

## 48 Hours 361

### Chapter 361 Welcome To Join Us

The bald man was all suited up, leather shoes, and a surfboard under his arm. His appearance captured lots of attention around him, especially when the picture on the back of his surfboard was a lid of a toilet bowl.

The six didn't ascend the tower immediately for fear of alerting their enemies, instead electing to sit at a nearby cafe nearby and wait for the quantum collider to be activated.

"Okay, from now on, we have to be careful with what we do. There are surveillance cameras everywhere around us, and that includes the Evil Scientist's bionics." Fan Meinan lowered her voice. "Always remember that we are just tourists. Don't do anything that will blow your cover... I'm talking about you, Vandal King."

Vandal King reluctantly put the ashtray that he was dismantling back to its original spot, and Fan Meinan angrily slammed her coffee mug on the missing part of the ashtray. "You need to curb your desire for dismantling items. Just wait one more hour, and you can destroy whatever the heck you want."

"I'm sorry. I got excited before our operation," Vandal King sheepishly replied as he wiped the sweat off his forehead.

Having stayed silent for some time, Fan Meinan was a little surprised seeing how the two most provocative in the team, the waiter and bald man, were quieter and more obedient than anyone else. Fan Meinan thought they had finally grown up, and it wasn't until she turned around that she found out that they were staring at a woman with a wide-brimmed hat sitting at the next table.

Their unabashed glares were alarming, where the woman in the hat was apparently beginning to feel embarrassed by the way she was being looked at. Well, or rather, a little restless, considering how both her hands trembled as she held her coffee mug. Clearly, she was afraid of them.

"You two, I can understand your feelings about being single for so long, but don't forget what today's business is! And believe me, as a girl, I can tell you for sure that you can't win a girl's heart by staring like that."

"I don't know," the waiter scratched his head, "I have never seen her before, but she looks familiar to me. Is this the 'love at first sight' thing that everyone has been talking about?"

"Even if you truly fell in love at first sight, you should know the first-come-first-serve basis. I had my eyes on her first, obviously," growled the bald man. Seemingly dissatisfied, he went on, "As a friend, you should quit silently and bless me at a time like this."

The waiter had no intention of taking a step back. "There is no such saying," he retorted.

"We should play it fair and square. It's got nothing to do with the order. Someone once said that there are only 20,000 people in this world who can make you fall in love at first sight. You probably won't even cross paths with one in your entire life. Since she's my love at first sight, I'll make sure that I won't give up on her."

Fan Meinan slapped her forehead. "After staring at the girl like this, you two are out of the game. There's nothing else for you to fight for."

At that moment, the woman with the wide-brimmed hat seemed to have made up her mind, hastily packing her books and laptop on the table. After being stared at for such a long time, she had become so uncomfortable that she wanted to leave the place as fast as she could. She picked up her Scottish Fold and left in a hurry. She obviously liked cats a lot; not only did she bring a cat with her, but her purse was also printed with a cat. Even her shirt had cartoon cats printed on it.

Fan Meinan raised her cup.

"Congratulations, your 'love at first sight' is coming to an end here. Let's make a toast to the fastest break up in the world!" she beamed.

What she did not expect was that Zhang Heng, who had been silent all the while, stood up and approached the girl. His actions caused the waiter and bald man to feel like enemies were attacking their very hearts.

"It's over; I blame you. Someone else has claimed our target."

Seeing that Zhang Heng was approaching her, the woman with the wide-brimmed hat became even more nervous. She almost ran away, but when Zhang Heng said something, she instantly stopped in her tracks. Seeming skeptical at first, she eventually began to talk to him after a while.

The bald man was amazed. "Damn! He's good, right? Besides awakening, does the chosen one also possess the skill of picking up girls? This is making me jealous."

It didn't take long before Zhang Heng came back with the woman.

"Is he personally announcing their relationship in front of us losers? Damn, this is making me sad! Is this even necessary?" the waiter cried in grief.

"Allow me to introduce her. She is Ms. Cat, a master builder. Ms. Cat, this is Messenger, Demon Butcher, Mobile Arsenal, Vandal King, and just like me, this is Fan Meinan."

Ms. Cat stretched out her hands for a handshake.

"Wait, you are Mrs. Cat?" The waiter was shocked, "You do resemble her a bit, but it appears you have also put on some sort of disguise like us. No wonder you looked familiar. So it's not love at first sight after all."

