

## The Boss Behind The Game Chapter 96

The video of the battle with the Rock Ghost King was uploaded to the official web forum within a short time and it sparked enthusiasm among many of the players.

The strength demonstrated by the Rock Ghost King might not be as terrifying as the Demonic God, yet it gave the players an opportunity to witness the overwhelming power of a ghost king level monster.

When faced with the siege of over tens of thousands of gamers, the Rock Ghost King relied on his ability to form a wood element territory to massacre everyone. As the Rock Ghost King unleashed his move, the players were made aware that Rock Ghost King was close to invincible inside his territory, unlike Cha Na who was defeated merely because he was exhausted by a huge number.

However, the gamers did not retreat out of fear after the battle. Under the great temptation of spiritual material, the players had yet again formed small teams of their own on a quest to look for the Tree Demons in the North Rocks.

However, the Rock Ghost King was well-prepared this time around and had sent three Ancient Tree Demons to guard the outskirts of the North Rocks.

All gamers who were headed that way were butchered by the Ancient Tree Demons on the spot as they were powerless against them.

The gamers started discussing new approaches in the forum after hitting a wall. After all, killing the trees was the only way for ordinary players to upgrade their ships in the game.

Watermelon\_Taro: “\*slams table\* They wouldn’t even let us kill the trees now. This is so frustrating! I’m already this poor but they won’t even give me the chance to make hard-earned money. When are we going to go and kill this Rock Tree for good? I’m so mad!”

Crayon\_Shinchan replied to Watermelon\_Taro: “Sit down, pinhead. How many times do I have to tell you this? The Rock is a horrible development and we can never defeat it with our current strength.”

Strike\_Gold: “Now is not the time to start a war. We should all focus on getting enough rest, preserve our strength and continue to improve our abilities. The Rock Ghost King will be vanquished sooner or later and we mustn’t be hasty. We will be doomed if we followed Cha Na’s footsteps!”

Commander\_Of\_Demolition\_Officers: “I might have found a great place with lots of advanced spiritual materials, but I’m contemplating whether to share that piece of information with everyone or not. The thing is, I can’t finish all of them.”

Peppa\_Boar replied to Commander\_Of\_Demolition\_Officers: "What are you waiting for? Hurry up and tell us! Have you forgotten that the Beiqi Army is a family?"

Commander\_Of\_Demolition\_Officers replied to Peppa\_Boar: "Aren't you from the Myth Guild? That was not what you said when you were attacking me with a sword!"

Xueli\_The\_Strongest: "Have you guys forgotten? The Ghost Mountains lead to the North Rocks. As long as we don't enter from the front, we could still get away untouched after killing a few trees stealthily. \*laughing emoji\*"

Crayon\_Shinchan replied to Xueli\_The\_Strongest: "Awesome, that's a great idea! Who's joining the team to stealth and kill the trees? It's better to have an assassin!"

Watermelon\_Taro replied to Xueli\_The\_Strongest: "My poor ass found another way to make some hard-earned money, thank you, little missy! Muah~"

Assassin\_Creed: "The frontline is selling wood chips from the Rock Ghost King. The highest bidder gets them. Includes screenshot-"

[Rock Wood Chip (Level 5 spiritual material)]: Wood chips fallen from the Rock Ghost King contain strong wood element spiritual power.

Invincible\_Loneliness replied to Assassin\_Creed: "Bruh, that's so cool. I'm getting that but I'm curious, how did you get it?"

Assassin\_Creed replied Invincible\_Loneliness: "It's a long story. It was really a close call. I avoided the crushing branches with Shadow Step and approached the Rock Ghost King with agility from my Shenfa. Then, I aimed my dagger at the Rock Ghost King's weak point and I made a sudden flat cut to obtain this baby. Oh, I died right after that. (laughing emoji)"

Crayon\_Shinchan replied to Assassin\_Creed: "Pinhead, do you want me to play a song for you as tribute? (laughing emoji)"

Assassin\_Creed replied to Crayon\_Shinchan: "As the person with the poorest judgment in this forum, you are the pinhead acknowledged by everyone okay? (laughing emoji)"

A\_Mammoth: "Everyone should follow what Xueli suggested and take a detour from the Ghost Mountain. It's impossible to win head-on against those ghost general level Ancient Tree Demons without a few thousand players."

Young, Wild & Free: "Actually, we could all explore the ocean to find resourceful islands. I mean, look at Demolition Guild who got the Son of the Sea, aren't you all envious?"

