

48 Hours 1111

Chapter 1111: The Atrium

Jemengard was shocked and infuriated. This was the first time it had suffered such a huge loss since it gained consciousness. Although it was unwilling to admit it, it did feel the threat of death.

However, until now, Jemengard could not believe that the pressure of death was brought on by this seemingly insignificant human.

However, the blade of the other party's knife was indeed stained with his blood. It looked exceptionally ferocious, as if it was reminding him of the source of the wound on his cheek. What confused him even more confused was that the target was clearly in his poisonous fog, but he was still alive and kicking. On the contrary, Jemengard was becoming weaker and weaker.

Even Jemengard began to wonder who it was that it really poisoned.

Zhang Heng did not attack after the slash. He mainly dodged and dodged the python's subsequent roll and furious counterattack. During that time, he even tried to shoot another arrow with his Pestilence Bone Bow.

From Jemengard's current actions, it was obvious that the arrow he shot into the Python's mouth was still effective, even though it was just an ordinary arrow. However, the Pestilence Bone Bow's effect of infecting blood with two to five types of plagues was still effective.

After that, Zhang Heng could clearly feel Jemengard's movements slowing. This also made it easier for him to dodge. However, this time, Jemengard did not give him another chance. His second arrow did not manage to hit the wound on the python's cheek, but the surrounding scales deflected it.

At that moment, the nightmare guardian had completely retracted its initial contempt for Zhang Heng. It started to panic because it realized that it could not catch its target or unleash its full potential even though it had invincible strength. Its poison fog, which had always been effective, seemed to have little effect on its target either.

After this round, it really did not seem to be able to do anything to Zhang Heng. Seeing that the human in front of it was getting ready again, Jemengard raised its head and used its tail to slap the ground repeatedly, appearing as though it was preparing for a big move.

In the end, Zhang Heng had just raised his guard and was ready to deal with the black python's next big move. He didn't expect the latter to twist its body and escape to the reef beach not far away without looking back.

Zhang Heng was stunned. He didn't expect the majestic python, the famous Norse mythical monster, to really run away without a shred of dignity.

Most importantly, based on Zhang Heng's previous investigation, Jemengard had not used all of its attacks. Even though its pouncing and poisonous fog had not been effective, it should still possess a mind control skill, or there was no way to explain why the old man outside the maze had voluntarily walked into the tunnel to this island for more than 50 years to become its guide.

Zhang Heng had also been on guard against the onslaught of Jemengard's mental attacks during the previous battle, but he had not expected the other party to be so decisive without even giving it a try. This went out of Zhang Heng's expectations too. He had a vague feeling that something was not right, but at this moment, he could not dwell on the problem anymore. Seeing that the black python was about to escape, he immediately chased after it.

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In front of the platform.

Fan Meinan frowned. "The atrium? where is it?"

Beta didn't answer her. Instead, she stroked the little white cat in her arms and asked, "Do you know where this abandoned subway line originally leads to?"

Fan Meinan tried hard to recall. Before she and Zhang Heng climbed down the ladder, they didn't know a subway line. After they came down, their phones lost their signal, and they couldn't find any relevant information; therefore, Ma Lu told them about this subway line.

However, it all happened more than 50 years ago, after all. The relevant files had been sealed, and Ma Lu didn't know many details, including where the line led to. Many people had forgotten about it after so many years.

However, Beta pulled out a picture from her phone photo album and showed it to Fan Meinan. "You'll have to make do with this. This document is more than 50 years old. I took a planning map from it."

Fan Meinan enlarged the picture and looked at the route marked on the map. "This is... The Forbidden City? Was the end of this subway line the Forbidden City at that time?! Wait..." Fan Meinan widened his eyes. "...the atrium... could it be referring to..."

"Guan Zhong entered and stood with a double screen. The public does not speak. When entering the atrium, the public does not speak," Beta took back the mobile phone and said slowly. "This phrase is from 'Kuang in the pipe.' The so-called atrium is the middle part of the steps in front of the temple. It is where the ministers stand when they hold a court meeting or when they are knighted."

"Are you kidding me? We all know that the snake in the atrium does not mean that," Fan Meinan said, "Yggdrasil, the world tree in Norse mythology, has nine kingdoms above it. The world where humans live is called the Atrium."

"You're right," Beta nodded. "There's only one problem. We don't live on Yggdrasil."

"..."

"You have to find a place for our friend Jemengard to stay, right?" Beta appeared as if there was nothing she could do. "Below the Forbidden City is the place closest to the mythical atrium. Back then, when the subway line was built, it was awakened, and a series of things took place. Well, strictly speaking, it didn't wake up. It just opened its eyes a little. But this time, thanks to your boyfriend, it looks like it's really going to wake up."

"You said that Jemengard is under the Forbidden City? Then what was it that dragged the sperm whale to the second floor???" Fan Meinan asked doubtfully.

“According to Norse mythology, Jemengard could only wake up from its sleep when the poisonous dragon Nidhogg finished eating the roots of the world tree at dusk of the gods.

“So, of course, it has to find some trustworthy subordinates to deal with the outside matters for it. Otherwise, why do you think it raises so many snakes here?” Beta replied. “It is to nurture generations of servants and ensure that there are always people who can serve it. Legend has it that it has a small island specially used to incubate snake eggs, but I’ve never been there before as for the thing on the second floor. It’s its current generation of servants. “Don’t look down on that fellow. It’s just like Jemengard’s sub-account. Although it’s a weakened version in all aspects and its brain isn’t very good, it is still very strong and robust.”

Seeing Fan Meinan’s expression change slightly, he waved his hand. “Don’t worry about your boyfriend. How can such a small character be his opponent? He ran to the island like that. The one who should be worried is that stupid snake. That guy has stayed in that kind of dipsh*t place for too long. He probably forgot how dangerous the world is. It’s time to pay the tuition fees.”

Chapter 1112: Monster Party

Fan Meinan was not relieved. Instead, he raised his guard. “Wait, what did you say? What do you mean by my boyfriend’s blessing?”

“Why? Isn’t he your boyfriend?” Beta deliberately looked surprised.

“...”

“You know that’s not the point.” Fan Meinan was speechless. “According to you, Jemengard will only wake up at the twilight of the gods when the poisonous dragon Nidhogg has finished eating the roots of the world tree.”

“That’s right. That big snake is a monster that only appears at the end of the world.” Beta nodded before she grinned with a meaningful smile. “But Nidhogg is not the only one in this world who can bring about the end of the world.”

“What are you hinting at?” Fan Meinan frowned. “If you like to play charades so much, why don’t you become the Sphinx’s agent?”

Beta ignored Fan Meinan’s provocation and only smiled. “No matter what, I’ve answered all your questions truthfully. Now, it’s time to talk about the deal between teacher and you. It’s not safe here. After all... Jemengard is about to wake up, and we probably don’t have much time left. But if we’re lucky, we might be able to see two apocalypse-level monsters fighting each other.”

“What the hell are you talking about? Isn’t there only one monster in this place?”