The bald man was also disappointed. "I thought I met one of those 20,000 people," he said.

After Ms. Cat took a seat, she explained the reason why she wanted to escape. She had initially thought that Zhang Heng and his team were working for Evil Scientist and that her cover was blown.

"So, you are also here to stop Evil Scientist from destroying the world?" the waiter asked. "It seems you have received Messenger Bee's message." "Messenger Bee? What Messenger Bee?" Ms. Cat looked a little puzzled. "I did see a swarm of bees flying in front of me, and I was so frightened that I fainted. Well, I actually learned from the cats that Evil Scientist plans to destroy the world. This whole thing is somewhat complicated to explain. In a nutshell, my cat heard from the neighbor's cat's girlfriend's best

friend about her neighboring cat, who was bragging about how evil his master is. Today, he will open the space portal and let all the monsters in. So, I came here to find a way to stop him.”

The bald man attempted to invite her to his team. “Great! Our goal is the same as yours,” he exclaimed. “It feels good to meet people who share the same cause. You can join our New Year’s Eve Game Team and fight Evil Scientist with us. We need to remove the Infinite Building Block from the quantum collider. Let’s save the city!”

Ms. Cat was taken aback when she heard that. “New Year, what New Year? Isn’t Chinese New Year five months away? If you guys are talking about the New Year’s Day, it’s still three months before we get to celebrate it.”

The bald man gave Zhang Heng an ‘I-knew-something-like-this-would-eventually-happen’ look.

“Don’t be bothered by unnecessary things. In short, we welcome you to our team,” Zhang Heng said. “Having more people help us will significantly increase our odds of winning this fight!”

Chapter 362 Fire In The Hole !

At 5:17, a beam of light appeared above Canton Tower and shot out straight to the dome.

A huge air vortex subsequently appeared at the end of the light. The whole incident could have been a scene from ‘Avengers’ when aliens were invading New York (here, the conscientious author has omitted the 500-word description of the magnificent scenario)...

Tourists and passer-bys all started taking out their phones and snapping pictures of this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity.

“Alright, the quantum collider has been activated! It’s time for us to make a move,” Mei Nan said. “Remember our plan. Lay low, ride the elevator as a tourist up to the Star and Cloud Observation Deck, and get to the 488 Lookout from there. Oh, and one more thing, please keep in mind that we only have seven minutes to complete this mission.”

She got up from her seat first, and the other six followed her. Vandal King rubbed his pliers together, looking ever ready. The bald man put on a pair of sunglasses and adjusted his tie. His cool demeanor didn’t last very long, though. He had just stepped out of the coffee shop when his face suddenly fell. “Shit. I left the toilet seat inside.”

Two minutes later, he rushed out of the cafe with a surfing board and was now brimming with confidence. “Come on, let’s get out there and stop evil together!”

As soon as he said that, there was a huge explosion at the gate of the Canton Tower.

The team of guards standing there was all thrown off by the blast. Then, a masked man on a motorcycle carrying a dessert box sped past. He tossed the box at the bionics, and when they caught the box, their first instinct was to throw it away. The delicious aroma coming from within, however, caused them to hesitate. Some even went as far as to take a bite. Immediately, they looked clouded and intoxicated, and like an internet-addicted teenager, they tossed their weapons aside and began dancing awkwardly on the spot.

“Hey... I wasn’t even gone for two minutes, and you guys already decided to change plans?” asked the bald man who was gobsmacked.

“That has nothing to do with us. He’s not one of us!” Mei Nan frowned.

Then, a giant lollipop, about five meters wide and fifteen meters long came down from the sky towards the patrol car. In a frenzy, the guards inside the vehicle fled as fast as they could. Simultaneously, a loud alarm rang. The defensive system that Evil Scientist set up was in motion, and more bionics dressed in black began pouring in from all directions. The masked man soon ran out of desserts to throw. Although he was doing his best to make more, he clearly couldn’t keep up with the ever-multiplying enemy. Just then, a horse neighed loudly.

“Hold on, pretty boy,” a charming and masculine voice could be heard saying. The crowd turned to look, seeing a handsome old man in a hat. The cowboy wore a collared shirt, vest, green scarf, and leather boots. He charged in from Yuejiang West Road riding a maroon-colored pony.

Drawing the revolver at his waist with one hand, he gave off the coolest look, pulling the trigger at the bionics.