Ultraman\_Tiga: "Speaking of which, what special ability do you get after consuming the Son of the Sea? I'm really curious, why are they being so secretive? Why not just show it?"

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Monkey\_King: "Maybe the guild master of Demolition Guild is brewing his power, preparing to surprise everyone. (laughing emoji)"

After further discussion, the players finally found a way to sneak in to kill the trees. Thus, the teams embarked on their journey to the Ghost Mountains, took a detour from there to the North Rocks and went on with their plan to make hard-earned money to upgrade their ships.

Lu Wu did not stop the gamers as Du Yan told him that the Rock Ghost King was being very cautious of the new force from Beiqi because he could not estimate the full force of the gamers' army. Therefore, they dared not make any drastic moves.

The gamers' courage in embarking on their journey into the North Rocks sent a clear message to the Rock Ghost King.

We're not afraid of you!

This made the Rock Ghost King even more cautious than ever!

Lu Wu had already made preparations in case these gamers' actions evoked a large scale war. This war was unavoidable since the Rock Ghost King was already a piece of delicious meat in the eyes of the gamers. Of course, the later they were to start the war, the more advantages the gamers would have.

Meanwhile, Lu Wu announced a new quest in the game.

[Special Quest: Collection of Special Spiritual Material]

Quest Overview: There are many peculiar islands in the Void Ocean and there are spiritual fields that could nurture special spiritual material on these islands. Explore the ocean and find the spiritual fields to collect spiritual materials.

Quest reward: Players will be rewarded with a generous amount of soul coins upon selling the spiritual materials in shops.

However, Lu Wu did not mention the coordination of Insect Island in this quest out of two considerations.

Insect Island was discovered by the Demolition Guild and since they had decided not to share it with the others, Lu Wu would not announce it to the public as well.

He would upset the members of the Demolition Guild by announcing the existence of Insect Island. Looking at the bigger picture, this should also be a privilege deserving of an explorer.

As for the second reason, it was because Xiao Tian was one of the four generals that served the Sea King with the capability close to that of a ghost king level. It was too early for the gamers to fight head-on with Xiao Tian with the little force at sea that they possessed at the moment.

Of course, Lu Wu announced the quest so that he could train himself.

He still needed a huge amount of spiritual rice currently to boost his body's growth so that he could take the form of a human again.

This was an extremely tormenting stage for Lu Wu.

Firstly, he could never get full. Normal foods consumed by him were useless as they were digested too quickly.

Yet, spiritual rice was correlated to spirit energy and it would upset Lu Wu's stomach with too much intake. So, he had to refrain from overeating and this caused Lu Wu to be unable to get full every single day.

As for the food made by Bei Li, Lu Wu tried it once and said that he would rather die than having to eat it ever again. He was afraid that he might get food poisoning before he could take on a human form.

However, Lu Wu could gradually feel the changes in his body as the days passed.

Even though he was still in beast form, his reflexes and body strength had clearly improved and his soul had also evolved through training. It could be said that his training paid off.

At least Bei Li could no longer beat him up!

## **The Boss Behind The Game Chapter 97**

Void Ocean, Insect Island.

A ferocious and huge werewolf with fangs was circling the spiritual fields.

Staring at the holes in the spiritual fields, Xiao Tian was quaking with anger.

He could not believe that someone would dare to rob him of his treasures under his watch and they were even bold enough to murder his child.

Even though those thieves were killed, his most precious Son of the Sea was missing and this filled him with rage.

Furthermore, the Son of the Sea did not actually belong to him, it was merely borrowed from the Sea King.

His purpose of borrowing it was to nourish the spiritual fields on Insect Island with its divine powers so that he could grow special spiritual materials.

Yet now, with the Son of the Sea lost, he did not know how to tell the Sea King.

“Boss, the whole island has been searched but there is still no sign of the Son of the Sea,” an orc spoke as he dashed toward Xiao Tian.

Xiao Tian’s eyes darkened upon hearing that.

He always knew the temper of the Sea King. Despite the fact that he was one of the Sea King’s four main generals, he would still be severely punished by the Sea King if he were to lose the Son of the Sea.

“Keep looking! Investigate which clan those thieves belong to in the Void Ocean. I’ll wipe out their whole clan if I find out who they are!”

Fury blazed in Xiao Tian but he had no place to vent.