“Oh, Jemengard isn’t the main character tonight. Whether it’s in the twilight of the gods or now, its position is only a footnote. However, it’s not entirely impossible for it to win tonight. After all, its opponent is far from complete. It might be able to destroy the arrangement that that annoying old Guy Chronos has been planning for a long time. That would make things even more interesting.” When Beta spoke about this, her eyes lit up. She looked as if she wanted the world to be in chaos.

Fan Meinan could understand a little. According to Beta, there seemed to be more terrifying monsters appearing tonight, so she asked her, "So all of this is actually Loki's arrangement, right? But isn't Jemengard his child? Would he completely ignore Jemengard's life and death?"

"You know how teacher is. He has never really cared about anyone. Even as his agent, if he can make things more interesting, he probably won't mind letting me die as well. After all, he's a mad bastard. His parents don't like him very much," Beta winked playfully.

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On Red Island.

The old man stood on a huge rock and looked at the man and snake fighting in the sea.

The black python was determined to escape, but Zhang Heng was unable to leave it on land. However, the black python was not having an easy time either. The scales on its body had been cut by Zhang Heng, so it had two more wounds. Another wound had been inflicted by an arrow. Conservatively, it was estimated that there were at least four types of plagues on its body.

However, its body was indeed strong. An ordinary person would find it difficult to even stand at this time. The python's escape speed was not much slower than before. Of course, this was also because it was completely terrified and couldn't muster up the courage to face the frightful human behind it again. It only wanted to focus on returning to the sea, to find a place where no one could find it, and plunge into it, never to come out again.

Besides throwing away all of its dignity, its tail-between-its-legs battle strategy had indeed yielded significant results.

The giant black python had successfully escaped back to the reef beach. However, this time, it did not climb up the huge reef like a throne and dominated the world. Instead, it fiercely plunged into the water.

There was an underground passage under the reef that connected to the sea outside. The giant black python had previously returned to the island from this passage. However, after staying at home for a short while, it had no choice but to use this passage to escape to the sea again.

After returning to the water, the giant beast's mood calmed slightly. In its eyes, the possibility of the human following it into the water was very small. Although it had previously appeared a little pathetic on land, it was still an ocean overload, an existence that could hunt down sperm whales.

Back in the ocean, it would only be stronger than on land. On the other hand, as a human, no matter how strong Zhang Heng was, his physiology was not adapted to the ocean environment. Once he entered the water, he had to solve the breathing problem first. His movement speed would also be significantly reduced. Therefore, from the perspective of the black python, as long as Zhang Heng was not stupid, he would definitely not enter the water with it.

However, it was true that it was afraid of being beaten up by someone, and it was worried that someone would shoot it from the shore. It didn't stop after diving into the water and immediately swam out of the island along the tunnel.

After coming out of the tunnel, the black python finally felt completely at ease.

However, to be on the safe side, it still looked back and saw the scene that scared it out of its wits.

The hateful figure was still following behind it like a piece of plaster. It didn't decide to let it go just because it had escaped into the sea. What puzzled the Black Python was that Zhang Heng's movement speed in the water was even faster than on land. At the same time, the other party didn't seem to want to breathe at all.

If it were at its peak condition, the black python would not have been afraid to compete with Zhang Heng in speed. However, it had already accumulated seven plagues on its body. As the abscesses around the areas stabbed by Hidden Scabbard continued to spread, even with its physique, it was still unable to hold on. In addition, the wave of desperate escape on the shore had exhausted its remaining strength. The black python realized with sorrow that it was a deep-sea monster, but it could not outrun the humans behind it in the ocean.

Zhang Heng had obviously calculated this point, so he followed the black python into the ocean. Very quickly, he caught up with the dispirited serpent and rode on its back before mercilessly thrusting the Hidden Scabbard into the snake's flesh to make it bleed again.

Jemengard writhed in pain in the ocean, but there was nothing it could do about the humans on its back. At this moment, it completely lost its previous prestige and looked like it was at the end of its rope.

The old man did not expect the giant black python to be so cowardly. Judging from its appearance, if it had legs, it might have knelt and begged for mercy. However, the next moment, the old man's tightly knitted brows suddenly relaxed. Not only that, a hint of joy even appeared on his face.

It was because he felt a special throbbing in his heart. In the past, this kind of situation would only appear when the great being under the Forbidden City took the initiative to contact him. This time, the throbbing was unprecedentedly intense.

No one knew better than the old man what this meant! He couldn't help but shed tears of excitement.

Fifty-one years had passed since he first heard that voice!!!

He had changed from a young lad to a white-haired old man. However, even in his boldest dreams, he didn't dare imagine that he could really wait until this day appeared in his lifetime, to be able to see with his own eyes that imposing and terrifying figure appear on this piece of land, to be able to watch it set off endless huge waves and devour the entire world, what a magnificent and heart-stirring scene!

Chapter 1113: The Boss and the Worker

The old man was excited by the magnificent scene that was about to unfold.

On the other side, the life and death of the black python were no longer important to him. Now, Zhang Heng, who was riding on the back of the snake, had become a dead man in the old man's eyes. He firmly believed that as long as the figure under the Forbidden City could wake up, any enemy could only tremble under its terrifying might.

At that time, even the Asgardian gods would welcome their final dusk, what more, a regular mortal being.

And as the bearer of that great existence, he would also have the honor of witnessing the arrival of the end of the world with his own eyes as a mortal. It was the final battle that no words could describe.

The old man sobbed in excitement as he bent down and kissed the ground beneath him. However, a lazy voice came from in front of him.

“What’s wrong? Did your boss call you again?”

The old man froze and moved his lips away from the red soil. He looked up and saw the uninvited guest in front of him.

It was a woman in a t-shirt and jeans who looked a little cold. She was holding a Boston Scheck pot in her hand and she appeared to be busy adjusting some drinks not long ago, but she received an urgent message. Having no time to put down the work in her hands before she ran out in a hurry.

The old man was surprised to find that he didn’t know when she had sneakily arrived on the island. Moreover, there was clearly no means of transportation around, which made the old man feel like he had hit a ghost. Could this woman in front of him have descended from the sky?

As if she could see through his thoughts, the woman of unknown origin said, “Don’t guess blindly. I swam up on my own. Fortunately, I caught up.”

“Caught up to what?” The old man asked subconsciously.

“Caught up to this party,” the woman from an unknown background sung.

However, the old man found it difficult to believe her words because the woman in front of him was neatly dressed. She did not look like she was soaked. Unless she had taken off her clothes and swam over with both hands raised, it was still difficult to explain her current state. She looked like she had taken a taxi directly after work.

“Who are you?” The old man asked cautiously.

“As you can see, I’m just a bartender. My name is not important.” The woman of unknown origin shook the Boston Scheck pot in her hand. “What’s important is that I’m just like you. I’m just a worker who works for the boss.”

“You’re too modest. I can see that you’re much better than me,” the old man said sincerely. Although he could not see through the woman’s true strength, he could still sense that she was no ordinary person. The woman just stood there casually, but the pressure she was exerting on him was on par with the figure under the Forbidden City. This was the most unbelievable thing in the old man’s eyes.