Bullets flew out of the gun’s muzzle, and before they knew it, the bionics suddenly found themselves fighting against a formidable enemy. They thought they were about to complete a side character’s task and were supposed to take a break, but even after the handsome old man had fired a wave of angry shots, no one was hit.

The bionics looked around and were relieved. However, out of nowhere, a rope suddenly fell down from the sky and tied them all together!

“Oh, how naive! Dear children, the bullets were just a distraction. A cowboy’s real attack is with a rope, of course!” the old man said as he shook his fist. With a loud huff, the bionics were bound together so tightly by the lasso that they could barely move. “Oh, it’s Desert King, Candy Baby, and Daddy Cowboy! This is great! I thought they’d never come!” the waiter squealed in excitement.

“Ahem... I don’t know if you noticed, but I’ve covered my face, and people who do that, under normal circumstances, do not wish to reveal their true identity. Ah, forget it,” Desert King coughed twice, taking off his hood on his head. “Yes, we’ve come.”

While the conversation went on, two fully automatic missile launchers were quietly aimed at them. However, just when the bionic in charge issued a launch order, the missile launcher was strangely unable to receive electronic instructions.

A hearty voice said, “I apologize for the interruption. I am Rocketman. By the time you hear this, I have already gone to space. My rocketship and I have already hijacked all satellites, and I’m sorry to inform you that your satellite-guided weapons can no longer be used.”

“Cool! Even Rocketman is here! I knew it! People won’t just abandon the city!” When the waiter saw the familiar face, he became very emotional. “Except for Ocean King, who has been detained by his boss to write codes, everyone is here! Old friends coming together again... isn’t this amazing?”

“When you said ‘old friends’, did you include me?” asked a deep, hoarse voice.

When everyone turned around to look, they saw what appeared to be a series of flashbacks.

“Phantom Ninja? Wait. When did unfold in this direction...” said the bald man. “I remember you. Didn’t Evil Scientist brutally murdered you? Your ass is still hanging on the wall of Wanda Cinema. It always makes me feel very sad whenever I see it.”

“That’s right, I’ve returned this time to get my backside back!” Phantom Ninja cried. “It’s time for justice to return, and for evil to pay the price!”

“Aww... what a touching speech. But you haven’t answered my question about how you’re still alive.” The bald man shook his head, then looked at Mei Nan. “What should we do now? Continue our plan?”

Main Nan raised the box-gun in her hand and rolled her eyes, “Forget the plan! Let’s just get into action!”

“I like this new plan.” The bald man removed his sunglasses and quickly transformed it into a flash grenade. He threw it into the lobby of Canton Tower and shouted, “Fire in the hole!” Then he started running in with the toilet seat.

About this time, Zhang Heng also completed his piece, next to him was a red Iron Man suit.

#### Chapter 363 Morale Support

Fan Meinan looked at Zhang Heng’s Iron Man suit and looked at the rudimentary box gun in her hand again.

“I have to admit, I’m starting to feel my mental state going out of balance,” she said, not knowing what to think.

Zhang Heng threw the bracelet used to control the battle suit to Fan Meinan. “This thing is for you.”

“Ha! I’d be embarrassed to take it away from you just like that.”

Be that as it may, Fan Meinan still took the bracelet from Zhang Heng. She slapped it on her wrist for the first time.

“What about you?” asked Fan Meinan, a bright spark of joy gleaming in her eyes. “I don’t need stuff like these. My hands are the world’s most powerful weapons,” Zhang Heng said. “The battle suit will limit my performance and make it impossible for me to assemble what I need in time.”

Zhang Heng then dismantled the street lamp beside him into blocks, and five seconds later, he had a lightsaber in his hands. “Well, my jealousy is coming back again,” Fan Meinan groaned sourly. At the same time, she turned on the bracelet, allowing the battle suit to wrap her body, “Well, it feels good, I wanted to try it a long time ago. What does it feel to be Iron Man? I’ll accept your New Year’s gift...” Pausing for a moment, and with a serious face, she said, “...it’s time for us to fight for justice together! Come on, Master Yoda!”

“Don’t give me a random name!” Zhang Heng brandished his lightsaber, and a few bullets fired from the opposite side ricocheted, killing the two black-clothed bionics closest to them. “Mobile Arsenal and the rest have entered the battlefield. We’ll give it our best shot and join them as soon as possible.”

“Roger that.”

