

The Boss Behind The Game Chapter 31

Chapter 31: You Deserve To Be Single

Upon confirming that Lu Wu was the descendant of the late King of Beiqi combined with various factors which included Lu Wu's mysterious true strength and the possibility for him to control the rules of reincarnation, the Soul Liberating Envoy chose to vow loyalty and devotion to him after a prolonged struggle with his inner turmoil.

However, Lu Wu asked him to return to Cha Na to stir up trouble in the future instead of letting him stay.

The Soul Liberating Envoy went down the stairs made from skeletons and came to the side of the King of Skeleton's throne. He bowed his head slowly.

"Lord Cha Na, I'm back from the investigation."

"Why did Third Ghost die?" the silhouette on the throne spoke unhurriedly.

The Soul Liberating Envoy reached out his hand from the black robe and handed over a dry branch.

"The Tree Demon? The Rock Ghost King? I knew it!" the voice from the throne was obviously angry.

"Is the Northern Zone insufficient for him and he wanted my Liuli District as well? Does he think that I'm weak? Why is everyone provoking me!"

"Lord Cha Na, what should we do?" the Soul Liberating Envoy lowered his head and asked.

Cha Na remained silent for a while before he opened his mouth, "Let's put it aside and wait until I could break through the Ghost King State!"

The Soul Liberating Envoy nodded his head and was about to retreat when Cha Na commanded again, "Right, please go to the Underworld Sea and tell the Sea King that I agree with his suggestions."

Upon hearing that, the Soul Liberating Envoy gave another bow to Cha Na, "I've got it." Then, he gradually retreated.

After the Soul Liberating Envoy had vowed loyalty and devotion to Lu Wu, both Lu Wu and Bei Li burst into laughter in the bedroom.

They did not expect that they could settle this troublesome fellow so easily and this fellow was really going to put a spoke in Cha Na's wheel. This situation had made Lu Wu and Bei Li crazily amused.

During this period, the development of the influence of the players increased rapidly as the reputation of Battle Online was spreading with high-speed. A lot of players with strong influence from game guilds also joined Battle Online.

The participation of these guild players had made the game even more interesting.

As the saying goes, where there are people, there is trouble. It was common to have conflicts among the players. Having players killed in the wild was the most popular activity other than killing creatures for leveling up.

It was frequent to spot small conflicts between two players which led to huge fights between two game guilds.

The influence of the players developed actively as all of the players wanted to improve their strengths. They often denounced the officials at the forum collectively for not setting up channels to top-up.

This was amusing to Lu Wu. He had seen players who complained about spending too much money in-game but it was the first time for him to see players complaining of not being allowed to spend money in-game.

Another group of protesters who protested were the assassin class players.

In their point of view, the assassin character class had become a low win rate character at the present stage. According to the players, they were so weak to the extent that they would rather become autistic.

The reason was very simple. The berserker was a positive and firm character and its single combat ability was originally strong. Assassins could never be the rival of berserkers unless their player was very skillful.

As for the mage character class, it was much tougher to be antagonized now that it was revamped with summoning and demonic skills. It was seen as the king of player killing in the wild. It was a prevailing character at the present stage. Mage players who had been belittled with low win rates were finally able to show off themselves.

At least berserkers still had the possibility to have a character enhancement. In contrast, the assassins had no ability to have single combat at all other than moving stealthily around and bringing instantaneous explosively high damage, which was upsetting to them.

Lu Wu could not do anything about this. After all, the development of the characters should be in the light of actual conditions and this fully depended on when Bei Li could come out with it.

However, Lu Wu's question was soon settled by an online streamer.

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The streamer had been joking that he used to be an assassin in real life so he wanted to teach everyone some strong assassination skills on his channel.

The streamer attracted the attention of a lot of assassin players. Lu Yi also entered his live streaming channel due to curiosity.

The title of this assassin player's live stream was: A Professional Assassin Teaching You How To Kill Reckless Berserkers and Vulnerable Mages on Solo, The Ultimate Application of Assassin Skills.

The live stream of the assassin was actually a practical tutorial. He kept looking for players from his enemy guild in the wild to assassinate them throughout the live stream.

Compared to the other assassins, his techniques were unique. Instead of fighting recklessly with the other berserker players, he utilized both the poison needles and close-quarter back-stabbing skills to deplete the berserkers' energy while wandering around using Shadow Step.

Berserkers could not overtake assassins from the aspect of speed so the berserkers could do nothing other than chasing after the assassin upon depletion. If the berserker players chose to escape, the assassin would approach and give the berserkers a stab in the back. After the health of the berserkers was reduced, the assassin would flee from the berserkers again and continue to release poison needles remotely.

The technique he possessed had a high win rate in his live stream. Other than a few berserkers with strong fencing skills, he basically obtained victory in every round.

While antagonizing a mage, the assassin would give up on back-stabbing skills but apply the poison needle skill to consume the opponent's health without giving the opponent a chance to get near him.

As for the mage's Yin Corrosion skill, it was a wide range skill so its damage would be less severe than a single poison needle's damage. Additionally, the assassin's health was higher than a mage's, so an assassin could deplete and kill the mage by wandering around using Shadow Step. It was not necessary for close quarters.

The streamer's despicable methods had gone viral in the forum. Many assassin players started to learn his techniques for player killing in the wild.

However, a lot of assassin players realized that it was hard for them to throw the poison needles accurately during battles due to the extremely high degree of reality of the game. Therefore, a lot of players who liked killing other players started to study throwing skills meticulously.

This post had made more players realize the importance of skills.

Although a character's strength was the first standard in the game, players with strong skills were absolutely capable to challenge other players of higher levels.

For example, there was a berserker player who was very popular in the forum known as QingFengMingYue.

This player was currently known as the best sword player in the game. It was reported that this player was a well-known master of fencing in real life.

Although he was only at Level 15, he once defeated five players of Level 20 which allied to attack him during a guild battle by relying on his skills and sword power. He became famous overnight and he was seen as a skillful player in the eyes of the berserker players.

The posts regarding skills were the popular posts in the online forum all along. Also, the appearance of skillful players enriched the diversity of the game.

The game made the players feel like they were in a different world rather than just a game.

The post of one of the players in the forum left a deep impression on Lu Wu.

This player was describing an incident that happened to him in real life.

One day, his girlfriend asked him, "Why are you always busy with this game after work? What's so fun about it? Can't we have a proper date?"

He answered, "You will never understand. I have another world here!"

Eventually, they broke up.

This sentence had induced an emotional stirring within Lu Wu. He felt that the development of the game had gone beyond his expectations.

However, the other players did not have the same emotional stirring as Lu Wu. All of them gave the same reply on that post,

"Bro, you deserve to be single!"

The Boss Behind The Game Chapter 32

Chapter 32: The Sea King

It was three o'clock in the morning but the lights in Lu Wu's bedroom were still on.

Bei Li was snacking on chips as she raised her head occasionally to peek at Lu Wu who was cudgeling his brain for ideas.

Meanwhile, several papers were laid out in front of Lu Wu. There were sketches of various settings and written remarks on the papers. As Lu Wu pondered over the issues, he continued to add more notes on the papers from time to time.

Being the secret King of Beiqi, he was having a rather tough time as some of the players were perturbing him.

Recently, the players had gotten increasingly aggressive in requesting the developers to implement a top-up system, causing a severe headache to Lu Wu.

After some contemplation, Lu Wu took a deep breath before he moved the mouse to wake the screen up from sleep mode, intending to look for useful advice from the players in the forum.

As he scrolled through the pages, Lu Wu was attracted by a player's video game live stream which was pinned on top of the timeline.

The title of the post said, "A Battle by the Sea that You Wouldn't Want to Miss!"

After he clicked on the link, Lu Wu realized that this player was at the boundary of Liuli District and the Underworld Sea. The player was laying on his belly on a steep cliff by the sea. From above, he captured the scene under the cliff and streamed it for the other gamers of the forum.

