could last long under this treatment.

Meanwhile, deep within the Infinite Darkness, Hu He’s body twisted and turned, dancing to the music as he began to jam out.

Either way, no one could see him now, so he could party as he liked with no hesitation.

One hour later...

Before he could even regain his balance on his feet, Hu He was once again kicked back inside by the infuriated Fenshui.

This time Fenshui was truly angered. He planned to seal Hu He inside there for 10,000 years, there was no way this rascal wouldn’t cave after that!

Returning to the Infinite Darkness, Hu He began his usual routine of listening to music, scrolling through posts, and watching live streams. But when he finished, he noticed that Fenshui had yet to release him. Thus, he logged off, made himself a cup of coffee, and finished it with a satisfying gulp before logging back into the game.

This time he planned on exploring the Infinite Darkness.

The portion of the area that he was in was not that wide, perhaps around thirty square feet. The very edge of this area was a soft and tactile Sealing Wall.

Hu He tried to push it and found the Sealing Wall to be extremely resilient. He was unable to destroy it with his strength.

However, this also incited a deep desire within Hu He to dig through this Sealing Wall.

Even though his avatar lacked the strength, he still had other options like browsing the shop where tools were in abundance.

Thus, Hu He began to search the shop for tools that could be used to destroy the seal.

Jason from the Zero Guild on the European server had recently transferred him some funds for digging up seals, so he was not worried about wasting soul coins.

He had tried all of those electric drills and demon-breaker knives. If it weren't for the fact that the shop did not sell excavators, he would also have bought one to try.

Unfortunately, to his dismay, all of these tools did not work on the Sealing Wall, leaving it completely unscathed.

Even so, Hu He did not become dispirited but turned his attention to rifling through the special columns of the shop.

There were a lot of special items listed there, so he felt that he might be able to get lucky with one of them.

After looking around for some time, Hu He finally managed to find something spectacular.

[Anti-Seal Canceler (Tool)]:

Item Details: A belonging left behind by an unknown developer when he was still in the early stages of researching the seals. It is able to cancel out the energy of most seals (Warning: This tool is a one-time use item.)

Item Price: 400 soul coins

A quick glimpse at the price made Hu He hesitate. Upon touching the Sealing Wall, his heart became restless again.

He ruminated over it, then grit his teeth and bought one.

The Anti-Seal Canceler suddenly appeared in front of him, its shape akin to a doorknob.

With high hopes, Hu He placed this tool onto the wall of air.

At this moment, the Sealing Wall promptly began to ripple, hardening to the touch and no longer as soft as it originally was.

In the span of about a minute, a sudden smack resounded through the air and the Anti-Seal Canceler shattered in Hu He's hand.

Just when its effects could be seen, the tool had suddenly failed to work. Without a doubt, it made Hu He's heart ache.

Since he had already started this, it was not in his nature to do things half-heartedly. Thus, he bought another one of them.

After he proceeded to use three of these anti-seal cancelers, the Sealing Wall suddenly cracked.

As he stared at the seal which had successfully been broken, Hu He excitedly clasped his fist before walking through it.

The interior of the Sealing Wall was still pitch black, so Hu He began to fumble around.

Smack!

Just as he was walking, Hu He suddenly felt his foot had come into contact with something, sending him tumbling down onto the floor.

He hurriedly got to his feet and instinctively took a step back.

However, this space was completely enveloped in darkness, it was impossible for him to make out what had tripped him. Still, he bent over and began to use his hands to feel around his legs.

Hmm? It's smooth and really soft?

Even so, the living thing by his feet still remained deadly still, hardly a response to any of his movements.

Hu He was a bit despondent that he was unable to discern what the living thing was by his feet. He truly felt it might be impossible for them to interact with each other.

Therefore, he began to go through the shop once again.

Momentarily, Hu He re-emerged with another wonderful item.