Fan Meinan took control of the suit and fired a 24 mini-missile salvo in one breath. Taking off and flying in all directions, they landed precisely on the group of bionics. The barrage of missiles not only damaged a large area, but the smoke from the explosion created a good cover for the two of them.

As soon as they arrived at the front door, though, they saw the bald man. He was first to enter the building but was now the first one to rush back out of it.

Zhang Heng raised his eyebrows.

“There is an Optimus Prime inside.”

“Uh... is that a metaphor?” Fan Meinan asked.

“No, it’s really Optimus Prime! And a Decepticon. I don’t know how they get here!” exclaimed the waiter. He too quickly retreated, not forgetting to urge Messenger who was behind him to escape together.

Shocked, Fan Meinan probed in and saw the two Transformers having a fierce fight with Daddy Cowboy and the other master builders. However, whether bullet or rope, these weren’t weapons that would do much damage to Optimus Prime and a Decepticon. Let alone Dessert King’s desserts, the giant hard fruit candy that Candy Baby made blew up into a cloud of powder sugar the moment it came into contact with the Decepticon’s fist.

However, no one noticed how excited Vandal King became when he saw the two behemoths in front of him. His body trembled involuntarily, and it surely wasn’t because of fear. He was like a traveler that had walked the arid desert for three days and nights, and an oasis suddenly appeared in front of him.

“Really? Are we going to fight the Transformers on the first level?! There are two of them...” Fan Meinan sighed and turned on the arc pulse-cannon on her arm.

“Can... I take things apart now?” Vandal King asked with great eagerness.

“Of course, can you take those two things apart?”

“No... you should have asked how long would take for me to dismantle them!” said Vandal King as flexed his wrists and grinned in glee.

After a while, the defeated Candy Baby was forced back to the door by the Decepticon, and it was at that time that the beast sensed that something bad was about to happen. Before it even had time to put up a defensive posture, it realized it was missing an arm. It was then followed by his calf, waist, pectoral muscles...

In a moment like this, Vandal King felt as if he’d returned to his kitchen, handling a butcher’s knife and thrusting it toward the chopping board. He could feel within him the sheer satisfaction of the knife swerving down, slicing, and eating through the meaty piece of beef. Only half a minute later, the terrifying Decepticon was reduced to only its head.

Vandal King planned to continue doing what he did best, but the next moment, a samurai sword blocked his way. Out of nowhere, a green creature with a red ribbon on its head appeared in front of him.

“A mechanical version of the Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles? Or Raphael? Are Michelangelo and Einstein here as well? This is starting to get real messy.”

Fan Meinan too, was shocked by what she saw.

“This is what makes Evil Scientist so scary. His mechanical creations will only get stronger, and in fact, as long as he desires to create something, there is nothing he can’t make,” the bald man proclaimed with a solemn face.

At the same time, Vandal King was in trouble as well. Raphael was in no way as mighty as the Decepticons, but his flexibility and agility were clearly unmatched. Although Vandal King’s dismantling abilities were powerful, he needed to get his hands on his target to make it work. Right now, Raphael was running all over the place, bouncing from wall to wall, and sometimes even attacking from the ceiling. Vandal King couldn’t even lay eyes on his target for more than a second, let alone destroy it. In fact, he was in grave danger this time.

Fortunately, Phantom Ninja arrived in time and harrumphed, “Ninjas like him should only be dealt with by a professional ninja!”

“Let us take care of this. You should hurry and stop Evil Scientist. Don’t worry; we will take over the power distribution room and stop other enemies!” assured Daddy Cowboy.

“Erm... you meant you’ll stay here and gain experience by eliminating the weaker enemies, but we’ll have to go up and face the tough boss?!” the bald man asked.

“Yes, that’s what we meant. Do you have any more questions?” Dessert King replied. The bald man clenched his fists. “No, I’m very happy that you can help us. Let’s solve the crisis together!” “My little Mi, I will pray for you!” Ms. Cat cooed and made a V gesture.

The six members of the New Year’s Eve Game Team resolutely marched into the sightseeing elevator amid the backdrop of loud cheers.

As the elevator door closed, Fan Meinan raised her hand cannon. “Mind if I kill the guys below after we settle our main business?”

“Count me in,” Zhang Heng said. He knew from the beginning that some of those people were unreliable. Let’s not mention how unstable the Lego World was. As far as the quest’s difficulty was concerned, it was unlikely that the system would send so many people to help them all of a sudden. Sure, it was a pleasant surprise that master builders came forward during the battle, helping them enter the elevator smoothly and all, but they obviously still needed to fight the final battle by themselves.