At that moment, another orc rushed toward him from a distance.

“Boss, a few ships have arrived. The people from the ships said that they are merchants from a faraway land and they are here to trade items with us.”

“Sea merchants?” Xiao Tian went blank upon hearing that.

Indeed, it was the Sea Trading Association from the Underworld Sea and this association was founded by powerful people that were on par with the Sea King or beings that were stronger than the Sea King. After sailing through oceans to acquire treasures and spiritual materials, they would sell these items to other cultivators at a higher price during the Treasure Auction, which would be held on a specific time.

However, Xiao Tian was unsure of the reason why the sea merchants came to his Insect Island. There should not be anything that they needed here.

“Go and have a look!” Xiao Tian headed toward the harbor of Insect Island as he spoke.

At the same time, Liu Chai and his men waited for Xiao Tian’s arrival patiently at the harbor of Insect Island. They were wearing white armor that covered their whole bodies and their faces were hidden behind masks.

“Boss, do you think that we’re exposed?” one of them whispered to Liu Chai.

Upon hearing that, Liu Chai glared at him, “Why should we be afraid? They will not be able to recognize us when we look like this. Just distract them for now, we’ll find a way to get the spiritual materials later.”

His men nodded in agreement and continued waiting in silence.

Even though the Demolition Guild had gone into various battles with Insect Island, Liu Chai and his men never revealed the existence of their battleships. Therefore, they had come up with this armor to disguise themselves.

Xiao Tian’s massive figure appeared with an overbearing aura shortly after, hundreds of muscular orcs tailing behind him.

As Xiao Tian approached them, he took a glance at the battleships before speaking to Liu Chai who was standing in front, “Which trading entity are you from and why are you here?”

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Liu Chai who had been devising his lines replied immediately, “We are from the Demolition Traders and we’re here to trade items!”

Even though Xiao Tian had never heard of the name of this trading entity, he did not find anything odd. He nodded and asked, “What do you want?”

“Rumor has it that there is Derived Spiritual Rice on Insect Island and we, coincidentally, need this spiritual material. Is the island owner, Xiao Tian, willing to sell them?”

“You guys are well-informed, I do have Derived Spiritual Rice here on Insect Island but what are you guys going to trade it with?” Xiao Tian narrowed his eyes.

Xiao Tian understood just a little about the Sea Trading Association. He knew that after purchasing his Derived Spiritual Rice, they were going to sell it for a much higher price. Therefore, he had an impulse to make some profit out of it, too.

Liu Chai, who was well-prepared, waved his hands. Noticing his motion, his subordinates carried two boxes from the battleships hurriedly and opened them in front of Xiao Tian.

A distinct herbal smell of spiritual material gushed out when the first box was opened.

The second box was loaded with over ten sets of purple class quality equipment.

Xiao Tian stepped forward to examine the two boxes before standing up and said, "The best spiritual material from this box is just Level 5 but the quality of the equipment in the other box isn't bad. However, aren't these goods a little too disappointing for a member of the Sea Trading Association?"

"Cough..."

Liu Chai cursed internally. It cost him dearly to assemble all this equipment, yet it seemed like they did not live up to Xiao Tian's expectations.

"Lord Xiao Tian, we have come a long way so we traded off most of our goods. Therefore, we are only left with these, currently. How many blades of Derived Spiritual Rice can you trade with us?"

Xiao Tian did not suspect anything. However, he found it hard to pay any attention to the goods in front of him.

In spite of that, since these people had traveled a long way and they were members of the powerful Sea Trading Association, he could not help but give them something. After thinking it through, he spoke, "Alright, I'll give you four blades of Derived Spiritual Rice. Leave these goods here!"

Upon hearing the good news, delight flashed across Liu Chai's eyes as he expressed his gratitude, "Thank you, my lord. I will definitely bring better merchandise to trade with you in the future."

Xiao Tian nodded upon hearing that. He took it as a chance to bond with a member of the Sea Trading Association.

"Follow me!"

Liu Chai signaled behind him before following Xiao Tian onto the island.

He tagged along behind Xiao Tian to the inner region of the island guarded by orcs and crossed a long bridge weaved from vines. Liu Chai and the others were surprised to find that there were many more spiritual fields in the inner region. He spotted that the Sons of the Sea were planted in every single spiritual field and this was shocking to him.

While on the way, Liu Chai counted and noticed that there were four spiritual fields. If he were to include the spiritual field on the outer region of the island, there would be a total of five spiritual fields.