Lu Wu had no idea how the player trespassed the territory of Cha Na, the Ghost General. His attention was quickly drawn by the numerous sea monsters that were rushing toward the shore from the offing of the Underworld Sea.

At the ocean, the water level continued to rise, eventually forming a huge wave that appeared as though it was going to swamp the entire place.

Riding on the wave was a sea monster that resembled a whale but was way larger in size. A naked man was standing on the back of the sea monster with a trident in his hand.

"Cha Na! Show yourself!"

“Roar!”

The sound waves of the man’s enraged roar turned into an almost realistic ripple and rolled onto the shore.

“What the hell is this monster? Its roar caused me to lose more than 10 points of HP and I’m now stuck in a negative state of chaos!”

The player who was overlooking the event ranted grumpily.

In the comment section:

“Bro, I’ll pay for your potions. Stop moving the camera. You might accidentally miss the great war of the NPC.”

“Stay calm. It seems like the NPC on the back of the whale wants to challenge Cha Na. He’s so bold!”

“The enemy of my enemy is my friend. Naked man on the whale, I support you to beat the bastard up!”

“Who is this man? Is he Poseidon? He’s making a grand entrance.”

“Haha, brother, have you been watching too many movies? He looks like the future self of the most popular livestreamer, the beast tamer. Can’t you see all the sea monsters in the ocean that have been domesticated by him?”

“Cha Na! Show yourself!”

Another deafening howl resonated. The trees at the shore were shaken violently by the sound wave that propagated through the atmosphere.

“Oh god, please stop crying. It’s causing ringing in my ears. Oh no, I need my medication.”

The player who was live streaming the incident took out a red potion with a dejected expression and poured it into his mouth. He was worried that he would be instantly killed by the creature’s next cry.

Followed by the monster’s howl, a chilly wind swirled pass the shore. Then, six undersized silhouettes appeared out of nowhere, carrying a huge skeleton throne on their shoulders.

“Sea King, don’t push me too far!” as Cha Na spoke and confronted the overbearing Sea King from afar, flaming fire was aroused around his throne.

“I’m pushing you too far? So, what can you do about it?”

The Sea King lifted his trident with a dauntless face. Suddenly, all the sea monsters raised their heads and shrieked in synchrony.

Cha Na seemed to be upset by the Sea King’s words as he replied with a scowl, “Sea King, I have always respected you as the king of the ocean. However, you have been disdainful of me.”

“I don’t need you to acknowledge my status. I respected the King of Beiqi when he was still alive. But now, you are nothing to me.”

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At the comment section:

“He is such a domineering Poseidon. I want to bear his babies. (From a girl who is addicted to the game)”

“This is great! The betrayer Cha Na is a son of a bitch! Punch him! Punch him!”

“This Poseidon is so fearless and manly! I feel as if my heart has been conquered by him!”

“Damn! That’s awesome, brother! He must have learned it from Haoshoku Haki. I’ll bet 1 soul coin on him.”

“Upon seeing the great ocean and our brother, Poseidon, I doubt if there are still pirates out there. Anyone wants to join me for a treasure hunt?”

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The Sea King’s words unreservedly humiliated Cha Na, causing Cha Na to appear increasingly resentful.

He clenched his fists and stood up abruptly from the skeleton throne. With his tall height, he overlooked the ocean.

“Since you want war, I’ll fight with you!”

“Haha! So, you’ve decided not to be a coward anymore? I reckon that you’re prepared for this war since you rejected my request. Am I right?”

Cha Na, who was ready to attack, suddenly paused his action, appearing confused.

“Did I turn you down?” I clearly remember that I told Du Yan to accept the offer. How did it turn into a refusal?

Noticing that Cha Na had stopped in his tracks, the Sea King sneered and raised his trident. Immediately, the sea churned chaotically and a gigantic wave rose from the water, which was at least a hundred meters tall. The wall of water rushed toward the shore mercilessly.

“Sea King, wait a minute! I think we’re having a misunderstanding!”

“Weakling!” the Sea King’s eyes were filled with contempt. The enormous wave continued to strike toward the shore as the Sea King had no intention to stop it.

Boom! The wave hit the shore. The skeleton throne which was carried by the six undersized creatures disappeared in a flash, leaving the man’s silhouette in place.

“Roar!” Cha Na’s figure expanded constantly followed by his bark and he transformed into a livid-faced giant with fangs and the height of more than 10 meters.

Coupled with several loud slaps, the billow repeatedly thrashed his muscular body.

The Sea King, who mounted on the huge whale, let out a long howl. The sea monsters began to approach the shore and surround Cha Na as though they understood his order.

“Sea King! When did I dismiss your demand? I’ve promised to offer you a hundred thousand sacrifices every year. Why are you still putting pressure on me?”

Surrounded by the army, Cha Na waved his hand and countless Ghost Wolf Riders and Steel Beast Riders appeared on the shore.

Upon hearing Cha Na’s words, the Sea King bent down as water spouted from the blowhole of the huge whale beneath his feet. The waterspout then launched his body toward the shore as though he was a missile.

Looking at the Sea King who was advancing toward him, Cha Na’s pupils contracted and all of his muscles tensed up. He then yelped and raised his fist.

Both of their fists collided and a gust of wind was instantly formed by the eruptive force, blowing away many of the sea monsters.

Drip. Drip.

At where their fists met, dark blood ran down their skin. Cha Na staggered backward.

The Sea King descended to the ground.

“Cha Na, I don’t know why you have the audacity to reject me,” the Sea King spoke scornfully as he looked at Cha Na’s pale face.

“Sea King, I told you. I’ve agreed with your request. Why are you still upset with me? Something is wrong here.”

Cha Na was shocked to learn the powerful strength within the Sea King’s body. The Sea King’s true strength was obviously far beyond his expectations.

Cha Na was no match for the Sea King.

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Chapter 33: The Underworld Sea

There was nothing else Cha Na could do other than to suppress the flames of fury deep inside his heart as he confronted the pushy yet powerful Sea King.

“So, you’ve agreed? Fine, I’ll accept it but the offerings have to be doubled!” the Sea King added on to the requirement.

“You...” Cha Na’s face was ghastly pale but he realized that he did not have the right to negotiate with the Sea King.

The audience finally saw the Sea King’s true appearance.

There were three blue stripes on both sides of his face like the gills of a fish while cyan-colored hair grew on his chest. With his approximately two meters in height, he successfully subdued Cha Na’s imposing vigor although Cha Na was more than ten meters tall. He constantly exuded a dauntless aura, resembling a ferocious beast.

In the comment section:

“He looks so manly! But why is he not punching Cha Na? Go on and beat him up!”

“He is so strong! Cha Na is already bleeding after merely one punch! Is Poseidon possibly at Level 999?”

“Keep quiet please. I’ve already signed up to be a fan of Poseidon. I’m waiting for him to beat Cha Na up!”

“He has repressed Cha Na with one sole punch! So powerful! Is this character class available for the public? I want to advance my character class to be at Poseidon’s level!”

“Why are they chattering? Continue to fight please! I’ve prepared sunflower seeds and coke as snacks. Please, continue fighting! Don’t let me down now, Poseidon!”

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“Why? Are you feeling reluctant?” the Sea King reached out his hand to summon his trident. It then whooshed out of the sea and landed perfectly in his grip.

Cha Na took a deep breath and said with a sour face, “I agree. Please dismiss your troops.”

“Haha!” upon Cha Na’s surrender, the Sea King’s scornful laughter reverberated across the atmosphere.

He took another disdainful glance at Cha Na before he let out a howl. All the sea monsters immediately rushed into the ocean.

“You should’ve known this earlier. Why did you send your envoy to provoke me? Cha Na, you have to understand that, in the underworld, your Land of Beiqi is divided. The place is extremely vulnerable. You’ve been living for so long. Do I still have to remind you that only the strongest will survive?”