“I hope we get to see the mechanical version of Kantai Collection when we open the door. It’ll help me feel better when I fight them,” the waiter said.

### **Chapter 364 Murphy’s Law**

The elevator kept climbing upward, getting further and further away from the ground. Zhang Heng heard the sound of a female voice, explaining the elevator’s set up. It was probably a recording that played automatically whenever it sensed passengers. Amid the message, the woman’s voice suddenly disappeared, and on came a male voice.

“Such a pity that all of you made the wrong decision.”

“Oh, Evil Scientist. You’ve finally shown up! Now, why is that? Are you worried that we’ll come up there and kick your butt? Don’t fret. We’ll be there very soon,” said the bald man.

“Do you think you can stop me as you did three years ago? For the past three years, I’ve been searching for ways to become bigger and stronger ever since that failure. Today, I’m a completely changed man! You people, on the other hand... I saw your little performance outside...”

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“Hahaha! How was it? Did you wet your pants?” “Hmm, how should I put it? It was utterly disappointing. You seem to have gone stagnant over the years, and might I dare to say that you have regressed compared to three years ago. Without my leadership, you seem to have completely lost your way.”

“Tsk, ts, ts. If I were you, I wouldn’t be so smug. Think too highly of yourself, don’t you? The past three years have been great without you. I feel refreshed every day, even my frequent urgency to pee got cured without any treatment.”

“Ahem... erm...” The waiter spoke up. “If you want to speak to him, you have to press the call button on the elevator.”

“.....”

“Since we’re old friends, I’ll give you one last warning. Turn around and go back now. If you still insist on doing this, then I won’t go easy on you. I know you all too well; you’re no match for me,” Evil Scientist growled, emphasizing a hint of terror in his final sentence.

“Heh, it’s easy to talk. This elevator goes up to the Star and Cloud observation deck, and even if we start regretting, there’s no way for us to go back down, alright?” This time, the bald man made sure to push the call button, but it appeared that the person on the other end had already hung up.

“... the thing I hate most is when someone hangs up on me before I can finish my sentence!” The bald man complained.

“Forget about it. We’re almost there. Let’s get ready for battle.” Mei Nan glanced at the LCD screen of the elevator. They were less than sixty meters away from level 107, which also meant that they would arrive at the deck in approximately 10 seconds.

Everyone immediately became focussed. Zhang Heng had a lightsaber in each hand, Mei Nan activated the missile launcher on the shoulder of her suit, the bald man raised his AK machine gun, and the waiter fashioned a bulletproof vest for Messenger and himself. When the elevator doors opened, the team was shocked by the scene before them.

There wasn’t a single person in sight.

“What is this? It’s dinnertime, and everyone has gone back?” the bald guy asked, scratching his head.

The six of them exited the lift. Not far from where terrible were standing, on the empty bar, sat an unfinished bottle of coke.



“Something’s wrong. Even if there is no ambush by the Evil Scientist, where did all those tourists go? The tower is supposed to be open to the public until the quantum collider is activated.”

“Is that why Evil Scientist took all the tourists hostage? Why? Why would he do that?” The waiter asked. “Is he planning to use them to threaten us?”

“I don’t think so.” Mei Nan pointed the miniature missile on her shoulder at a stumbling figure not far away. From the way he dressed-suit and leather shoes, as well as an expensive Rolex, and mobile phone-he was probably one of the tourists.

But he walked with a peculiar stride, where his feet were spread open at 90 degrees. One of his elbow joints was twisted in an unnatural angle, and his head was lowered, so he was looking down to the floor.

“Err, I don’t know why I keep having this awful feeling in my stomach,” said the waiter.

“Are you thinking what I’m thinking?”

As soon as Mei Nan said that, the Rolex guy raised his head slowly. Parts of his face were missing; all that was left were a pair of bloodshot eyes, half a nose, and two whole rows of exposed gums and teeth where his face had been ripped out. “Alright, so after the Transformers and Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles, it seems that we are about to usher in Resident Evil. Evil Scientist has now created the T-virus, huh?”

The Rolex man caught a whiff of fresh meat and blood, and his movements hastened. At first, he still stuttered in that strange, petrified way, but soon, those staggering footsteps became faster and faster.