“You guys have been isolated in this place for too long. You don’t even know what you’re capable of. It’s the end of the world. Even if your boss wakes up from the Forbidden City, he’ll be beaten up once he goes out.” The unknown woman shook her head. “Many stronger beings are out there. You don’t even know that you’re being used as a hired gun.”

The old man didn't say anything, but the expression on his face clearly showed that he didn't believe the other party's words.

However, considering the other party's strength, he still tried his best to probe using a polite tone. "It looks like... you're not its enemy. Since that's the case, why don't you stand aside and quietly wait for his lordship? When that time comes, even if there are any powerful enemies, his lordship can help you test their strength."

"No." The woman decisively refused without thinking.

"Why?" The old man found it hard to understand. Then, he seemed to have thought of something, and his expression changed. There was a hint of hostility in his eyes as he sized her up. In a deep voice, he said, "Could it be that you are a certain lord of Asgard?"

The people of Asgard and Jemengard were mortal enemies. If it were not for the existence of those gods, Jemengard would not have needed to place the island where it hatched its servants and received its believers in such a remote place. Could the Asgardians have also sensed something and sent people to stop Jemengard from waking up to delay the arrival of the twilight of the gods?

This seemed to be the most likely explanation.

However, the woman of unknown origin shook her head when she heard this. "I have nothing to do with those Asgardians. No, strictly speaking, I have some grudges with the enemies of your boss, but I don't really care about it." She paused and continued, "I told you before. I'm here because of my boss, right?"

"You have a boss?" The old man was stunned. He didn't know who was qualified to be the boss of this woman before him.

"Of course, and you've already met him." The woman of unknown origin sighed. "He killed your boss's next batch of servant candidates who were still in training. In addition, it looks like he's going to kill this batch of servants soon. So if your boss wakes up, there will definitely be a battle between him and my boss given his temper. This is also what those arranged this would like to see."

"Now, that..." the old man was speechless. He looked at Zhang Heng, who was grappling with the black python in the distant ocean. He could not believe that the creature in front of him was also a mythical creature. Her boss was actually a mortal.

Even though this mortal's strength had exceeded the old man's understanding entirely, it still did not seem to reach the level of this woman before him.

"I can't reveal the specific reason to you. I can only say that the current him is far from showing his true strength. Believe me, you definitely wouldn't want that to happen either," said the woman. "Thus, I came to the island in order to give you a peaceful option before the situation turns out to be out of control."

"You think too highly of me. I'm just a welcoming party that can't even be considered as a believer," the old man said. "I can't control its decision. I can only accept its orders and complete them unconditionally."

“You’re too modest. In my opinion, your position is much more important than those believers. There was a small garden in the center of the maze, but the python didn’t know how to appreciate flowers. So, it was obvious who the garden belonged to. Although the so-called servant’s strength had been improved, his body had become bigger, and he had learned how to spit poisonous fog. Due to the body structure of the snake, it was difficult for its intelligence to be raised to a satisfactory level. Therefore, the stupid snake on the island is, at best, a tool or a weapon. You are the real brain of Jemengard in the outside world. Only you can communicate with him and convey his orders. You are very important to him.”

Chapter 1114: New Life

The old man did not expect that the woman would see through his identity.

However, after a moment of silence, he said firmly, “Even if you are right, the awakening of our Lord is a foregone conclusion. No one can stop this.”

“Who said that? I came here to stop this.” The woman of unknown origin raised her chin. “However, I need a little help from you.”

“What do you want me to do?”

“Get in touch with that thing under the Forbidden City. You should have a way to do it, right?” said the woman as she took out a palm-sized bone flute.

“What is this?” The old man looked vigilant.

“It doesn’t matter if I tell you. This is the Siren Flute. I killed about a hundred sirens in the deep sea and made this item with their hyoid bones. As long as this flute is played, the mortals who hear it will be completely lost in the sound of the flute. There is a high chance that they will never wake up again but worry not. To your boss, this flute will look at most calm his restless heart a little and let him return to his sleep.”

“You’re lying,” the old man shook his head and said. “Sea monsters are very rare. There might not even be ten sea monsters in the entire ocean. Where can you find more than a hundred sea monsters to make a flute?”

“I know.” The anonymous woman licked her lips and said with a smile, “because they were all killed by me. Up until the 19th century, there were actually quite several sea monsters. Although they were far from catching up to humans, there were still a few hundred of them. They would use songs to confuse the seafarers, causing their ships to collide with the reefs, directly luring those poor sailors into the sea. It was because of this that I used their hyoid bones to make a game item.

“In order to collect the materials, I killed more than a hundred sea monsters. I originally planned to return with the materials, but when I saw the eyes of the remaining sea monsters, I knew that they would most likely come to seek revenge on me in the future. Although I wasn’t worried about this, I hated trouble, so I simply killed all of them together.”

The old man was the host of the giant python, Jemengard. He served a famous evil Norse mythological monster, but even he could not help but feel a chill in his heart when he heard the words of the woman

opposite him. The most important thing was that she looked relaxed the whole time when she was telling the story, as though gossiping about celebrities.

However, this proved that she was not from Asgard. Even if those hypocritical gods really did such things behind their backs, they would never dare to bring it up.

The anonymous woman continued, "You don't have to worry about me harming your boss. Although we haven't met before, we can be considered half of the same race. I wouldn't go so far as to lay my hands on it."

After saying that, she bent down to pick up the two red pebbles and knocked them against each other. As a result, the two red pebbles shattered, and the snake embryo inside rolled on the ground, twisting its body and continuously struggling. However, because it had arrived in this world too early, its organs were not fully developed. It was still unable to adapt to the cruel environment outside. In the end, its struggling became increasingly powerless, and it looked like it was about to lose its life.

However, the old man saw the unknown woman open her mouth and spit out a green mist in the next moment. That mist enveloped the two small snakes on the ground. Not long after, their bodies began to tremble violently. At the same time, the color of the skin patterns also began to change.

The original red gradually became red and green. When the entire change was completed, their bodies also stopped trembling and lay on the ground motionless.

However, the old man knew that the two small snakes weren't dead. On the contrary, they miraculously survived. Not only did they survive the danger of being born too early, but they also became more full of vitality than ever before. Even the old man found it hard to accept this exuberant vitality. They stopped moving now because the strange evolution from before had exhausted their physical strength.

After resting for half a minute to recover their strength, they immediately began to eat the red pebble fragments in large mouthfuls. Moreover, after fighting for the last piece, they still seemed a little unsatisfied. Their eyes turned around before finally set their eyes on the other red pebbles beside them.

One of the snakes bit on an intact red pebble beside them, but the latter did not move at all. Its two baby teeth were almost broken, but it did not give up even after suffering such a heavy setback. It continued to think of ways to open the red pebble.

Seeing this, the old man couldn't help but waver. It wasn't because he had been convinced by the unknown woman, but because he realized that the other party's strength seemed to be stronger than he had imagined. He had no choice but to consider the consequences of making an enemy out of the other party, not to mention that there was Zhang Heng in the sea.

At this moment, the black python's flailing strength was getting weaker and weaker. It looked like it was at the end of its tether, and it wouldn't be long before it lost its life.

The old man thought for a moment before suggesting, "Why don't you ask your boss to spare Ah Hei's life first, and then we can continue the discussion?"