After he finished his words, the Sea King jumped into the ocean and a wave appeared at the offing, moving speedily toward the Sea King.

Upon seeing the Sea King, a hint of resentment flashed across Cha Na’s eyes. He growled as he punched the ground heavily. As a result, the earth quaked and the mark of his fist was imprinted on the ground.

“Du Yan, you’re tired of living!”

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In the comment section:

“We are balled up. Is the battle over?”

“I’m confused as well. What’s happening? Are they done?”

“What? Why did Poseidon stop? My sunflower seeds and Sprite are going to waste.”

“This is bad. I have to give this a poor rating. Poseidon is so unreliable! Why did he let Cha Na go?”

“Fuck, this battle ended right after I got excited? I’ve just taken off my pants!”

“I despise Poseidon. He seemed so strong at the beginning, but why did he leave after he merely attacked with some malicious words?”

“Although I couldn’t hear what they said, I think that Cha Na begged for forgiveness and Poseidon decided to spare his life.”

“The disgraceful Cha Na must have pleaded for forgiveness, or else he would have been battered!”

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The live streaming channel was flooded with comments. The players were extremely unsatisfied with the Sea King’s decision to stop the fight during the climax of the battle. A lot of the players were upset.

Lu Wu closed the live streaming page before he turned to look at Bei Li who was still eating.

“Little Li, who is this guy?”

“Hmm?”

Bei Li was still chewing on food. With her puffed cheeks, she stared at Lu Wu, looking confused.

Lu Wu massaged his forehead before he pointed at the screenshot on the screen, “This guy with the hairy chest.”

Bei Li finally heard Lu Wu. She craned her neck, swallowed the food in her mouth and took a glimpse at the screen.

“The Sea King? He is a powerful character. He has fought multiple times with the Lord King of Beiqi.”

“He fought with my ancestors before?”

Bei Li nodded her head firmly. “Yes, they often fought with each other. The King of Beiqi would disturb the Sea King whenever he was free. There was one time when the King of Beiqi brought me along. I even witnessed as the Lord King of Beiqi pressed him on the ground and rubbed him against the floor. It looked so painful!”

Lu Wu was dumbfounded. “Why did my ancestors want to fight with him?”

Bei Li shrugged and replied, “Did he need a reason to start a fight? Perhaps, the Lord King of Beiqi wanted to bully him.”

“Bu... bully him?”

Upon recalling the domineering Sea King, Lu Wu massaged his forehead once again. His ancestor was really powerful if he was capable to pin a strong man on the ground to torture him. Just like what he expected, he was still far weaker than his ancestor.

“Oh, yes. Why are you asking about the Sea King?” Bei Li asked as she reached out for the bag of snacks, took out a box of chocolate and opened the wrapper.

As a reply, Lu Wu told her about the event he witnessed via the live stream just now.

“Cha Na was thrashed?” Bei Li was shocked at first. Then, she giggled. “He deserves it!”

“After the King of Beiqi’s death, the Sea King must have thought that he could never retaliate against the abuse he received. To vent his anger, he could only beat up the Lord King of Beiqi’s then subordinate.”

“Is the Sea King the strongest in the Underworld Sea?” Lu Wu asked.

“Pfft!”

Bei Li choked on the soda that she was drinking, “Cough... hahaha!”

Noticing that Bei Li was staring at him as if he was an idiot, he replied with a half-hearted smile, looking embarrassed, “What’s wrong?”

“Do you know how vast the Underworld Sea is? The Sea King is only an overlord of the water beside the Land of Beiqi. How can he be the king of the Underworld Sea? Even the Lord King of Beiqi couldn’t conquer the Underworld Sea during his heyday.”

“The Underworld Sea connects all the large domains of the underworld. Its area is almost as extensive as the land. Meanwhile, the Underworld Sea is divided into seven parts. The Sea King is merely one of the overlords among the seven sea areas. He doesn’t even dominate the sea area.”

“He can’t dominate one sea area even when he is so strong?”

Lu Wu was astonished by the Sea King’s true strength just now. He genuinely thought that he was a very powerful character.

Bei Li nodded. “Based on the Lord King of Beiqi’s words, the nearest sea area to us is known as the Void Ocean and the overlord of this sea area was Taowu. Allegedly, he is a formidable leader. Even the Lord King of Beiqi was no match for him when he was still alive. The Sea King is only Taowu’s underling who is in charge of a subarea.”

For a while, the room was silent as Lu Wu attempted to take in the information. Finally, he raised his head.

“Little Li, what do you think about forming a navy after we conquer Liuli District? If the Sea King attacks us with a blitz, we are not capable of defending ourselves at all.”

Bei Li nodded, acknowledging Lu Wu’s idea, “I’ve had the same thought before. However, we have to restore the equipment depot of the Mansion of the Dead first. There are a lot of blueprints inside the room, including the design of a Specter Ship which is able to grow by consuming raw materials. Restoring the place will be helpful for the development of our players’ abilities.”

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Chapter 34: The Cursed Apostle

Initially, Lu Wu planned to follow Bei Li’s suggestion and immediately restore the equipment depot.

However, after he learned from Bei Li that a whopping 500,000 soul coins were required for the restoration, Lu Wu decided to abandon his plan temporarily.

The reason was simple. Unlike the Library where only books were stored, a lot of items in the equipment depot contained soul power. As extra soul power would be required to fill the soul equipment, it would cost them greatly if they were to restore the depot.

However, the construction of a Specter Ship, which was also mentioned by Bei Li, had attracted Lu Wu’s attention.

According to her, the Specter Ship was a unique ship that could devour any spiritual materials in the world to self-remold and evolve.

The ship was indestructible. Even if it was completely dismantled, the ship could return to its original form after it consumed a large amount of spiritual materials as long as its core was still intact. Therefore, it was very suitable for gamers.

By the time they got their hands on the blueprint, they could start producing basic models of a Specter Ship and sell them to the players. Then, the players could proceed to customize and upgrade their ships.

Lu Wu hit upon an idea, thinking that he might be able to make development simultaneously on land and at sea.

Meanwhile, the live streaming video that was broadcast on the forum yesterday had evoked a strong desire among the gamers to visit the Underworld Sea. Many fans were

ready to build ships on their own, intending to rescue Liuli District from Cha Na before they commenced their voyage.

Cha Na of Liuli District had now become a thorn in the players' sides. They were itching to eliminate him for good.

However, many players had watched the scene at the shore. They knew how powerful Cha Na was. With the capability of the current players, they would not stand a chance against him.

Even if they had an advantage because of their huge numbers, they were still no match for Cha Na in terms of their individual strength. Hence, they had to focus on their personal development.

But there was never a lack of talents in the forum. Soon, a few Strategy Masters had started to chalk out a stratagem.

On the other hand, some illogical players intended to hunt for Poseidon in the Underworld Sea in order to team up with him.

However, the suggestion was immediately rejected.

Although a lot of players adored the fearless Poseidon, they knew that this man was not an easy man. Considering that even Cha Na had to bow down to him, it was impossible for the players to negotiate their terms.

In spite of that, the players had not been demotivated. They began to map out a new operation plan and, at the same time, allowed the other players to store their strength. Once they were strong enough, they were bound to wipe out the Ghost General, Cha Na, and pillage his territories.

Meanwhile, for the players' convenience, Lu Wu told Bei Li to add in a new feature for the game – an auction house.

The auction house allowed the players to easily search for required items. Players would now be able to find an item, which had been priced by the other players, just by typing the name of the item in the search bar.

As for those gamers who were of a higher level and wished to obtain advanced equipment, they could sell off their unneeded weapons in exchange for the equipment.

Inevitably, Lu Wu charged for the service, imposing twenty percent of the total sales in soul coins.

On the day the feature was launched, tens of thousands of items were placed in the transaction column.