“This is not Resident Evil; it’s more like the zombies in World War Z!” The bald man pulled the trigger on his AK and shot at the Rolex zombie multiple times. The creature’s body absorbed the shock of the large rounds from the assault rifle, and with each shot, it jerked and jolted. However, it didn’t fall over, advancing on, as if immune to the lead.

It wasn’t until Fan Meinan shot its head with the missile from her battle suit that the Rolex zombie’s life ended for good. “The good news is that the head is still their weakness, and the bad news is that their bodies are more resistant to taking a beating than ordinary zombies.”

The waiter wiped the perspiration off his forehead and heaved a long sigh. “Thank goodness there’s only one. It would have been hell if there were a dozen of them.”

Mei Nan and Zhang Heng looked at each other and sighed. “Please let us know in advance when you’re going to jinx us again.” Just as the waiter said that, as if cruel confirmation to Murphy’s theory, more zombies came charging in, and this time, they came in an astonishing number, the horde running and tripping over each other toward the six of them.

There was no time to breathe. The battle was to commence!

Zhang Heng sliced off the heads of two zombies in front of him with his lightsabers, but more were running toward him. He jumped backward and rolled under the bar, but the mindless, incessant beasts weren’t about to give up their prey even though they lost sight of it. Like sharks catching the whiff of blood, they instinctively stormed forward. A schoolgirl zombie jumped onto the bar but, what awaited her was a chainsaw spinning at full revs.

Zhang Heng had combined the lightsaber with beer bottles to create a new weapon to deal with the current situation. He waved the chainsaw in his hand and dove into the zombie horde. After a Thomas flair\*, at least four out of all the zombies lost their heads.

Footnote:

Thomas flair: an acrobatic move performed on the floor, in which the performer alternates, balancing the torso between either arm while swinging the legs beneath in continuous circles.

### **Chapter 365 Things Would Have Been Different If Plant Queen Was Here**

“This is far from what I expected when I said I wished to meet the girls from Kantai Collection.” The waiter built a crowbar at lightning speed, then used it to knock Zombie Ted that was clinging onto his legs. “What are you waiting for? Release the butcher!” Fan Meinan shouted. Several zombies were crawling on her Iron Man suit, but none of them could penetrate it, not with their teeth at least. The screeches and dings noise they made as they tried to bite through the armor sounded as if they were using their teeth to play the piano. Fan Meinan turned on the cluster cannon on her chest and burned a zombie to ashes with only a single shot, swiftly dealing with the zombies that were bothering the waiter after that. It bought him the time he needed to build the butcher.

The waiter did not disappoint, building his butcher as fast as he could. When he was done, he threw it into the zombie horde.

“Feel true horror from the depths of hell!”

As soon as the butcher landed, zombies instantly swarmed it, and at least six of them gnawed on the boils on his body. However, when the butcher opened its eyes, the circumstances had changed. Butcher brandished his knife like there was no tomorrow, and the zombies around him had their heads chopped off one after another. Just like when faced with the black-clothed bionics, the butcher began to massacre whatever that stood in its way.

“Good job!” Zhang Heng praised the waiter as he killed the last double ponytailed zombie in front of him.

“Hahahaha, these zombies are nothing,” the waiter proudly replied.

However, his pride did not last long. From far, the butcher’s movements began to slow, and it looked around in confusion, as if struck by Alzheimer’s. At the same time, its eyes began to fill with blood.

“Oh shit! Your butcher seems to be infected with the virus,” said the bald man. “Just like the movies, these zombies can spread the virus through bites. No wonder I don’t see anything living thing left on the whole floor. We must be careful not to be bitten by the zombies.”

The waiter pointed at a distance. “Uh, shouldn’t you be worrying about how to solve that problem over there?” he asked.

In a mere ten seconds, the butcher completed its transformation and joined the zombie horde. After becoming one of them, the butcher’s power, defense, and speed greatly improved, and it had now become several times more difficult to deal with than before.

“Evil Scientist set a trap, and we stepped right into it. He’s the person who knows us best. These zombies were specifically prepared for you. He knew you’d release the butcher. Those zombies were meant to infect the butcher and turn it into his most powerful weapon,” the bald man groaned in dismay.

“Can you take down that thing?” Fan Meinan asked Vandal King.

“I can take down that thing, but it has to be a one-on-one fight. Those zombies next to it are too troublesome, and if they all swarm on me at the same time, there will be nothing I can do.”