"Ah Hei? is that the name of the black python?" The woman of unknown origin sighed. "When have you ever seen a worker giving orders to his boss? "And even if I speak now, I won't be able to save that

stupid snake. From the moment it was slashed by my boss's knife. It was a dead end. If you have the time to plead for it, you might as well think more about your boss."

Speaking up to this point, the woman from an unknown background's tone turned cold, "It's true that I came to the island with the goal of peace, but if you really decide to remain stubborn all the way until your boss wakes up, then I'll kill you, then join forces with my boss, so Jemengard tastes what it's like to fight two against one."

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The battle between Zhang Heng and the black python was coming to an end. The sea's surface had once been battered by the black python's struggles, but now the waves were gradually dissipating, and the sea returned to its calm state. The only difference was that the nearby seawater had been dyed red by the black python's blood.

However, due to the black python's past prestige, the sea creatures that lived here had fled the area at the start of the battle. They still didn't dare return, whereas even sharks had taken the initiative to go around them. This place had become a stage for a man and a snake.

The battle lasted longer than Zhang Heng expected.

Twenty minutes ago, he noticed that the black python had almost reached its limit. The latter's wounds were more than two. Even though the Pestilence Bone Bow was no longer effective after entering the water, Zhang Heng continued to deal damage to the black python with the Hidden Scabbard.

Up until now, the black python had suffered dozens of large and small wounds. Under the effect of the Hidden Scabbard's damage bonus on mythical creatures, the pain caused by these wounds far exceeded their size.

However, the black python's body was simply too huge. An ordinary person would have long fallen to the ground even if they did not die immediately after being struck by so many knives. Moreover, if one of the knives hit a vital point, their life would be in danger.

However, even if Zhang Heng stabbed the hilt of his Hidden Scabbard into the python's body, it would still be very difficult to hit its vital point. Furthermore, those seemingly horrifying wounds were insignificant compared to its imposing size.

Fortunately, because there were enough wounds, Zhang Heng managed to win this difficult battle.

After the huge snake leaped out of the water once more, it was no longer able to stir up any waves. It just lay quietly in the sea and stopped struggling.

However, Zhang Heng could feel that it did not die immediately. It was not until about fifteen minutes later that the black python finally lost all signs of life.

At that moment, Zhang Heng also felt a wave of exhaustion. This was not the most thrilling battle he had ever faced, but it was definitely the most exhausting battle. After fighting for so long with an enemy that was hundreds of times larger than him, from land to sea, the amount of physical and mental effort required was unimaginable.

After confirming that the black python was really dead, Zhang Heng did not want to do anything else. He put the Hidden Scabbard back into the sheath at his waist and sat on the black python's corpse to recover his strength.

A while later, Zhang Heng saw a wooden boat approaching him. The person rowing the boat was none other than the old man he saw on the island earlier.

When the boat approached, Zhang Heng placed his palm back on the hilt of the knife.

"I mean you no harm." The old man raised his hands to indicate that there was no weapon in his hands. After a pause, he asked, "Is it dead?"

Zhang Heng nodded, but his palm did not move away from the hilt.

"I really mean no harm," the old man repeated, "I just didn't expect you to be able to kill a monster that appeared in the twilight of the gods. However, I'm not here to take revenge on you. This is also a good thing for me because this means I can finally leave this island and return to human society, even though most of my relatives and friends are gone."

"Do you take me for an idiot?" Zhang Heng asked calmly from the back of the snake. "This fellow isn't even Jemengard."

"Why do you think so?"

"Although it had respectable strength, it had not reached the level of a mid-court snake. The most important thing was that its brain wasn't very good. Furthermore, it was previously timid in the garden. On that island, I'm afraid its status is not as high as yours."

Another thing that Zhang Heng did not mention was that when the Parris Arrow shot toward the black python, it turned around halfway. It was then that Zhang Heng started to suspect that the python was not Jemengard.

He paused for a moment before continuing, "Let's cut to the chase. Stop beating around the bush. where is Jemengard? "Whether the Red Island or the abandoned subway line, it should be the place where it nurtures its population. I killed all of its hatchlings. Doesn't it want to take revenge on me?"

"It does want to take revenge on you, but unfortunately, it's still in a deep sleep and has no way to rush here," the old man said.

"Deep sleep?"

"Since you've read up on Norse mythology, you should know that up until the dusk of the gods, Jemengard was sleeping in the deep sea, right? Therefore, I'll be handling the matters outside for it," the old man said politely.

"Then how do you plan to handle this matter?"

"You've already killed Blackie, the strongest snake king among the snakes. He has half the purity of Jemengard's bloodline. And just as you said, you've also killed this batch of snakes. Before the next batch of snakes break out of their shells and produce a snake king, I don't have any good ideas for you. So it seems that I'll have to send you away," the old man said.

“That’s it?” Zhang Heng was a little surprised.

“That’s it. And you don’t have to worry. As long as you don’t return to this mountain, even if a new snake king is born, I won’t be able to do anything to you...” The old man hesitated for a moment before continuing, “Also, count downward from Blackie’s left eye. There’s a small golden scale underneath the third scale. You should take it too. That thing should be of some help to you.”

Zhang Heng followed the old man’s instructions and used the Hidden Scabbard to cut open the third scale under the Black Python’s Left Eye. In the end, he did see a small golden scale underneath. Zhang Heng cut off the scale and felt a cold sensation in his hand. The amazing thing was that no matter how long he held it, the temperature of the scale would not rise. Unfortunately, at only the size of two fingernails, it was too small. Otherwise, he could have skipped the air-conditioning during the summer.

Even without the bartender’s appraisal, Zhang Heng could confirm that this was a game item.

“These things are yours too, right?” The old man then returned the Parris Arrow that fell into the water to Zhang Heng along with the large travel bag that someone had left on the island earlier.

Zhang Heng roughly examined it and found that there was not a single thing missing from it. After closing the zipper, he asked the old man, “You’ve helped me so much behind Jemengard’s back. Aren’t you afraid of him coming after you when he wakes up?”

“Of course, this isn’t free help. I want to trade these things for my own life. Surviving is always the most important thing,” the old man said, “And it’s the same for it. I can only continue to serve it if I’m alive. It has greater value. It’s not impossible to choose another person to receive it, but it definitely won’t be as convenient as mine, especially at a time like this...”

“Do you know how to return to the human world? I still have two companions at the subway station. I want to take them with me.”

“No problem.” The old man nodded.

“There’s also a woman named Cheng Sihan. She’s probably trapped in that circular tunnel. She’s the one I want to take with me.”

The old man thought for a moment. “That’s not a big problem.”

“Then I have one last question. Do you know where Loki is?” Zhang Heng asked the old man.

Chapter 1116: Workplace Environment of the New Era

“Loki?” The old man was stunned. “Is Loki here too? When?”

The blank look on his face didn’t seem fake, which meant that he hadn’t seen Loki for a while.

Of course, this didn’t mean that Loki hadn’t been here before. Considering his transformation ability, he could easily turn into a bird or an insect and sneak onto the island without the old man noticed. He might even find the place Jemengard was sleeping at.