There were a variety of items on sale. Other than weapons and armor, some players were even selling peculiar stones at an insane price, hoping to snap up bargains.

Many players could not help but rant about the omnipresence of unscrupulous merchants, causing some experienced players to recall the times when they were cheated in other games.

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The next day after the launch, Lu Wu was sleeping soundly before Bei Li woke him up by shaking him strenuously.

Lu Wu opened his eyes and was instantly terrified by Bei Li who was staring at him with a pair of glowing eyes and a shabby dagger in her hand.

“Wu, I’ve found a way for the assassins to advance their character classes!”

“Calm down. Can you please put the dagger down?” Lu Wu pulled up his quilt nervously.

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Appearing excited, Bei Li took a step backward and made a stroke in the air with the dagger.

“This is a relic of the Cursed Clan. To my surprise, it was found by a player! I think there’s a chance for the assassins to undergo class advancement.”

Lu Yi glanced at the rusty dagger with an apparent broken knife edge. He did not find it special.

“Is this thing powerful?”

Bei Li nodded her head vigorously, “Absolutely! This is the weapon of the Cursed Clan, I’ve been considering to develop the Cursed Clan as the assassins’ class advancement or hidden character class. However, it had always been merely an idea. This time, it can finally be materialized!”

Lu Wu was astonished by Bei Li’s proposal, “Tell me all the details. What’s this about?”

Bei Li gave another firm nod before she explained, “The cursed apostles once formed an influential clan in the Land of Beiqi. This clan was said to be related with the Naraka of the Underworld’s large domain. All the clan members were born killers, possessing the ability to summon the Cursed Demons. In the past, they declared defiance to the Lord King of Beiqi and was violently quelled by the great army led by the King of Beiqi. The word is that the clan has vanished from the Land of Beiqi. I was surprised when I

discovered the object. I was planning to try my luck and search for it at the equipment depot after it's completely restored."

As Bei Li spoke, her eyes narrowed and turned into a crescent moon-like shape.

"I was bored just now, so I decided to check out the auction house. Eventually, I found this cursed weapon. I'm not sure who the player was who put it on sale and it was only worth five soul coins. Haha, I got myself a great bargain!"

"What's the strength of the item?" Lu Wu replied with a grin.

"I'll demonstrate it to you," Bei Li held Lu Wu's hand and immediately activated the artifact to travel to the Mansion of the Dead.

Still in his pajamas, Lu Wu was dragged by Bei Li into the laboratory in the Mansion of the Dead.

Bei Li toyed with the dagger. Then, with the assistance of the experimental machine, the dagger was disintegrated into innumerable tiny particles. Bei Li waved her hands. Followed by that, the particles were absorbed by the subring, an artifact in her hand, and were transmitted into the space of a battle artifact and turned into a series of data.

Immediately, Bei Li began to meticulously arrange the numbers.

After two hours of work, Bei Li finally put on a big smile, appearing excited.

Lu Wu immediately went forward. He quickly noticed the content that was converted from the data.

[Introduction of Character Class]:

[The Cursed Apostle]: The ones who are willing to be cursed and abandon their faiths in order to turn into the wielders of death. The Cursed Apostles obtain their source of power from pain. From their perspective, death is the beginning, while life is nothing but hell.

Character Class Specialty: Possess the cursing power and the ability to summon the Cursed Demons.

Weapon: Dagger

"That's awesome!" Lu Wu, out of pure thrill, rustled Bei Li's hair.

"Don't disturb me. This isn't complete yet. Give me a minute!" in her lab coat, Bei Li pouted as she gave Lu Wu a push, causing Lu Wu to stagger backward.

Bei Li promptly returned to work.

Lu Wu felt reassured and relieved.

Behind every successful man, there is an almighty woman. Who can deny that?

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At noon, a notification alerted all players in the game.

“Server Announcement. Game update. New character class upgrade for assassin’s advancement: The Cursed Apostle.”

Chapter 35: The Naraka Realm

Upon seeing the server announcement, the assassins in the game were fired up.

After they entered the class demonstration of the character class, the surrounding of the players rapidly changed to the familiar wilderness.

At the bare plain, the Rune Master had transformed into a silhouette who wore a tight black suit on his body and a demon mask on his face.

[Introduction of Character Class]:

[The Cursed Apostle]: The ones who are willing to be cursed and abandon their faiths in order to turn into the wielders of death. The Cursed Apostles obtain their source of power from pain. From their perspective, death is the beginning, while life is nothing but hell.

Character Class Specialty: Possess the cursing power and the ability to summon the Cursed Demons.

Weapon: Dagger

Prerequisites for the Character Class: Players must be Level 30 and above, with assassin as their default class.

After the introduction faded out, the silhouette began to move.

“First Level of the Naraka Realm – The Night Killer”

As the voice disappeared, a black circular formation appeared beneath the Cursed Apostle’s feet. Followed by that, a dense black fog spewed out of the formation and the demons’ cries reverberated across the atmosphere. It seemed like there were a mass of

black, shrivelled-up arms reaching out of the formation, as though they were trying to grab onto something. But, soon, they disappeared in a flash.

Followed by the surfacing of the formation, a three-meter-tall shadow of the demon slowly appeared behind the Cursed Apostle.

The demon, which was crimson from head to toe, wore a livid face. Holding a bloody blade in its hand, it emitted an extremely intimidating aura.

After the formation disappeared, the Cursed Apostle made a strike with the dagger. In the meantime, the Night Killer Demon imitated the Cursed Apostle's action and charged forward with the bloody blade. All of a sudden, a beam of red light flashed past, leaving a bottomless crack on the surface of the ground.

The scene paused and an introduction of the skill popped up.

[First Level of the Naraka Realm, the Night Killer's Spell]: Summon the Night Killer Demon as Guardian Apostle for 30 minutes. During this period of time, any attack will strengthen the power of the Night Killer. Meanwhile, with the protection of the Night Killer, any damage the player suffered will be reduced by fifteen percent.

The introduction of the skill disappeared and the tutorial continued.

“Second Level of the Naraka Realm – Avīci”

As the second skill was activated, the Night Killer Demon vanished. This time, another formation emerged under the Cursed Apostle's feet. The shadow of an Avīci Demon, coupled with a pair of wings, appeared behind the Cursed Apostle.

The Avīci Demon made a strenuous flap with its wings and brought the Cursed Apostle into the air.

In mid-air, the Cursed Apostle launched an attack with his dagger. The shadow of the Avīci Demon then let out a low growl before it dashed toward the direction where the dagger was pointing at.

“Boom!”

The earth quaked and a deep pit appeared at the area of explosion while raging fire burned relentlessly within the pit.

“Thud!”

The Cursed Apostle gradually descended from above. His toes gently touched the ground before he eventually made a landing.

[Second Level of Naraka Realm – the Avīci Demon’s Nihilism]: Summon the Avīci Demon as an Attacking Apostle for one minute. Within this period of time, players will be granted the ability to fly. Players are allowed to choose an area as the Avīci Demon’s target. Extensive damage will subsequently be triggered.

“Third Level of Naraka Realm – Prajñā Scarification”

After the third skill was actuated, the third formation took shape on the ground.

Out of the players’ expectations, this time, what appeared at the back of the Cursed Apostle was not a demon, but a golden buddha that was sitting cross-legged on a lotus throne.

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Meanwhile, a berserker, who held a silver greatsword in his hand, materialized before the Cursed Apostle.

“Argh!”

The berserker roared as he charged toward the Cursed Apostle.

The Cursed Apostle gave the berserker a chilling gaze before he lifted the dagger and thrust it forward.

All of a sudden, the berserker, who was initially storming forward, was stunned and stopped in his tracks. He struggled with a scowl on his face, but there was no way for him to break free from this invisible fetter.

Before long, the players were astonished by the subsequent scene. The Cursed Apostle lifted the dagger and mercilessly stabbed himself in his chest.

“Puff!”