[Soul Interaction Rope]:

Item Details: A soul-conductor tool invented by an unknown developer, used to communicate with the souls of living things. (Examples: Ghosts and Evil Ghosts)

Method of Use: All living things (Spiritual Body) that come into contact with the Soul Interaction Rope can commence interaction (Warning: Most spiritual bodies lack sentience, thus interaction is not feasible. Once purchased, no refunds are allowed!)

Item Price: 500 soul coins

This price caused a twinge in Hu He's heart, but he still bought the item.

Following the instructions, he placed one end of the rope onto the living thing laying on the ground.

After they were connected, Hu He made a short-distance phone call.

“Hey, hey, hey, younger brother, can you hear me?”

Chapter 250: Our Big Brother

After a few tries, Hu He noticed that the living thing on the ground had no reaction whatsoever.

Hu He became exasperated as he had not expected the shop to sell counterfeit and shoddy products. Especially since it had included a developer in its description. This was a deception gone too far. How could they produce counterfeits, this really is so unprofessional.

Sensing Hu He’s thoughts, Bei Li promptly gazed at him, making Hu He shiver unconsciously.

Just as Hu He was sure that there was no way for them to communicate, a stutter suddenly resounded through his mind.

“Wh-who are y-you... wh-where are y-you? L-let m-me out! I-I-I’ll do a-anything you a-ask!”

The reply was sudden and out of nowhere, so it left Hu He momentarily stunned and strangely excited.

“Hey younger brother, can you tell me who you are?”

“I’m...”

As Hu He waited for the rest of his reply, the fellow suddenly stopped talking.

“Who on earth are you!?” Hu He asked agitatedly.

“I... I c-can’t remember anymore!”

His reply sent Hu He into a daze.

“Err-I-I... th-think I c-could be th-the Vengeful G-Ghost King,” the voice said shakily.

This made Hu He even more speechless.

However, the fact that this fellow still had a breath of life in him did not escape Hu He’s notice. An extremely daring idea popped up in his mind.

At that moment, Fenshui the Ghost King was still out there. In his current state, he definitely lacked the strength to make an escape on his own. However, if he had this Ghost King with him, he might stand a chance.

The thought occurred to Hu He, that an extra person meant extra strength, so he might as well find more people to help him.

However, with his present finances, he did not have enough soul coins to use, so he would need funds from the outside.

Hu He then opened his Friends List and scrolled to the biggest sponsor he had right now – Jason.

After opening the chat, Hu He explained the current situation that he was in and expressed his desire for some monetary support in the form of soul coins.

Hu He's contributions to the development of the European server were undoubtedly tremendous. Thus, without hesitating, Jason transferred another 20,000 soul coins to him.

Hu He was touched. Finally, he felt like a decent person as he had someone who valued him greatly now.

With an extra 20,000 soul coins, Hu He was invigorated with a renewed sense of confidence.

After taking the Soul Interaction Rope with him, he began to look for the Sealing Wall inside this room and purchased another Anti-Seal Canceler to break it down.

After spending three hours, Hu He had managed to break the seal around ten rooms. Apart from two empty ones, he had come across a total of 13 beings with unknown strength and capabilities.

As he could not see clearly in there, there was no way for him to use his analyzing ability. Moreover, their abilities were sealed and could not be used, so Hu He was unable to determine their true strength.

Nonetheless, Hu He remained in high spirits, as now the overall strength of his party had increased.

However, there was still one matter that troubled Hu He.

None of them could remember their own names – four claimed to be the Vengeful Ghost King while three earnestly acknowledged their identity as the Vacuum Ghost General. There was even one that said his name was Cangxu and claimed to be at the rank of His Excellency.

This gave Hu He a strong notion that he had saved a bunch of fools.

Be that as it may, since he wanted to escape, he still needed to depend on the strength of these people.

After breaking through a few more seal walls, Hu He brought them all to his original room. One by one, he let them hold onto the Soul Interaction Rope before beginning to communicate.

The conversation that followed after was extremely emotionally-taxing for Hu He as each one of them stuttered to no end and seemed to be half-dead.