However, Zhang Heng and Fan Meinan’s original plan was going to fall through. They wouldn’t be able to find Loki’s whereabouts from the old man.

In fact, although Beta had lured the three to this abandoned subway line, Zhang Heng could still sense Loki's shadow from the back. However, Zhang Heng didn't quite understand Loki's purpose.

Was the other party targeting him? Because Fan Meinan couldn't make a move on him, Beta had lured him here, hoping to use the black python on the island to kill him? If that was the case, wasn't rocky looking down on him a little too much? Or did rocky just want to use him to kill the black python so that he could become enemies with Jemengard?

At present, this appeared to be the most likely conclusion.

However, as a monster that appeared in the twilight of the gods, Jemngard already had many enemies. There wasn't a single god in Asgard who didn't want to kill it and if it wasn't for Zhang Heng's bad luck that he happened to appear in its lair, Jemengard probably didn't have any intention of seeking revenge on Zhang Heng.

When Zhang Heng was fighting the black python, he had once suspected that Jemengard would descend in some way after he killed the black python. But now, the old man's words had overturned this possibility.

This time, Zhang Heng could not see through Loki's intentions. Loki's plan now seemed somewhat anticlimactic.

But then, Zhang Heng's expression changed, and he seemed to have thought of something. He asked the old man, "Did someone else come to the island just now?"

The old man's expression changed slightly. He thought of the anonymous woman's explanation and wanted to deny it on the spot. However, he knew that his first reaction must have been seen by Zhang Heng. If he denied it now, it would only make things worse, therefore, he was a little embarrassed and didn't know what to say. In the end, he could only remain silent.

"..."

Actually, the old man was even more confused than Zhang Heng. He was already confused about the relationship between the woman of unknown origin and Zhang Heng. According to the former, Zhang Heng was her boss, and this time, he was here to solve her boss's problems; however, she had been busy for so long, and it seemed that she did not want her boss to know about her existence. Before she left, she specifically told the old man not to tell Zhang Heng about her arrival on the island.

The old man could only sigh that he had been on the island for too long, and he could no longer adapt to the complicated workplace environment of the new era.

Fortunately, Zhang Heng did not continue to ask. He knew that he could not get an answer from the old man, so he closed his eyes and rested for about half a minute. Then, he jumped off the snake corpse and sat on the small wooden boat.

The old man could not help but heave a sigh of relief. This was the tragedy of a tactician. Even though he was the brain of Jemengard in the outside world, he was responsible for taking care of everything outside while Jemengard was asleep, however, after the death of the black python, he could not defeat anyone now. He could not offend the woman of unknown origin, nor could he offend Zhang Heng in front of him. He could only walk between the two of them like walking on thin ice.

After Zhang Heng boarded the boat, he quickly rowed the wooden boat to the side of the underwater tunnel that connected to the pool. Then, he took out two sets of old-fashioned scuba gear from the boat and handed one of them to Zhang Heng. However, the latter rejected him with a wave of his hand.

“I don’t need these things.”

The old man was not surprised. After all, since Zhang Heng could come from here, he could also return from here. Furthermore, not long ago, the other party had fought Blackie in the sea for more than 40 minutes, and Blackie had once dived to the bottom of the sea, but he still couldn’t escape.

So the old man put on his diving equipment. His movements were a bit rusty, and he even studied the use of the breathing apparatus. At the same time, he didn’t forget to explain to Zhang Heng, “This tunnel is only used by Blackie to feed the snakes. As for the believers, there are other ways to enter and exit the island. I didn’t expect anyone to come out here, so at first, I thought you were a believer coming to the island.”

Zhang Heng nodded and didn’t say anything. He grabbed his bag and followed the old man.

Then, the two of them entered the underwater tunnel together. When they arrived, there was a lot of turbulence in the tunnel, but the general direction of the flow was from the pool to the sea. Zhang Heng had thought that it would be more difficult to go against the current when they returned, he had even planned to use his ability to control the current to send the two of them back.

However, he did not expect that after swimming less than half a meter into the tunnel, the direction of the turbulence changed miraculously. It changed from internal to external flow to external to internal flow. Not long after, the two of them were sent back to the head of the snake carved on the stone.

As soon as they reached the pool, Zhang Heng heard Ma Lu’s voice. There was a hint of urgency in his voice.

“What’s Wrong?” Zhang Heng asked Ma Longdao, who was lying at the entrance of the cave. Ma Lu looked like an ant on a hot pan. The moment he saw Zhang Heng, he asked anxiously,

“Miss Fan is missing!” “Not long after you went down, Miss Fan told me that she didn’t want to sit there and wait. She wanted to see if she could find anything that could help you. I wanted to help too, so she told me to find a way to make a rope. After that, we split up. I was on the second floor, and she was on the first floor... about twenty minutes later, I went down to look for her, but when I reached the first floor, I found that she was missing. I shouted loudly, but no one answered.”

Ma Lu’s first words made Zhang Heng’s heart sink. He turned to the old man behind him and asked, “Is there anything else here?”

The old man shook his head, “No, this subway line has been closed for decades. No one has come in. We use this place to feed the snakes. In fact, the snakes usually stay in the tunnel very quietly. They only come out when they’re eating. They’re very obedient.”

However, Zhang Heng knew that it was not as if no one had come in here before. The snakes in the tunnel had already been cleaned out by him, and the rest could not cause much trouble. Therefore, the possibility of Fan Meinan’s disappearance had nothing to do with the snakes, however, Zhang Heng did

not forget that Loki's agent, Beta, had once entered this place before them. He had not seen Beta leave the surveillance footage, so the latter was most likely still here.

If there were anyone who was most likely to attack Fan Meinan, it would be Beta.

Chapter 1117: A Small Favor

Zhang Heng was about to assemble a Lego motorcycle and let the old man lead the way. He searched the entire abandoned subway line, but he did not expect to see Fan Meinan's figure again at the entrance of the tunnel.

Fan Meinan was not injured. Other than her pale face, her condition didn't change much from before they separated.

Ma Lu was elated to see this. "Where did you run off to? I'm so glad you're okay."

"Oh, I heard some movement from the tunnel earlier, so I went in to take a look and I accidentally wandered off," Fan Meinan mumbled. Then, she turned to look at Zhang Heng and asked with concern.

"You're back? Did you run into any trouble down there?"

"Yes, I did run into some trouble on the way, but it's been taken care of now." Zhang Heng gave a brief account of his battle with the black python. Then, he pointed at the old man behind him, "He's Jemengard's guide. He can take us away from this subway line. In addition, he can also find your sister from that circular subway line."

"My sister is no longer there." Fan Meinan shook her head.

"Hmm?" Zhang Heng raised his eyebrows.

"The movement I heard earlier should have come from my sister." Fan Meinan lied, "The movement came from the tunnel at the other end. I picked up my sister's phone chain there, so I continued chasing after her. Unfortunately, I couldn't find her."

"Is that so?" Zhang Heng was a little surprised. He asked the old man, "Where does the tunnel that the snakes are lead to?"