The Cursed Apostle was not injured by the self-mutilation at all. On the contrary, blood gushed out from the mouth of the berserker, who was at a distance, and his chest was punctured.

Upon seeing that, the Cursed Apostle sneered. Then, he moved the dagger to his neck and stabbed it ferociously.

At this moment, an amicable smile was painted across the face of the Prajñā Golden Buddha’s statue. As if a kind man who offered salvation to all sentient beings, the Buddha shimmered in glory and an enormous symbol ascended above his head.

The color of the bloodstain on the neck of the berserker gradually darkened. He then fell onto the ground and dissipated into a waft of black smoke.

[Level Three of the Naraka Realm – the Prajñā Scarification’s Ultimate Move]: One of the three ultimate levels. Reincarnate as the Prajñā Magic Buddha for one minute. Within this period, the targeted opponent will be forcefully controlled and restricted. In the meantime, any damage suffered by the Cursed Apostle will be reduced by 85 percent and the chosen target will bear the damage instead.

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Once the class demonstration of the 18 levels of Naraka were completed, another notification popped up:

[Attention: The Cursed Apostle will be able to illustrate 18 types of demons of the Naraka Realm and possess the ability to perform 18 forms of attacks, that consists of four stages ranging from basic to advanced, namely spell, nihility, void, and ultimate. Among all the levels, the third, ninth, and 18th are levels of extreme evilness, which will be exceptionally difficult to acquire. For further details, please refer to the Class Advancement Instructor.]

The notice regarding the class advancement of the Cursed Apostle electrified the players.

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Crayon_Shinchan: “How about the mage? My middle finger is losing control. Someone please hold it down for me.”

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A_Mysterious_Deity replied Jia_Xu: "That's bullshit. Athena? Do you want me to send over a few cockroaches for you to form a team of Saint Seiya?"

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Following the debut of the Cursed Apostle, all the assassins were pumped up.

In the public's opinion, the rise of the assassins was inevitable, providing that they could achieve the character class advancement to transform into the Cursed Apostle and master the 18 Naraka Realms. After that, they would basically be invincible.

However, there were circumstances that they did not foresee. All assassins lost heart after they read the prerequisites for class advancement.

Chapter 36: The Tomb Of The White Phantom

[Prerequisites for character class advancement to Cursed Apostle]:

Mission One: The assassins must first achieve Level 30 to be eligible for the class advancement quest. After accepting the quest, players will be able to obtain extra Blood Essence by killing any creature (not including players). Once the assassin accumulates 10,000 points of Blood Essence, the first level of the Naraka Realm will be activated. Then, the player has successfully achieved the character class advancement and become a Cursed Apostle.

Initially, all the assassins were excited to see such an easy mission.

Compared to the character class advancement to Rune Master, which required the players to hunt for various materials, the rather boring quest for the assassins was as easy as pie.

However, the assassins lost hope when they noticed the prerequisite skills listed below that.

Mission Two: Character class development.

Second Level of the Naraka Realm, the Avīci Demon's Nihilism: Players have to find three different sources of the cursing power and hand it to the Class Advancement Instructor. The Class Advancement Instructor will proceed to engrave the three curses on the player's core in order to complete the second class development for the Avīci Demon.

Third Level of the Naraka Realm, the sacrifice of Prajñā's Ultimate Move: Prajñā sacrificed with no form and desire. Players have to grasp the prajñā's theory via death. (Extremely difficult level. Players are required to fathom the theory on their own.)

Fourth Level of the Naraka Realm, the quaking Mountains of the Void: Players have to collect fragments of the Mountain Spirit and submit it to the Class Advancement Instructor in order to fulfill the class development.

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All the assassins were stunned after they read the prerequisites for class development.

Assassin_Creed: "Why are the elaborations for the sacrifice of Prajñā, the most powerful skill, so brief and confusing? To grasp the meaning of prajñā's theory via death? Does it mean that we have to repeatedly kill ourselves? Why is there a skill that requires the players' self-realization? Why can't the Skill Instructor guide us?"

The_Great_Assassin_Player replied to Assassin_Creed: "Perhaps, even the instructors don't know what to do (Joke)."

A_Mammoth: "I'm confused as well. The tutorial for the sacrifice of Prajñā is too succinct. This is my first time seeing an ability that requires players' apperception. Isn't this too difficult? I will just sit back and wait for tutorials after the experts complete the quest!"

Strike_Gold: "As expected, the more powerful the skill, the more difficult it is. I can finally get peace of mind. However, I still think that the class advancement for the assassins is too easy. They only need to kill creatures. By now, none of us, the berserkers, have successfully undergone class advancement. That wrenches my heart!"

Ye_Xueer_is_the_cutest: "Brothers from the Association of the Guardian Angels, come and destroy the Ghost Mountains with me. After I've collected 10,000 points of Blood Essence, I aspire to become the first Cursed Apostle in this game!"

Ye_Xueer's_little_follower replied to Ye_Xueer_is_the_cutest: "Xue'er is definitely the strongest! I'm rooting for you!"

Crayon_Shinchan replied to Ye_Xueer's_little_follower: "Hi lickspittle, here we meet again. Wave~"

Ye_Xueer's_little_follower replied to Crayon_Shinchan: "Hmph!"

Crayon_Shinchan replied to Ye_Xueer's_little_follower: "Defeating you with a backhand slap!"

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Besides the Night Killer, the assassins were totally clueless about the remaining procedures to complete the character class development.

However, there was nothing Lu Wu could help them with. Even though the template of the Cursed Apostle was easy to design, it depended solely on the players to achieve their own class development.

This especially applied for the sacrifice of Prajñā. Even among the Cursed Clan, there were only a handful of them who could master the skill. Therefore, to mimic the realisticness, the players should practice and cultivate on their own in order to pick up these powerful skills.

The players could learn the skills of the Night Killer easily because Bei Li had set a shortcut for the class advancement within the artifact for the players to upgrade into the Cursed Apostle.

When the players successfully accumulated 10,000 points of Blood Essence and submitted it to the Class Advancement Instructor, the Blood Essence would be transmitted into the Artifact Channel. The artifact would then infuse these Blood Essence points into the player's core, helping the players to forge a new body.

Since the players were no longer required to take an oath to the Naraka Realm and provide sacrifices, the procedure was way easier than before.

Although the mission was extremely hard, it did not demotivate the assassin players at all. The players were seen everywhere, hunting for creatures.

Although the mages were let down by the introduction of the Cursed Apostle, they were looking forward to the launch of a class advancement that belonged exclusively to the mages.

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Lu Wu did not want to keep the mages waiting. With research led by the almighty Bei Li, a template for the mages had been finalized. It would be introduced into the game after Bei Li tested it.

Meanwhile, to enrich the in-game experience, Lu Wu's subsequent plan was to restore the Spirit Summoning Room.

The Spirit Summoning Room was where the King of Beiqi kept his defeated enemies and the spirits of his subordinates who died on the battlefield. There were many spirits of the courageous generals who used to fight alongside the King of Beiqi as he expanded his territory. More precisely, it was a memorial building.

There was a reason why Lu Wu wanted to restore the Spirit Summoning Room instead of the equipment depot.

As of now, the development of class advancement was approaching perfection. However, there was absolutely no progress for the hidden character classes.

According to Bei Li, there were spirits of talented warriors locked within the Spirit Summoning Room. Their inheritance could be extracted with the help of the artifact.

Their plan was to establish spontaneous class advancement quests in the game. Players would be able to achieve hidden character classes upon the completion of certain side quests.

After the update was launched, the players would be able to accomplish holistic development.

The hidden character class was extremely unique. It was independent from the three main characters. Hence, the introduction of the hidden character class would create new prospects to the game, making it more mysterious and intriguing.

Nevertheless, everything was still in progress.

Although the sum of Lu Wu's soul coins was increasing by leaps and bounds every day, the expenses were huge as well.