As a result of the protection of dark strength here, even though they didn't die per se, they were teetering on the edge of death. They were lost in the eternal ebb and flow of time, hence their knowledge and awareness of the outside world had become very vague.

Regardless of how much of a hassle the interactions were, they still needed to take place. Hu He began to explain to them the reason why he had dug them out. At the same time, he also told them to hold on a bit longer as they would be able to leave here promptly.

Hu He did not forget to share a very key piece of information with them – he hoped that once they escaped, they could give Fenshui the Ghost King a good beating.

After all, Hu He still had not let go of his vengeance from being slapped by him.

After explaining the intricacies of it all numerous times and feeling 20 of them nod in agreement, Hu He heaved a sigh of relief.

He then laid on the floor and opened the forum, scrolling through spam posts as well as watching livestreams.

Ah, the wifi we players have is just wonderful. If it weren't for this heavy burden on my shoulders, I would be able to live in this so-called Infinite Darkness for a year.

Presently, Hu He was having a whale of a time, completely forgetting his previous state of despair.

Seconds and minutes slowly passed by.

The other beings he found were able to regain some consciousness after their communication. They were no longer as wooden as before and had also begun to remember some things.

This pleased Hu He greatly. As he was watching the livestreams, he would casually insert a response into the conversation, acting like the big brother of the group.

...

In the outside world, Fenshui the Ghost King was quite agitated.

These ten hours of boring, uneventful waiting had chipped away at his patience.

However, since he promised 10,000 years, it had to be so. He needed Hu He to realize what true terror was and what being helpless felt like.

Once he felt that the time had come, Fenshui opened the seal of the Infinite Darkness with bated breath, before stretching his hand down to get Hu He.

However, he was dumbfounded with what followed after.

Numerous silhouettes began to emerge from below.

There were more than 20 silhouettes, including Hu He.

Their faces were expressionless. When they came into contact with sunlight, they instinctively shielded their eyes, as though deeply unused to it.

All around, a sudden soul energy thunderstorm began to brew. Large amounts of soul energy began to accumulate and flow into these living things that had just escaped the darkness.

After glancing at Hu He who was smiling proudly at him and the numerous figures standing around him, Fenshui's heart skipped a beat.

To his utter horror, Fenshui realized that he recognized most of these people.

He had put some of them there under Cangxu's orders long ago.

He had no idea how Hu He was able to accomplish this. All forms of energy were useless in the Infinite Darkness. Besides, he was sure that Hu He did not hide any tools with him. Nevertheless, now he knew one thing. This was a complete disaster, and something apocalyptic was about to happen.

These beings that were thrown into the Infinite Darkness had immense power and would not bow down to anyone.

Now that they had all been released, the entire Land of Cangxu would probably be thrown into pandemonium.

With the soul energy continuously flowing into their bodies, the numb souls began to heal and regain their memories.

It would be hard for them to return to their optimal form in this short time, but they could already make out what had happened to themselves.

“Brothers! Let’s beat him up!” Hu He loftily pointed at Fenshui and shouted.

Hearing this, Fenshui the Ghost King immediately flapped his wings, trying to escape.

With a glimpse, he had noticed there were at least eight other Ghost Kings. Even though they hadn’t fully recuperated yet, if a real fight were to break out, he would not be able to hold out for long.

However, as soon as he swooped up into the sky, numerous shadows streaked toward him and pressed him back onto the ground.

In fact, something had escaped Hu He’s knowledge.

In the Infinite Darkness, the appearance of Hu He had left an indelible mark on all of their hearts.

Perhaps for Hu He, it had merely been a few hours, but for them, they had spent eons in the harrowing darkness. Moreover, in that short period of time, Hu He had fulfilled the role as their big brother. He brought them light and hope, as well as preventing them from falling into the abyss of eternal oblivion.

After regaining their consciousness, these maliciously evil beings were unconsciously filled with respect and adoration for Hu He.