"Do you mean the tunnel on the first floor? That tunnel is about three kilometers long. It's a dead-end, and there's nothing at the end," the old man answered truthfully.

"Is that so?" Zhang Heng thought about it and inserted the Infinite Building Block into the Lego motorcycle. "Let's go take a look."

The two spent about 15 minutes searching the tunnel where the snakes were, but unfortunately, they couldn't find Cheng Sihan. When they returned, they met up with Fan Meinan and Ma Lu and walked into the infinite loop tunnel.

The old man took out an old-fashioned kerosene lamp from the waterproof cloth. However, the fuel inside was not kerosene but something like dried cow dung. He lit the kerosene lamp and held it in front of his face. Then, he reminded the three people beside him, "Don't leave the range of the light later. As

long as the light hits the place, it will not fall into a cycle. If your companion is in this tunnel, we should be able to meet her on the way.”

The old man made a solemn promise to Zhang Heng. Nonetheless, the four walked to the platform they had just entered, but they still could not see Cheng Sihan.

“Is there any other place to hide people here?” Zhang Heng asked the dumbfounded old man.

“There are quite a lot of places to hide people. After all, more than half of the subway line has been built, but this is the only part of the road that will cause people to fall into a cycle.” The old man did not seem to have expected such an outcome. He had promised Zhang Heng that finding the latter’s companions would not be a problem, but he did not expect him to go back on his word. He sorted out his emotions before replying.

Fan Meinan, who had been silent the whole way, also spoke up, “Actually, we don’t have to worry too much about her. Since my sister isn’t trapped in this tunnel, she shouldn’t be in any danger. She just left without saying goodbye to us. If you’ve known her for a long time, you’ll know that she’s always been like this. She does things her own way and rarely cares about other people’s feelings.”

“Then, do you have any way to contact her? I’m afraid we won’t be able to find out where Loki is. In that case, we only have Beta left,” Zhang Heng said, “If your sister really left in a hurry, it’s most likely because she’s chasing Beta. We need her to lead us to Beta.”

“I’ll try to contact her later, but we’ve been through a lot today, and I’m a little tired. Why don’t we call it a day? I’ll contact you if there’s any news,” Fan Meinan said, “Thank you. To be honest, I didn’t expect you to come looking for me, and you’re even willing to find a way to cure my rare disease. Most people would avoid hearing Loki’s name. After all, most people might not agree with his style of doing things, but they definitely don’t want to make things difficult for him.”

“He provoked me first,” Zhang Heng said, “I’ve been targeted by him ever since he sent you to find me. No matter what I do, it won’t change his attitude toward me, so naturally, I don’t have to worry about his attitude.”

After a pause, Zhang Heng added, “Since you’re tired, go back and rest. You don’t have to worry too much. Loki isn’t the only one who can cure your illness. I’ve already posted a reward on the forum. There might be news soon.”

“Are you really going to trade 200,000 points or a B-grade item for my life?” Fan Meinan asked after a moment of silence.

“That’s a fair price,” Zhang Heng said calmly.

“I’m not talking about who loses and who gains...” Fan Meinan opened her mouth. “To be honest, I don’t think my life is worth that many points.”

“You’re right.” Zhang Heng nodded. “So you’d better think about how you’re going to pay me back after you’re rescued.”

“...”

After that, Zhang Heng turned to Ma Lu. “Master Ma.”

“Yes, what is it?” Even now, Ma Lu still couldn’t believe that he had really escaped. When he saw the iron ladder going up, he almost cried out in excitement. Then, he was immersed in the joy of finally being able to return home.

A few hours ago, he would never have imagined what he would experience on this trip. In fact, even now, he still felt like he was dreaming, whether it was the endless tunnel (Ma Lu deliberately looked at the time and realized that it was indeed much shorter when he returned than when he went in), or the crazy snake swarm, the sperm whale on the second floor of the station made him feel incredibly magical.

Not to mention Zhang Heng’s magic trick of using blocks to make real objects, enough to turn his worldview upside down. It was not until Zhang Heng called his name that he was able to recall reality from his memories.

“Can I trouble you to do me a favor?” Zhang Heng asked.

“Of course.” Ma Lu agreed without hesitation. He knew very well that if it were not for Zhang Heng, he would not have been able to return to the ground and see his wife and children again, so he had already made up his mind, no matter what Zhang Heng wanted him to do, no matter how difficult it was, he would not refuse.

In the end, he heard Zhang Heng continue, “Very good. I’ll have to Trouble Master Ma to forget what happened down there then.”

“What?”

Chapter 1118: Farewell

After leaving the station, Zhang Heng made a trip to the gaming station and passed the golden scales he had cut off from the black python to the bartender for identification.

When he pushed open the door to the lounge, he happened to see the bartender working on a new drink at the bar.

Recently, the bartender had been getting lazier and lazier. When Zhang Heng saw her, she would either be reading manga or playing catch-up on her phone, or she would be in a high-intensity online conversation with an unknown netizen on a two-dimensional forum. She didn’t even want to do her job anymore. If someone ordered a drink, she would make it hastily or, if she was even more unreasonable, she would simply pass the order to the bartender downstairs. When the order was ready, she would ask someone to bring it up. The only thing missing was the word “fool” written on her face.

However, today, contrary to her usual behavior, she didn’t continue to fish for money. Instead, she finally returned to her long-lost devotion to her job and developed a new drink for the lounge.

The bartender added a small spoonful of sea salt into a glass of blue-green liquid to complete her improvisation. Then, she handed the drink to a player at the bar before turning around. Turning around, she wiped her hands with a towel and said, “It’s been less than 24 hours since you left last time. Why, are you already eager to start the next round of the game?”

“No, I just got an item that needs your appraisal,” Zhang Heng said as he took out the golden scale from his travel bag.

The bartender took the scale and sniffed it, “Hmm... it’s quite fresh. It seems that you just had an intimate date with the owner of this thing. You’re quite lucky. I happen to have nothing to do recently, so I can give you the results tomorrow.”

After saying that, she raised her head and found Zhang Heng staring at her.

“Why? Do I remind you of the poor girl you played and abandoned in the dungeon?” The bartender raised her eyebrows.

Zhang Heng also looked away and said lightly, “Well, I just didn’t expect you to be so efficient.”

“Don’t look at me like that. I have rent to pay, and I have a lot of pets.”

“Cats?”

“No, I like fish. I just ordered a 20-meter-long aquarium online, and I was going to raise two electric eels,” the bartender said as she brushed her hair by her ear.

Zhang Heng nodded. “Good luck then.” After he paid the appraisal fee, he left the lounge with his bag.

As soon as he left, the bartender sighed in relief. The energy in her body disappeared, and she returned to her previous half-dead state. At this time, another player came over to order a drink, but the bartender said to wait.., she then passed the list to the bartender at the bar below, while she took out a book called “Chess Soul” and continued to flip through it.

She found the page that she had seen not long ago and was about to continue reading, but she stopped in the next moment.

On the right page, where her fingers had just pressed, there was a faint red mark. That red mark was very light, and only the bartender could see it.

Then, the bartender seemed to have thought of something. She reached out and touched her hair, and found a few red grains of soil on it.