For instance, Lu Wu had set up two transport arrays at the border separating the Mansion of the Dead and Liuli District to make traveling easier for the players.

As this cost him a lot of soul coins, the balance of his soul coins was insufficient for the restoration of the Spirit Summoning Room, which was priced at 20,000 soul coins. Therefore, he had to save up again.

However, the Underworld was always full of surprises and unpredictable events could happen everywhere.

Right after Lu Wu and Bei Li decided on the future of the hidden character classes, Bei Li frowned as she placed her mind on a certain player in the Underworld.

Upon seeing that, Lu Wu shifted his vision to the Underworld as well.

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In Liuli District, they were surrounded by dead woods.

A berserker raised his chin to look at the blue sky. His face crumpled with despair.

He was not enjoying the view of the blue sky. In fact, he fell into this pit that was more than ten meters deep and was now surrounded by slippery rocks. There was nothing else he could do other than just stare at the sky.

He made a few attempts to climb up the rock wall, but to no avail. Not only was the wall utterly smooth, it was also extremely hard. Even his greatsword of Blue Class Quality could not make a slit on the wall. During his multiple attempts, he repeatedly fell down before he could go further than a meter.

He had the intention to escape by committing suicide. However, he quickly lost hope. Every time he tried to injure himself, a green ray, originating from the wall, would immediately heal his wounds.

In despair, Sun Qi leaned on the wall wearily. He stared blankly and silently at the sky.

“The Tomb of the White Phantom? Wu, this man is in the Tomb of the White Phantom!”

Looking at the distressed berserker, Bei Li exclaimed in astonishment.

“What is this Tomb of the White Phantom?” Lu Wu asked curiously.

“There are unique Yin soul beasts inhabiting the Land of Beiqi. These creatures are rare and exquisite. They usually search for a secret place to keep their inheritance to pass it down to a living being from the Underworld who encounters it by fate. He is so lucky!”

Although Lu Wu failed to comprehend her words, he had a hunch that this was going to be an amazing thing.

Chapter 37: The Inheritance Of The White Phantom

At the brink of death, Sun Qi was suddenly reminded of something. He activated the Skill Menu and selected the live streaming option.

Then, he typed the title, “I’m in a tight situation, requesting backup now. This is urgent...”

After the livestream began, he silently waited for other players to save a weakling like him.

Moments later, many players began to appear in the live streaming channel.

“What is this place? The view here is amazing!”

“Simple. Perform a Gecko Wall Climb and you can get up easily. Also, a Wudang Ladders sounds good, too.”

“Noob! Just do as I say, put your left foot on your right foot and levitate. You’ll be out of there in no time.”

Besides the players who were here for the drama, some of the players provided some supposedly helpful advice.

Sun Qi attempted every possible way, but to no avail.

An hour later...

Sun Qi was even more distressed as he laid down slowly and stared at the sky.

Lu Wu was anxious when he saw this. Therefore, he registered an account via the official website and posted a message in the livestream’s comment section.

“Hey man, cut your finger and try to paint your blood on the rock wall!”

Sun Qi looked at Lu Wu’s comment and quietly shifted his attention back to the sky once again.

Hopeless, he was too tired to try again.

Lu Wu was lost as well. It was clear that the player had given up and was no longer interested in trying out any groundless suggestions that were posted in the comment section.

Lu Wu had no choice but to activate his reward menu. He set aside five soul coins as a reward and posted another comment.

“Brother, just do as I say and these five soul coins are yours!”

Sun Qi appeared puzzled at the sight of the soul coins.

In Sun Qi’s opinion, this player had a convoluted mind because he seemed to enjoy watching someone else’s suffering.

However, for the five soul coins, Sun Qi sighed as he stood up. He held the greatsword and slit his wrist with it. He hurriedly pressed his wrist against the rock wall before the healing power of the wall was activated.

The following scene made the spectating players and Sun Qi’s jaws drop.

Sun Qi's arm was magically stuck on the rock wall and he was unable to remove his arm. All the blood that came out of his wrist was absorbed by the rock wall.

That sight did not cause Sun Qi to panic. Instead, he was overjoyed. He thought to himself, I can finally be freed.

The other players were rather curious, "Brother, rest in peace. We'll see you in three hours!"

Sun Qi's face looked pale due to the massive blood loss. When he thought his life was about to end, a sudden wave of energy coursed through the rock wall.

Following a wail, a shadow of a white deer appeared from the rock wall. It danced around Sun Qi as fluorescent green specks of light filled the pit.

Everyone was stunned by the sight, clueless of the whole situation.

The white deer circled Sun Qi for a moment and Sun Qi suddenly realized that his health was completely restored.

When Sun Qi was about to close off himself, the white deer grunted softly. It then lowered its head and charged toward Sun Qi's core.

Bei Li, who was already prepared, activated the weapon and began to digitalize the inheritance.

With Sun Qi as the center, a flash of green light ran around the pit. A green cocoon slowly took shape and encased Sun Qi.

"Server Announcement: Congratulations on player Sun Qi's successful class advancement and unlocking of the hidden character class: White Phantom"

A server announcement popped up, causing a commotion in the game.

Soon enough, many people found Sun Qi's livestream channel. The number of viewers quickly exceeded fifty thousand. Before long, the viewer count had hit a hundred thousand.

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"I was snacking when this fellow advanced into a hidden character class. If you have just joined the livestream, you can watch the replay..."

"That's awesome! The first hidden character in the region. But, you're not as good as you seem?"

“Damn. What’s a White Phantom? Help me out!”

The page was continuously refreshed as hundreds of new comments appeared every second.

At this moment, Sun Qi felt as though his mind was overwhelmed by new information. However, the information was intercepted by the artifact before it was translated into data and displayed before his eyes.

A moment later, the eyes of countless players shone with excitement as the green cocoon burst open and the pit was instantly filled with green thick fog.

The players who were watching the livestream held their breath as they anticipated the White Phantom’s first appearance.

When the white fog slowly dispersed and Sun Qi finally reappeared, the other players put on an indecipherable expression.

A puppy with white, smooth fur appeared at the bottom of the pit.

In the comment section:

“Hahaha, I laughed so hard that I blew a snot bubble. Congratulations on transitioning into a dog!”

“I can’t stand it anymore. I just had my operation done today. I’m out. This is too hilarious!”

“Hahaha! Congratulations! Your hidden character class is so cool!”

“I accidentally choked on water just now. Anyway, congratulations, too!”

“Are you trying to kill me with laughter and then ruin my credit score? What a shameless fellow! Hahaha!”

Sun Qi was also very confused. He was not aware of what had happened. He only knew that he seemed to have transitioned into a hidden character class, not knowing that he had actually become a dog.

He instinctively opened his Skill Menu.

Player: Sun Qi (Player Level: Level 21, 26%)

Character: White Phantom Spiritual Beast (First Form)

Introduction of the White Phantom Spiritual Beast: A type of unique and precious Yin soul beast that inhabits the Land of Beiqi. The noble blood of the Divine Beast flows within them. When their lives are coming to an end, they will search for a concealed place to pass on their inheritance to the beings who encounter it by fate.

Character Class Specialty: Every level upgrade will increase the player's attributes by 100%. At Levels 20/60/90/120, the player will receive an Inherited Skill. The second form will be unlocked upon reaching Level 150.

Note: The blood of the White Phantom has healing properties.

The players who were initially teasing Sun Qi were astonished after they read Sun Qi's Skill Menu.

"Damn it! I want to be a dog, too. I didn't foresee it to be the inheritance of the Divine Beast. I'm so jealous!"

"You're in luck! You upgrading one level is equal to us upgrading two levels. This is crazy! You're so lucky!"

"Apart from the adorable appearance, the attributes are amazing. I am absolutely jealous."

"Have you all realized that his blood has healing properties? The first medic of the region has appeared!"

"He's not a medic! He's basically the holy grail! I have prepared a washbasin to fill up his blood because the potions in the shop are way too expensive!"