All of these are soul coins! Liu Chai could feel his heart pounding against his ribcage.

Liu Chai only realized how lucky he was when he noticed how heavily guarded the inner region of the island was compared to the outer region.

Liu Chai speculated that he could get away with stealing the Son of the Sea previously because the spiritual field on the outer region was not relocatable and no one would ever dare to mess around the territory controlled by the army of the Sea King, the overlord of the Void Ocean. Therefore, they had let their guard down.

Liu Chai and the others followed Xiao Tian to a ring-shaped bay. Xiao Tian stopped and commanded his subordinates, "Go and harvest 24 blades of Derived Spiritual Rice."

After giving his order, anticipation flashed across Xiao Tian's eyes, "My honorable guests, is it possible for your trading entity to accept a bounty quest? I'm searching for someone!"

## **The Boss Behind The Game Chapter 98**

Liu Chai was dumbfounded upon hearing the bounty quest Xiao Tian spoke of.

To be honest, all the information he had on the Sea Trading Association was from a sea tribe during an island exploring trip.

As far as they knew, the Sea Trading Association was a massive joint organization. The association members travel around the sea to gather spiritual materials and treasures. The association members had a similar trait – each of them would definitely own a Specter Ship.

Upon finding out the trait of the members from the Sea Trading Association, Liu Chai got the idea of swindling by disguising as a trading entity.

However, he had no clue of anything regarding bounty quests which made him speechless for a moment.

Liu Chai pondered and said, "Lord Xiao Tian, what is your request?"

"It's a rather infuriating matter to say. Truthfully, a treasure was found missing here on Insect Island. I would like to ask for the Demolition Traders' help to find out which clan is the force behind the thieves!"

In Xiao Tian's opinion, the Sea Trading Association had a strong background and their information-gathering network was spread around most territorial waters. If they would be willing to take up the quest, finding the thieves would be an easy task.

After all, he needed to find the Son of the Sea to be able to answer to the Sea King.

Liu Chai pretended to be calm while listening to Xiao Tian's explanation but he was actually on cloud nine.

“Lord Xiao Tian, what kind of precious lost treasure needs our help? The reward we request will be over the odds!”

“The Son of the Sea!” Xiao Tian answered with a grim expression.

“What! How could it be the Son of the Sea? How dare the thieves steal a treasure as precious as such!” Liu Chai exclaimed.

“Indeed, would your trading entity be willing to take up this bounty quest? You only need to find out which clan the thieves belong to. As for the rest, I will take care of it myself!”

“There is still one thing which I do not understand. Why have you not designated men to guard a treasure as precious as the Son of the Sea? I could understand if it was snatched, but to have it stolen, I am indeed puzzled.”

Liu Chai nearly laughed out when he was asking the question but he held it in.

Xiao Tian’s face turned green as he listened to Liu Chai’s question.

He had definitely made sure that his precious treasures like the Sons of the Sea were guarded by his army. In fact, his few strongest orcs were the ones on shift to guard the treasures. However, no accidents had happened throughout the years and this led the orcs to let down their guard, which resulted in the situation today.

“The spiritual field is located at the edge of the island and I was being careless. Will the Demolition Traders be willing to accept this task?” instead of explaining further, Xiao Tian took a deep breath to calm himself down.

“So, about the reward...”

“You’ll get 20 blades of Derived Spiritual Rice as the deposit. You’ll get another 30 strands if you can find out which clan is behind it!” Xiao Tian was reluctant to offer the reward but he did it anyway.

He was well aware of the consequences of losing the Son of the Sea. He was also aware that members of the Sea Trading Association were all avaricious, they would not put any effort into a job if the reward was scanty. Therefore, Xiao Tian had no choice but to grit his teeth and make a good offer.

Liu Chai was overjoyed as he heard the reward that Xiao Tian was willing to offer.

He initially thought that they were only using the identity of a sea merchant to make a deal with Xiao Tian. By the time they were supposed to hand over the goods, he would find a chance to have them snuck away and let Xiao Tian lose everything.

As for their own safety afterward, Liu Chai and the rest were ready to risk their lives just to pull a fast one on Xiao Tian when they went after him. They never thought of leaving this place alive anyway.

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However, Liu Chai wanted those 50 blades of Derived Spiritual Rice more than the four blades now.

The orc who went to grab the spiritual material returned soon after and handed the bag of Derived Spiritual Rice to Xiao Tian.