It was then that she knew that something bad had happened. She had been extremely cautious on the way to the island, and her body had not been stained with seawater or anything else. It was almost exactly the same as before she left, but in order to show that she had no ill intentions towards Jemengard, the bartender picked up two red pebbles and crushed them, allowing the snake embryo inside to come into the world ahead of time.

It was also at that time that she got the soil on her hands, and she had the habit of flipping her hair. The soil probably came into her hair at that time. If it was an ordinary person, then so be it. She probably would not have noticed these details.

However, the bartender was facing Zhang Heng. The latter’s observation and analysis skills were almost unrivaled among players, so the bartender did not take any chances. She knew that Zhang Heng must have noticed that she had been on that island before.

“Damn it.” The bartender rubbed her temples and sighed, “Why do I feel like a scumbag caught by his wife having an affair? I was only there to protect him, but in the end, I had to carefully hide it. Tsk, tsk, tsk. What a thankless job.”

As she was lamenting, the door to the lounge was pushed open again.

This time, it was a waitress who came in with a cocktail that the bartender had just slacked off. However, that player had already forgotten the wine he had ordered, because his eyes were only focused on the waitress.

Logically speaking, he had experienced quite a number of dungeons, and he had encountered many different types of girls. However, when he saw this girl in front of him, he still felt that she was incomparably stunning. Her appearance wasn't perfect, but she carried an innocent and innocent temperament. It was very easy to arouse a man's desire to protect her. At the same time, she was also a mixed-blood. Her eyes and hair had a bit of an exotic charm. The player who ordered the wine just wanted to hug her and love her.

However, before he could say anything, the bartender grabbed the cocktail from the waitress tray and threw it in front of him with a dark face.

“Here's your wine!”

The player who ordered the wine was stunned. He didn't know what he had done to offend the bartender. However, he was also a regular customer of this game, so he knew the boss here. Seeing the bartender's unfriendly look, he didn't stay any longer, obediently carrying his wine back to the booth.

After he left, the bartender looked at the waitress and frowned.

“Why are you here again? Did you not understand what I said last time? You have become like this. Are you tired of being a cherry blossom girl?”

The waitress smiled. “Don't worry. I'm here to bring you good news.”

“No good news is as good as you disappearing from my sight,” the bartender said coldly.

However, she didn't expect the waitress to nod. “It seems you already know what the good news is before I even open my mouth.”

This time, it was the bartender's turn to be stunned. “You're preparing to leave?”

“That's right. You told me not to get close to your boss last time. I thought about it and felt that what you said was very reasonable, so I decided to follow the good advice. Not only do I want to get lost, but I also plan to get far away and directly get out of the country. At least for the time being, I won't be an eyesore in front of you.” The waitress blinked, “I'll use this new identity to say goodbye to you now, Little Snake.”

“Where are you going?” The bartender did not let down her guard.

“Greenland.” The waitress smiled sweetly. “I just got a job there. I should be able to earn a little money as a translator.”

Chapter 1119: Conjecture and Exchange Rate

Zhang Heng did not expect the bartender to have been to the Red Island, and not too long ago.

The mud on the latter's hair was the best evidence. Even though there was a lot of red mud in other places, only the mud on the island was dark red, as if it had been doused with paint. Moreover, Zhang Heng had already sensed that the old man's attitude had changed significantly.

Zhang Heng had also suspected that someone had sneaked onto the island while he was fighting the black python. In addition, this also answered the biggest question in his mind, which was why Loki's actions were loud but it didn't cause too much trouble.

Now, it seemed that it wasn't that Loki didn't pay enough attention to him, but it was because the bartender's sudden appearance had disrupted his plan. Otherwise, after defeating the python, he would very likely have to face Jemengard's main body.

But this caused a new problem to arise. Was that why the bartender wanted to help him?

Zhang Heng thought back to the one year he had known the bartender. All the interactions between the two were limited to the current business scope of the game point. He was the one who paid for most of it, and the bartender was the one who provided the service. There didn't seem to be any deep friendship between them.

Furthermore, the bartender's help this time was completely Lei Feng-style. She sneaked onto the island behind Zhang Heng's back, and after dealing with the crisis, she quietly left. After she was done, she disappeared, hiding her achievements and fame. She didn't mention anything about the fees at all, differing completely from her previous style of doing things.

However, her way of doing things reminded Zhang Heng of another person. That person was Kronos, who had given him the watch. The latter had always considered himself his guardian angel and often appeared when he was in trouble to help him solve his problems.

At first, it was Yamolesbee who came from Papua New Guinea. Later, when he faced the goddess of justice, Justitia, it was Kronos who stopped time to help him avoid conflict. Also, the recent incident at the bookstore, although Zhang Heng did not know what the crisis was, Kronos' appearance was obviously to help him solve it.

Zhang Heng had been guessing Kronos' real purpose. According to the information he had, Kronos had been eyeing him since he was very young. He had sponsored his parents' scientific expedition, but after that, there was no news, it wasn't until he was 19 that he reappeared and signed a contract with him, making him his agent.

Kronos had given him the address of the game's checkpoint. Zhang Heng was no longer a newbie who knew nothing. He knew that there were more than 20 checkpoints in his city, but Kronos had chosen this one. Zhang Heng wouldn't be surprised if there was a connection between the bartender and Kronos.

However, this caused Zhang Heng to be even warier of Kronos. The other party didn't seem as simple as he portrayed himself to be. Although he was just an ancient god who had been impacted by modern technology, at the very least, he had connections in the game's organizing committee that weren't of

low stature. In addition, Kronos did not seem to have been idle for the past dozen years. He had unknowingly created a huge net that covered Zhang Heng's life.

Zhang Heng did not know the relationship between the bartender and Kronos, nor did he know who else was related to Kronos. This did not feel good, as if someone in Galgame had chosen all the dialogue options for him in advance, pushing him step by step toward an inevitable conclusion.

Zhang Heng knew that his trip to Greenland could not be delayed any longer.

He planned to leave after completing the regular dungeon for the month ahead of schedule. In the next few days, he could start preparing for his visa and other preparatory work.

The other issue was Fan Meinan. With Zhang Heng's observational skills, he could see the change in Fan Meinan's mood after he returned from the Red Island. He then contacted Ma Lu, who had said that the latter had gone missing. Even though Fan Meinan had later explained the reason for her departure, there were actually quite a few suspicious points. It was just that Zhang Heng didn't continue to ask.

Beta and Cheng Sihan's disappearance also meant that their previous plan to lure the snake out of its lair had failed. It was likely that they would be unable to find Loki again in the short term. As such, they could only hope that there were other ways to cure Fan Meinan.

Zhang Heng went to the forum to look at the posts he had posted on his behalf. In just half a day, he had already received thousands of replies. It took him an hour to finish reading all the messages, and in the end, he realized that most of them were just bystanders. Only a small number of people were analyzing the possibility of a cure, and until now, no one had been able to come up with a truly reliable solution.

Despite all that, Zhang Heng still decided to make preparations nonetheless. He first called D4 to inquire about the status of the exchange of points and cash.

After the call connected, D4's weary voice came through.