"I have prepared a water tank. Are you ready to extract your blood?"

"Shut up, guys. Mister white puppy, do you want to be my pet? We will be the strongest in Beiqi and eliminate all the traitors of the ghost clan! Isn't that wonderful?"

Sun Qi's Skill Menu had caused a hubbub among the players. All the players were enthusiastically discussing Sun Qi's transformation into a puppy.

Sun Qi's inheritance was deemed as pure luck. Even Lu Wu did not have the Class Advancement Menu of a White Phantom.

The other players were also keen to become a White Phantom. But they have to find the land where the White Phantom had left its inheritance behind.

Of course, the chances would be extremely slim.

The Boss Behind The Game Chapter 35

Chapter 35: The Naraka Realm

Upon seeing the server announcement, the assassins in the game were fired up.

After they entered the class demonstration of the character class, the surrounding of the players rapidly changed to the familiar wilderness.

At the bare plain, the Rune Master had transformed into a silhouette who wore a tight black suit on his body and a demon mask on his face.

[Introduction of Character Class]:

[The Cursed Apostle]: The ones who are willing to be cursed and abandon their faiths in order to turn into the wielders of death. The Cursed Apostles obtain their source of power from pain. From their perspective, death is the beginning, while life is nothing but hell.

Character Class Specialty: Possess the cursing power and the ability to summon the Cursed Demons.

Weapon: Dagger

Prerequisites for the Character Class: Players must be Level 30 and above, with assassin as their default class.

After the introduction faded out, the silhouette began to move.

“First Level of the Naraka Realm – The Night Killer”

As the voice disappeared, a black circular formation appeared beneath the Cursed Apostle's feet. Followed by that, a dense black fog spewed out of the formation and the demons' cries reverberated across the atmosphere. It seemed like there were a mass of black, shrivelled-up arms reaching out of the formation, as though they were trying to grab onto something. But, soon, they disappeared in a flash.

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Compared to the character class advancement to Rune Master, which required the players to hunt for various materials, the rather boring quest for the assassins was as easy as pie.

However, the assassins lost hope when they noticed the prerequisite skills listed below that.

Mission Two: Character class development.

Second Level of the Naraka Realm, the Avīci Demon's Nihility: Players have to find three different sources of the cursing power and hand it to the Class Advancement Instructor. The Class Advancement Instructor will proceed to engrave the three curses on the player's core in order to complete the second class development for the Avīci Demon.

Third Level of the Naraka Realm, the sacrifice of Prajñā's Ultimate Move: Prajñā sacrificed with no form and desire. Players have to grasp the prajñā's theory via death. (Extremely difficult level. Players are required to fathom the theory on their own.)

Fourth Level of the Naraka Realm, the quaking Mountains of the Void: Players have to collect fragments of the Mountain Spirit and submit it to the Class Advancement Instructor in order to fulfill the class development.

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All the assassins were stunned after they read the prerequisites for class development.

Assassin_Creed: "Why are the elaborations for the sacrifice of Prajñā, the most powerful skill, so brief and confusing? To grasp the meaning of prajñā's theory via

death? Does it mean that we have to repeatedly kill ourselves? Why is there a skill that requires the players' self-realization? Why can't the Skill Instructor guide us?"

The_Great_Assassin_Player replied to Assassin_Creed: "Perhaps, even the instructors don't know what to do (Joke)."

A_Mammoth: "I'm confused as well. The tutorial for the sacrifice of Prajñā is too succinct. This is my first time seeing an ability that requires players' apperception. Isn't this too difficult? I will just sit back and wait for tutorials after the experts complete the quest!"

Strike_Gold: 'As expected, the more powerful the skill, the more difficult it is. I can finally get peace of mind. However, I still think that the class advancement for the assassins is too easy. They only need to kill creatures. By now, none of us, the berserkers, have successfully undergone class advancement. That wrenches my heart!"

Ye_Xueer_is_the_cutest: "Brothers from the Association of the Guardian Angels, come and destroy the Ghost Mountains with me. After I've collected 10,000 points of Blood Essence, I aspire to become the first Cursed Apostle in this game!"

Ye_Xueer's_little_follower replied to Ye_Xueer_is_the_cutest: "Xue'er is definitely the strongest! I'm rooting for you!"

Crayon_Shinchan replied to Ye_Xueer's_little_follower: "Hi lickspittle, here we meet again. Wave~"

Ye_Xueer's_little_follower replied to Crayon_Shinchan: "Hmph!"

Crayon_Shinchan replied to Ye_Xueer's_little_follower: "Defeating you with a backhand slap!"

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Besides the Night Killer, the assassins were totally clueless about the remaining procedures to complete the character class development.

However, there was nothing Lu Wu could help them with. Even though the template of the Cursed Apostle was easy to design, it depended solely on the players to achieve their own class development.

This especially applied for the sacrifice of Prajñā. Even among the Cursed Clan, there were only a handful of them who could master the skill. Therefore, to mimic the realisticness, the players should practice and cultivate on their own in order to pick up these powerful skills.

The players could learn the skills of the Night Killer easily because Bei Li had set a shortcut for the class advancement within the artifact for the players to upgrade into the Cursed Apostle.

When the players successfully accumulated 10,000 points of Blood Essence and submitted it to the Class Advancement Instructor, the Blood Essence would be transmitted into the Artifact Channel. The artifact would then infuse these Blood Essence points into the player's core, helping the players to forge a new body.

Since the players were no longer required to take an oath to the Naraka Realm and provide sacrifices, the procedure was way easier than before.

Although the mission was extremely hard, it did not demotivate the assassin players at all. The players were seen everywhere, hunting for creatures.

Although the mages were let down by the introduction of the Cursed Apostle, they were looking forward to the launch of a class advancement that belonged exclusively to the mages.

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Lu Wu did not want to keep the mages waiting. With research led by the almighty Bei Li, a template for the mages had been finalized. It would be introduced into the game after Bei Li tested it.

Meanwhile, to enrich the in-game experience, Lu Wu's subsequent plan was to restore the Spirit Summoning Room.

The Spirit Summoning Room was where the King of Beiqi kept his defeated enemies and the spirits of his subordinates who died on the battlefield. There were many spirits of the courageous generals who used to fight alongside the King of Beiqi as he expanded his territory. More precisely, it was a memorial building.

There was a reason why Lu Wu wanted to restore the Spirit Summoning Room instead of the equipment depot.

As of now, the development of class advancement was approaching perfection. However, there was absolutely no progress for the hidden character classes.

According to Bei Li, there were spirits of talented warriors locked within the Spirit Summoning Room. Their inheritance could be extracted with the help of the artifact.

Their plan was to establish spontaneous class advancement quests in the game. Players would be able to achieve hidden character classes upon the completion of certain side quests.

After the update was launched, the players would be able to accomplish holistic development.

The hidden character class was extremely unique. It was independent from the three main characters. Hence, the introduction of the hidden character class would create new prospects to the game, making it more mysterious and intriguing.

Nevertheless, everything was still in progress.

Although the sum of Lu Wu's soul coins was increasing by leaps and bounds every day, the expenses were huge as well.

For instance, Lu Wu had set up two transport arrays at the border separating the Mansion of the Dead and Liuli District to make traveling easier for the players.

As this cost him a lot of soul coins, the balance of his soul coins was insufficient for the restoration of the Spirit Summoning Room, which was priced at 20,000 soul coins. Therefore, he had to save up again.

However, the Underworld was always full of surprises and unpredictable events could happen everywhere.

Right after Lu Wu and Bei Li decided on the future of the hidden character classes, Bei Li frowned as she placed her mind on a certain player in the Underworld.

Upon seeing that, Lu Wu shifted his vision to the Underworld as well.

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In Liuli District, they were surrounded by dead woods.

A berserker raised his chin to look at the blue sky. His face crumpled with despair.