Xiao Tian opened the bag to have a quick glance before handing it over to Liu Chai.

“Will you take up the task? Here are 24 blades of Derived Spiritual Rice with 20 being the deposit. I will pay you with 30 more blades after the job is done!”

“Alright! We, the Demolition Traders will definitely bring you the thieves within three days!” Liu Chai said confidently.

Xiao Tian nodded.

As a matter of fact, Xiao Tian’s trust toward Liu Chai came from the huge Specter Warship which he had parked in the harbor.

The most obvious trait which could determine the ranking of a member of the Sea Trading Association would be their transportation mode.

Ordinary members of the Sea Trading Association would usually own a Specter Ship as their transport.

The Specter Warship Liu Chai had was usually owned only by members with higher rankings in the Sea Trading Association.

The crafting of a Specter Warship would require a high price as an abundance of materials would be needed and the warship would have outstanding power after completion. This made Xiao Tian think that a highly-ranked member like him would not pocket merely 20 blades of Derived Spiritual Rice.

However, little did he know, under Bei Li’s settings, these Specter Warships were merely empty shells, not end products. It would require players to gather materials and build it up all on their own.

Liu Chai was thrilled as he stretched out his arms to receive the Derived Spiritual Rice from Xiao Tian. He then put up a message in the guild live chat channel.

“Brothers, hand over the goods to them. You can’t make an omelet without breaking eggs! I shall gain more benefits from Xiao Tian.”

His men placed the two boxes down after receiving his orders.

Xiao Tian was delighted to hear Liu Chai’s guarantee. He thought that he still had a chance to retrieve the Son of the Sea with the help of the Sea Trading Association’s powerful information-gathering network.

After the deal was done, Liu Chai and his men returned to the harbor calmly while an orc led the way.

The spiritual fields and spiritual plants they saw along the way made them envious and they strived to take over this piece of land one day.

Liu Chai and his men removed their masks and burst out laughing after boarding the battleship and after having traveled a certain distance to make sure that those from Insect Island could no longer watch what they were up to.

“Xiao Tian is such an idiot, 24 spiritual materials! We’re rich! We’re rich!”

“Boss, why must we hand over those two boxes? The equipment and spiritual materials cost us a fortune,” one of the men exclaimed with distress.

“What a fool, that was a trap. Didn’t you hear what he said? We can have another 30 blades of Derived Spiritual Rice if we could find the thieves!”

“Where do we find the thieves?” he was dazed.

“Aren’t you and I the thieves that he’s looking for?” Liu Chai burst into laughter. He was already plotting his next move in his mind

## **The Boss Behind The Game Chapter 99**

The next day in the Void Ocean, Insect Island.

A Specter Warship was sailing toward the island from the sea afar. Liu Chai informed the orc who was guarding the harbor the intention of their visit upon their arrival.

Xiao Tian hurried over to the harbor as soon as he received the news.

Looking at the familiar figures of Liu Chai and his men, Xiao Tian was rather buzzed.

He knew that the Demolition Traders would not have returned the next day if the thieves who stole the Son of the Sea were not found.

“Have you found the thieves who stole the Son of the Sea?” Xiao Tian looked at Liu Chai and asked agitatedly.

Liu Chai nodded calmly, “Not only did I find the thieves, but I have also seized them for you.”

Liu Chai waved his hand toward his back while he spoke. Three players with heavy armor were then brought down from the battleship.

Looking at the three players who were chained up before him, Xiao Tian could not believe his eyes.

How could the thieves who stole the Son of the Sea be caught so easily? That was rather effortless. He thought the Demolition Traders came back with some news, it was totally unexpected to him that they had already caught the thieves.

“Boss, they should be it, there shouldn’t be any mistakes. They look quite similar to the thieves, they should belong to the same clan,” an orc who had blood stains all over his body and a badly beaten face stood out and said.

Xiao Tian looked at the three chained up players with a cold expression upon hearing what his subordinate said.

“Are you the ones who stole the Son of the Sea? Answer me!”

Xiao Tian went ahead to punch one of the players on his chest while asking.

Xiao Tian did not use much power on his punch, yet the player spat out blood, wailing in agony.

Watching how his underling, who had his sense of pain sealed away, making up such a good act, Liu Chai nodded with satisfaction silently.

These underlings were the few rather quick-witted ones from his guild. They were specifically chosen by Liu Chai to deceive Xiao Tian and to swindle the remaining 30 blades of spirit materials.