It was a transaction reward worth 200,000 points, after all, and it involved a piece of B-grade equipment. There were still many people asking about it. Not only were there messages under the post, but there were also many private messages. D4 had not done anything for the entire day, chatting with all sorts of people.

A large portion of them were people who wanted to take advantage of the situation. They were thinking about whether they could use a trade loophole or some swindling method to directly swindle 200,000 points, or at least get a deposit or something. This also gave D4 a lot of work in identifying whether it was real or fake.

"Exchange points? What exchange points?" D4's head seemed to be stuck for half a minute. He was still stuck on his previous work, but he quickly came back to his senses, "Oh, you want to exchange 200,000 points in advance? Right now, because the year-end auction is still some time away, the exchange rate of points isn't at its peak. However, because of the opening of the Agent War Dungeon, the various unions are engaged in an arms race, which has indeed pushed up the exchange rate to a certain extent. It's about 39,001 points."

D4 paused for a moment before continuing, "Normally, our trading firm would give a certain discount for large-scale exchanges. However, your scale is really too large. Our existing points reserves aren't

enough to meet your transaction needs. However, you don't have to worry too much. We can contact a few other brother trading firms. If we pool together and purchase a portion, we'll be able to gather this amount of points for you. However, the price might be a little higher, but it can basically be kept below 40,000... the question now is, how do you plan to pay such a large sum of money?"

Chapter 1120: Fund-Raising

D4 did not know much about Zhang Heng. In fact, not many people knew the truth about Simon, who ranked first in the first round of the proxy war.

Although Zhang Heng was not as mysterious as Beta, very little information about him could be found on the internet.

In comparison, D4 had known Zhang Heng for quite a long time. Moreover, Zhang Heng had once done an exchange at the fortune building and at that time, exchanged 50 points with 1.85 million. From the looks of it, Zhang Heng's financial situation was not too optimistic, at the very least, didn't seem like a person who could afford such a large sum of money.

200,000 points. According to the exchange rate of 40,000 points, even without considering the service fee, it would still cost 8 billion. To most players, this was an astronomical figure. In reality, even the three big guilds would have difficulty coming up with this amount of money.

Even though the game had progressed to this point, many players would have one or two items on them. If they were to really exchange for money, they would have millions worth of wealth. With this, it seemed like they only needed to find a few hundred or a few thousand people to come up with 8 billion, however, assets and cash were two completely different things.

In reality, the cash and points exchange business that the various chambers of commerce had started was all small and medium-sized without exception.

Most players would participate in the exchange for two reasons. Firstly, players like Li Bai, who weren't in the best financial situation, would use a portion of their points to exchange for cash after the game to improve their lives or their family members. There was also a portion of players who belonged to the RMB Warriors in the game. Their financial situation was very good, and they were willing to spend money to buy more points to upgrade their equipment or to buy the services of the game points.

However, whether it was buying or selling, the amount shouldn't be too large. This was because the seller could not sell all the points. If their strength stagnated too much, they might not be able to complete the next round of the game. They might even be kicked out by the team, and the buyer would not invest too much cash to buy points. After all, strictly speaking, the game was only conducted in the underground world, and life in the real world still had to continue.

Up until now, the largest exchange order came from, February Siege, leader of Arc of Light. Not only was he the guild leader, but he was also a director of two public companies. He invested less than 80 million for an exchange of 2,000 points, and at that time, had caused a rather large stir in the player circle.

However, apart from increasing his own strength, February Siege's action also had the nature of advertising to the Arc of Light youths. After that, private transactions never exceeded that figure. After

all, no one's money came from the wind. In comparison, players could still earn points from each round of the game, but money could only be obtained from the real world.

Although some game items and skills could make it easy for players to earn money, no matter how fast an individual's earning ability was, it was still very difficult to compare to the mature capital operations of the outside world. In addition, although the organizing committee did not strictly restrict players from earning money through supernatural powers, in theory, considering the current external environment, once this number exceeded a certain level, it would inevitably attract the attention of society. Not only would that court trouble in the real world, but the biggest danger was that other players might target them and hunt them down like prey. In this way, not only would the money and equipment earned benefit others, but they would also lose their lives, it might even implicate their families.

Therefore, even though the financial situation of almost all the players had improved since the game started, very few people made big money in the real world. Most players still tried their best to keep a low profile in real life.

Like Zhang Heng and Shen Xixi, they continued to study in university, preparing for the final exam and level 4 and 6 like the other students. Shen Xixi even consciously led the rumor that she was being kept by a rich man to the point she wanted to find a reasonable excuse to leave school often.

This was also the reason D4 suspected that his ears were wrong when he heard that Zhang Heng had a 200,000-point exchange requirement. He thought that the 200,000 points was just a gimmick to attract the attention of the players. Thus, Zhang Heng was prepared to use a B-grade item to pay for this transaction.

"I'll think of a way to pay," Zhang Heng said. "It's not like you guys can complete the acquisition of points in one go, right? I should be able to pay in stages, right?"

"That's right. Considering the huge amount of points you need, and the fact that we also need to maintain normal business activities, even if we contact other firms, it's estimated that the entire acquisition will last for at least two to three months," D4 confessed. "You don't have to pay us any money at the beginning. I can first make a verbal agreement with the other firms, then wait for the first batch of cash to arrive before paying in batches according to the status of the acquisition. Only then can we keep the exchange rate below 40,000. Of course, if you're in a hurry, we can also shorten the whole acquisition time, but in that case, the exchange rate may rise to a certain extent, and I personally don't recommend you do that."

On the other end of the line, D4 hesitated.

"What's wrong?" Zhang Heng asked.

"Actually, there's another way. Guilds, especially large-scale guilds, tend to have large amounts of game points in reserve, especially during the proxy war. If you can convince a few guilds to sell their points to us, we should be able to gather the amount you want very quickly."

"Don't contact the guilds," Zhang Heng refused. "I also need some time to raise funds, so I'll purchase them from other trading firms and players."

Zhang Heng had previously asked Fan Meinan. With her current condition, she could still wait for two to three months. This period of time was also a good time for Zhang Heng to think of ways to raise money and earn points. As for the guilds, Zhang Heng did not want to cause any more trouble.

“Okay.”

D4 did not have any objections. He was only giving Zhang Heng advice on behalf of the building. In the end, it was still up to Zhang Heng to make the final decision. In the end, he reminded Zhang Heng once more, “Mr. Simon, please make sure to make a trip to our headquarters within two weeks. We will appraise the Grade-B item you provided and complete the guarantee. Don’t worry, no data from the appraisal will be leaked.”

“Okay, I understand.”

Zhang Heng hung up the phone. He would think of a way to get the funds and points for the later stages, but considering that he still had a pressing trip to Greenland, he needed to find someone to pay for the first batch of funds in the early stages, Zhang Heng had already prepared the funds in advance, and he was still in contact with the building before he did this.

Not long after he hung up the phone with D4, he received a message from Han Lu. “I already have a plan for the money, but this isn’t something that can be explained over the phone. Let’s talk face-to-face. Are you free tonight? I’ve already asked my assistant to reserve a restaurant. Let’s meet at Yi Garden Villa at 7 pm.”