He was not enjoying the view of the blue sky. In fact, he fell into this pit that was more than ten meters deep and was now surrounded by slippery rocks. There was nothing else he could do other than just stare at the sky.

He made a few attempts to climb up the rock wall, but to no avail. Not only was the wall utterly smooth, it was also extremely hard. Even his greatsword of Blue Class Quality could not make a slit on the wall. During his multiple attempts, he repeatedly fell down before he could go further than a meter.

He had the intention to escape by committing suicide. However, he quickly lost hope. Every time he tried to injure himself, a green ray, originating from the wall, would immediately heal his wounds.

In despair, Sun Qi leaned on the wall wearily. He stared blankly and silently at the sky.

“The Tomb of the White Phantom? Wu, this man is in the Tomb of the White Phantom!”

Looking at the distressed berserker, Bei Li exclaimed in astonishment.

“What is this Tomb of the White Phantom?” Lu Wu asked curiously.

“There are unique Yin soul beasts inhabiting the Land of Beiqi. These creatures are rare and exquisite. They usually search for a secret place to keep their inheritance to pass it down to a living being from the Underworld who encounters it by fate. He is so lucky!”

Although Lu Wu failed to comprehend her words, he had a hunch that this was going to be an amazing thing.

Chapter 37: The Inheritance Of The White Phantom

At the brink of death, Sun Qi was suddenly reminded of something. He activated the Skill Menu and selected the live streaming option.

Then, he typed the title, “I’m in a tight situation, requesting backup now. This is urgent...”

After the livestream began, he silently waited for other players to save a weakling like him.

Moments later, many players began to appear in the live streaming channel.

“What is this place? The view here is amazing!”

“Simple. Perform a Gecko Wall Climb and you can get up easily. Also, a Wudang Ladders sounds good, too.”

“Noob! Just do as I say, put your left foot on your right foot and levitate. You’ll be out of there in no time.”

Besides the players who were here for the drama, some of the players provided some supposedly helpful advice.

Sun Qi attempted every possible way, but to no avail.

An hour later...

Sun Qi was even more distressed as he laid down slowly and stared at the sky.

Lu Wu was anxious when he saw this. Therefore, he registered an account via the official website and posted a message in the livestream's comment section.

“Hey man, cut your finger and try to paint your blood on the rock wall!”

Sun Qi looked at Lu Wu's comment and quietly shifted his attention back to the sky once again.

Hopeless, he was too tired to try again.

Lu Wu was lost as well. It was clear that the player had given up and was no longer interested in trying out any groundless suggestions that were posted in the comment section.

Lu Wu had no choice but to activate his reward menu. He set aside five soul coins as a reward and posted another comment.

“Brother, just do as I say and these five soul coins are yours!”

Sun Qi appeared puzzled at the sight of the soul coins.

In Sun Qi's opinion, this player had a convoluted mind because he seemed to enjoy watching someone else's suffering.

However, for the five soul coins, Sun Qi sighed as he stood up. He held the greatsword and slit his wrist with it. He hurriedly pressed his wrist against the rock wall before the healing power of the wall was activated.

The following scene made the spectating players and Sun Qi's jaws drop.

Sun Qi's arm was magically stuck on the rock wall and he was unable to remove his arm. All the blood that came out of his wrist was absorbed by the rock wall.

That sight did not cause Sun Qi to panic. Instead, he was overjoyed. He thought to himself, I can finally be freed.

The other players were rather curious, “Brother, rest in peace. We'll see you in three hours!”

Sun Qi's face looked pale due to the massive blood loss. When he thought his life was about to end, a sudden wave of energy coursed through the rock wall.

Following a wail, a shadow of a white deer appeared from the rock wall. It danced around Sun Qi as fluorescent green specks of light filled the pit.

Everyone was stunned by the sight, clueless of the whole situation.

The white deer circled Sun Qi for a moment and Sun Qi suddenly realized that his health was completely restored.

When Sun Qi was about to close off himself, the white deer grunted softly. It then lowered its head and charged toward Sun Qi's core.

Bei Li, who was already prepared, activated the weapon and began to digitalize the inheritance.

With Sun Qi as the center, a flash of green light ran around the pit. A green cocoon slowly took shape and encased Sun Qi.

“Server Announcement: Congratulations on player Sun Qi's successful class advancement and unlocking of the hidden character class: White Phantom”

A server announcement popped up, causing a commotion in the game.

Soon enough, many people found Sun Qi's livestream channel. The number of viewers quickly exceeded fifty thousand. Before long, the viewer count had hit a hundred thousand.

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“I was snacking when this fellow advanced into a hidden character class. If you have just joined the livestream, you can watch the replay...”

“That's awesome! The first hidden character in the region. But, you're not as good as you seem?”

“Damn. What's a White Phantom? Help me out!”

The page was continuously refreshed as hundreds of new comments appeared every second.

At this moment, Sun Qi felt as though his mind was overwhelmed by new information. However, the information was intercepted by the artifact before it was translated into data and displayed before his eyes.

A moment later, the eyes of countless players shone with excitement as the green cocoon burst open and the pit was instantly filled with green thick fog.

The players who were watching the livestream held their breath as they anticipated the White Phantom's first appearance.

When the white fog slowly dispersed and Sun Qi finally reappeared, the other players put on an indecipherable expression.

A puppy with white, smooth fur appeared at the bottom of the pit.

In the comment section:

“Hahaha, I laughed so hard that I blew a snot bubble. Congratulations on transitioning into a dog!”

“I can’t stand it anymore. I just had my operation done today. I’m out. This is too hilarious!”

“Hahaha! Congratulations! Your hidden character class is so cool!”

“I accidentally choked on water just now. Anyway, congratulations, too!”

“Are you trying to kill me with laughter and then ruin my credit score? What a shameless fellow! Hahaha!”

Sun Qi was also very confused. He was not aware of what had happened. He only knew that he seemed to have transitioned into a hidden character class, not knowing that he had actually become a dog.

He instinctively opened his Skill Menu.

Player: Sun Qi (Player Level: Level 21, 26%)

Character: White Phantom Spiritual Beast (First Form)

Introduction of the White Phantom Spiritual Beast: A type of unique and precious Yin soul beast that inhabits the Land of Beiqi. The noble blood of the Divine Beast flows within them. When their lives are coming to an end, they will search for a concealed place to pass on their inheritance to the beings who encounter it by fate.

Character Class Specialty: Every level upgrade will increase the player’s attributes by 100%. At Levels 20/60/90/120, the player will receive an Inherited Skill. The second form will be unlocked upon reaching Level 150.

Note: The blood of the White Phantom has healing properties.

The players who were initially teasing Sun Qi were astonished after they read Sun Qi’s Skill Menu.

“Damn it! I want to be a dog, too. I didn’t foresee it to be the inheritance of the Divine Beast. I’m so jealous!”

“You’re in luck! You upgrading one level is equal to us upgrading two levels. This is crazy! You’re so lucky!”

“Apart from the adorable appearance, the attributes are amazing. I am absolutely jealous.”

“Have you all realized that his blood has healing properties? The first medic of the region has appeared!”

“He’s not a medic! He’s basically the holy grail! I have prepared a washbasin to fill up his blood because the potions in the shop are way too expensive!”

“I have prepared a water tank. Are you ready to extract your blood?”

“Shut up, guys. Mister white puppy, do you want to be my pet? We will be the strongest in Beiqi and eliminate all the traitors of the ghost clan! Isn’t that wonderful?”

Sun Qi’s Skill Menu had caused a hubbub among the players. All the players were enthusiastically discussing Sun Qi’s transformation into a puppy.

Sun Qi’s inheritance was deemed as pure luck. Even Lu Wu did not have the Class Advancement Menu of a White Phantom.

The other players were also keen to become a White Phantom. But they have to find the land where the White Phantom had left its inheritance behind.

Of course, the chances would be extremely slim.