Xiao Tian then extended his hand to pull that player’s hair to lift his head, “Answer me! Are you the ones who stole the Son of the Sea?”

With a painful expression, the player spat a mouthful of blood toward Xiao Tian’s face, “It’s me, so what?”

Xiao Tian’s face got purple with rage upon hearing the player’s confession. However, he sensed that something was off right when he was about to continue questioning.

The player admitted too eagerly as if he had been waiting for him to question him.

This made Xiao Tian's heart sink. He asked again, "There must be someone behind this, you must be a scapegoat. Tell me, who is the one behind the theft of the Son of the Sea?"

Upon hearing Xiao Tian's question, Liu Chai could not help but send another message in the guild live chat channel.

"That's right, let him suspect you. It would be best to let him think that there is a big organization behind you, you better put up a good act!"

The player looked toward Xiao Tian and laughed upon hearing what Liu Chai ordered, "What are you talking about? It's just us. We snuck onto the island from the seaside and hid next to the spiritual field for a few hours. I took the opportunity to steal the Son of the Sea when the guards were changing shifts. My partner who stayed off was killed!"

"Oh, right, I even killed your son. What was his name again? Gou Dan, right?" the player continued with a sneer.

Xiao Tian was outraged. He raised his arm and slapped the player's face until it was badly mutilated.

"It's really you! How dare you, tell me where the Son of the Sea is now!"

Seeing how the player had provoked Xiao Tian's anger, Liu Chai went on to send a message again on the guild live chat channel.

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"Good one, carry on with your acting! You will have your share of the spiritual material!"

The player who was slapped was overjoyed as he heard that but he remained to look feeble.

"Son of the Sea? Too bad, it is already sold off by our boss. Do you want it? Go look for him by yourself!"

The player's words provoked Xiao Tian to a great extent. He would have just killed the players off with one slap if they did not hold any clues.

"I knew it, there is someone behind this. Tell me who is your boss and I will let you off!" realizing how stubborn the player was on keeping his mouth shut, Xiao Tian changed his mode of questioning.

“You should worry about the other four Sons of the Sea on Insect Island instead. Trying to look for our boss? In your dreams!”

The player’s words gave Xiao Tian quite a scare as it made him realize that the organization behind the theft of the Son of the Sea seemed to be plotting their next steal. What made him even more distressed was the fact that this person could even point out that there were four Sons of the Sea remaining on the island accurately.

A theft with plots and plans? A thought came across Xiao Tian’s mind.

Xiao Tian was further enraged. He was not sure of what organization was behind it nor who would go this far in targeting him. Thinking of how they might plot to steal the remaining four Sons of the Sea, Xiao Tian felt uneasy and alerted at the same time.

He could still explain himself in front of the Sea King if only one Son of the Sea was lost. Although he might get beaten up badly, he could still keep his life.

However, Xiao Tian was clear that his only chance of survival was to flee from the Void Ocean if the remaining four Sons of the Sea were to be stolen as the Sea King would never let him off easily.

Xiao Tian was eager to find out who was the one plotting against the theft at that moment.

“Do you really think that I have no other ways to deal with you? We have plenty of means of extortion on Insect Island. You better speak the truth if you don’t wish to suffer,” Xiao Tian refused to give up asking.

Yet, the three players remained stubborn as if they would rather die than give in.

Looking at the situation, Xiao Tian waved his hand and ordered his subordinates to detain those three players in the inner region of the island.

Xiao Tian cupped his hands before his chest showing a sign of respect toward Liu Chai after the three players had been taken away.

“The Demolition Traders really do live up to their name, you have my respect. If I may ask, can you take up another request from me?”

Liu Chai laughed in the guild live chat channel upon hearing those words.

“Brothers, look at that fool, he really fell for it! He even uttered nonsense about the Demolition Traders living up to its name as if he really knows! Ha! Ha! Ha!”

The guild members could not contain their laughter as they all cheered in the live chat.

“Lord Xiao Tian, to be frank, we have mustered a great deal of our guild’s information-gathering network. We found traces from the smallest clue and even went ahead to catch the thieves personally...”

Xiao Tian immediately understood what Liu Chai was trying to say and raised his hand to stop him from continuing although he had not finished speaking.

“100 blades of Derived Spiritual Rice. Find the mastermind behind this. I, Xiao Tian, will pay you the reward you deserve!”

Xiao Tian’s offer got the Demolition Guild members’ hearts pumping up.

Liu Chai nodded while acting calm.

“Since Lord Xiao Tian is so sincere, the Demolition Traders will definitely do our best!”

Xiao Tian had a smile on his face upon hearing what he said. He then took over the 30 blades of Derived Spiritual Rice prepared earlier from the hands of one of his subordinates and handed it over to Liu Chai.

“I, Xiao Tian, look forward to the Demolition Traders’ next visit!”

## **The Boss Behind The Game Chapter 100**

Liu Chai was all prepared to con Xiao Tian again.

Sure enough, having to worry about the safety of the four remaining Sons of the Sea he had in his hand, Xiao Tian got fooled again. He eagerly wanted to find out the person behind the robbery.

To his surprise, Xiao Tian was willing to give out a hundred pots of Derived Spiritual Rice as the bounty, which were worth as much as 50,000 soul coins. Liu Chai was very tempted by such a huge sum of money.

However, following his discussion with members of his guild, he came up with a new idea.

After careful consideration, he looked up Gu Yu on his friends list and added him.

Shortly after, a notification popped up, showing that his friend request had been accepted.

Gu Yu: “Why the sudden friend request? Does this mean that you are ready to accept my suggestion and merge your Demolition Officers into our Myth Guild?”

Liu Chai: "You wish! My guild is now stronger than ever, crushing your people is just a matter of time. Don't be too arrogant!"

Gu Yu: "So? What's the point of adding me? (laughing emoji)"

Liu Chai: "There's this profitable deal that I can't handle alone, do you want in?"

Gu Yu: "What kind of deal? Please don't tell me that you want to sell soul coins to me, too. Anyway, I can take your entire stock if that's your intention. (laughing emoji)"

Liu Chai: "..."

Liu Chai: "I found an island full of advanced spiritual materials, but its defense forces are extremely powerful. I want you to cooperate with me, and once it's done, we can split the prize!"

Gu Yu: "Fifty-fifty? (laughing emoji)"

Liu Chai: "Just so you know, there are four Sons of the Sea on this island. It's your honor that I'm offering you this opportunity. So come if you wish, you should know that you are not my only option!"

Upon hearing about the presence of the four Sons of the Sea, Gu Yu lost his usual composure in an instant: "Yes! Yes, I'm in! Where are you now? I'll go to you, let's sort this out face to face!"

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After getting Liu Chai's current location, Gu Yu rushed toward the coast of Liuli along with a few other guild members.

The Sons of the Sea were Epic level treasures, something that could only be obtained by luck. Hence, the offer was extremely attractive, even for someone like Gu Yu. He would never let such a chance slip away.

Upon meeting each other, Liu Chai shared all the information he had about Insect Island with Gu Yu, including how he obtained one Son of the Sea, and his subsequent tricking of Xiao Tian.

Gu Yu was staggered by what Liu Chai did on Insect Island.

But at the same time, he was quite excited. He had never thought that such a land full of treasures would exist. Now, he finally knew where Liu Chai had acquired his Son of the Sea.

"So how are we going to do this?"

Liu Chai nodded, "My idea is pretty simple. When the time comes, all of you will act as the masterminds behind the theft of the Son of the Sea. I will then report your coordinates to Xiao Tian so that he would lead his army to surround you. We, the Demolition Officers, together with those that I have invited as support, will be the main force launching the attack on Insect Island, raiding the Field of Spirits when its defenses are at its weakest."

After giving it some thought, Gu Yu felt that the plan was indeed workable, but there was just one thing that did not make sense.

"But from what you have told me, Xiao Tian's army is tremendously powerful. The orcs that are left behind to protect the island should be very hard to defeat as well. Won't it be tough for us to sweep into the island merely with the strength of the Demolition Guild?"

At this exact moment, numerous silhouettes appeared at a distance.

"Who said that you are the only one invited?" Wu Guoyi laughed as he walked toward them steadily, his signature greatsword strapped to his back.

"The Son of the Sea! I love it, I'm calling dibs!" Ye Xue'er also approached them at a steady pace, along with hundreds of her subordinates.

"Finders keepers, I want one, too!" Chen Ziyu's voice came from the other side.

"You called so many people?" Gu Yu stared at Liu Chai, looking disappointed.

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"Just as you said, the defense of Insect Island is extremely formidable! To be safe, we must unite all our forces. Once we have taken Insect Island, each guild will take twenty percent of the loot. As there are only four Sons of the Sea, the Demolition Guild will take one, and the remaining three will be distributed among the four guilds by means of drawing lots!"

"Since you already have one, why can't you just be generous and let us split the remaining four?" Sun Qi, who was squatting beside Gu Yu, could not help but interrupt.

Liu Chai shrugged, "Being the initiator, it's only natural for me to have dibs. I will leave it to you guys to decide whether you still want in, or not."

Upon hearing this, the other four fell silent. As for now, only Liu Chai knew the location of Insect Island, thus he was in a position of power. After reconsidering the proposition, everyone decided to agree on the terms.

Following that, the five of them immediately started a discussion right there on the beach, plotting their plan of action.

As the result of an hour-long debate, they decided that the strongest guild among them – the Myth Guild, should be the bait. The other guilds would storm Insect Island after Xiao Tian led his army out.

Following the finalization of their plan, all five guilds started gathering manpower through their guild's live chat channel, assembling players who were scattered around various areas.

To ensure maximum efficiency in their cooperation, the five guilds were connected to the same channel for easier communication, and to prevent unforeseen circumstances during the operation.

When they were all set, Liu Chai led his men to board their Demolition Warship, setting their course for Insect Island. Trailing far behind them were the Avengers Warship, the Guardian Angels Warship, and the Great Dragon Warship.

The members of the Myth Guild, on the other hand, headed directly toward the deserted Fallen Fish Island. Their plan was to camp there, getting themselves ready to face Xiao Tian's army, which would be arriving at any possible moment.

For the first time ever, five guilds, with the combined strength of almost 5,000 people, started their coordinated strategic alliance.

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Arriving at Insect Island once again, the orcs were now able to recognize Liu Chai. Rather than being wary of him, they announced his arrival to Xiao Tian right away.

Xiao Tian quickly made his appearance at the pier.

"Any news?" Xiao Tian asked, his face lit up in anticipation.

Liu Chai nodded while pretending to be calm. "Good news, Island Owner Xiao Tian! We have discovered the forces behind the theft! However, I wasn't able to capture them for you as their troops numbered around tens of thousands of people."

Liu Chai had deliberately reported about ten times more than the actual number of the Myth Guild's garrison, so that Xiao Tian would lead more manpower off the island.

"Terrific!" exhilarated by the news, Xiao Tian took two steps forward and patted Liu Chai on his shoulder.

“Where are these people? I will go and capture them personally! It’s just tens of thousands of people. Even if they have millions of men on this Void Ocean, we the Sea King Army, are still the ones in charge!”

Knowing that the wire-pullers had been found, Xiao Tian seemed to be elated.

He was not afraid of the strength of his enemy at all. The real pain in the neck was the fact that he could not find out who was behind the theft.

“This force must have come from the outer territorial waters as they are now stationed on Fallen Fish Island. If you want to catch the masterminds, time is of the essence. They seemed to have noticed me when I was scouting them out, so they might shift their base to a new island at any moment.”

Xiao Tian nodded, “Good! I, Xiao Tian, hereby express my utmost appreciation for the assistance provided by the Demolition Traders. Wait for me here, I will reward you with a hundred pots of Derived Spiritual Rice after I have captured the masterminds.”

Liu Chai nodded calmly, “By the way, Island Owner, I must remind you that this force is highly mysterious. Besides that, their strength is unfathomable. You have to be careful.”

At this, Xiao Tian put on his serious face.

“I am aware of this, too. I have tried every single trick I had on the three thieves you brought here. Still, we weren’t able to extract any useful information out of them. I can’t figure out what creatures they are. The thing that surprised me the most was that once they were dead, they turned into black fog and disappeared, not leaving a soul behind. This is absolutely unbelievable!”

Liu Chai nodded, “To ensure that the thieves can be taken down, do you need us to lend you some troops from our side?”

Liu Chai certainly did not intend to lend out his people, but he wanted to provoke Xiao Tian by consistently emphasizing that the hidden forces on Fallen Fish Island were indeed incredibly powerful.

Nevertheless, Xiao Tian was as confident as ever.

“On this Void Sea, we the Sea King Army, have never feared these foreign forces! Even a dragon would still need to show us its respect! I can handle this!”

“Guards, assemble the Orc Army! Follow my lead out to the sea and we shall capture the culprits behind the scene!”