This battle had given him a massive headache, and though the zombies weren’t nearly as agile as the Ninja Turtles, they were still fast enough to strike fear in their opponents. Such was the kind of enemy Vandal King hated the most.

“Okay, we will figure out a way to create an opportunity for you. Let’s separate the butcher from the zombies first. Although they are quite agile, there is still a difference in speed between them and us. As long as...”

Fan Meinan paused suddenly when she discovered that the zombies had stopped charging at them. Instead, the creatures began to gather around the zombie butcher like soldiers surrounding their captain.

“Oops, Evil Scientist saw right through you before it even started,” the bald man was shocked. “It seems modern zombies have learned to form a formation. I miss Plant Queen. If only she were here, everything would have been fine now. This is exactly the kind of battlefield for her to show her skills off, but unfortunately, she died in battle three years ago.” “Yeah, the pea shooter and man-eating plant she built were natural enemies of zombies. I now understand why Evil Scientist placed her second on his kill list,” said the waiter.

“So... is that the pea shooter you were talking about?” Fan Meinan pointed in the direction of the bar.

Zhang Heng, on the other hand, was getting busy over there, more focused, and concentrated than ever. His hands moved at lightning speed, dismantling the counters, tables, and chairs of the dining bar into blocks before reassembling them into weaponized plants in the shortest time possible. The weapons included pea shooters, man-eating plants, potato mines...

Plant Queen had taught him all these creations while he was in the parallel quest. Their effectiveness in traditional battles was limited, and they were far less lethal compared to the modern weapons the bald men created. However, they were most effective when it came to vanquishing zombies.

Zhang Heng had now wholly transformed the dining bar into his backyard, frantically expanding his weaponized plant arsenal while the zombies were gathering around the butcher.

At the same time, everyone’s jaws dropped as they watched in amazement how Zhang Heng assembled the blocks into various weaponized plants. When the zombies were done gathering around the butcher, they found that a terrifying greenhouse had been built right in front of them. Now, with every step they took, they would encounter a barrage of strange attacks.

The battle didn’t have to go on for too long before the outcome was set in stone. In the end, except for the butcher, the other zombies were either crushed by the pumpkins, shot in the head by the peas, or

swallowed by the man-eating plants. On the other hand, Vandal King had also dismantled the butcher into eight pieces. When the dust finally cleared, there were no more zombies left in the hall, and peace was restored.

“Ha!” Fan Meinan took off her helmet and looked at Zhang Heng. “You are so unpredictable. Whenever I think I’m getting to know you better, you always surprise me with something new.”

The bald man and the waiter, on the other hand, looked as pale as ghosts. “How is this possible? These weaponized plants are the special creations of Plant Queen. How did you... hold on, other than awakening, does the chosen one also possess abilities like soul possession? So, is the soul of Plant Queen inside your body right now?! If so, can you help me ask her what her favorite underwear color is?” the bald man continued.

“Ask me these things later. Let’s get things done first. The world will be destroyed in forty minutes, and we still have the world to save,” Zhang Heng said.

“You’re right. I didn’t expect Evil Scientist to have fallen this much. To deal with us, he didn’t hesitate to turn Canton Tower’s innocent tourists into zombies. What he has done makes him vile and evil! He is no longer the leader that we used to respect and love,” sighed the bald man as he clenched the toilet seat in his hand.

“It’s time to settle the score.”

### **Chapter 366 329 Protective Shield**

From the 107th floor to the 108th floor, the six encountered no more enemies. Tourists on the two floors were all transformed into zombies by Evil Scientist’s T-virus, but Zhang Heng managed to eliminate them all with his weaponized plants in front of the bar. Hence, the team managed to enter the elevator smoothly to the top floor.

The bald man tidied up his suit and said, “After paying such a huge price and all that hard work, we are finally approaching the final boss. I know that everyone is tired now, but a real man will persevere even though he is exhausted. The pursuit of justice has never been easy. This just makes it all so much more worthwhile for us to sacrifice ourselves!”

As he spoke, he stretched out his right hand. “Come on, let’s cheer up, New Year’s Eve Game Team! Well, now all of you should put your hands on my hands. When I shout out loud, let’s raise our hands together...”

“Although I don’t want to spoil the atmosphere, I still want to remind you that since the battle started, you were doing nothing when we were looking Vandal King at Shangxiajiu. I thought about it carefully and in the battle, you were so scared that you ran away from the Decepticon and Optimus Prime. You didn’t contribute anything to the team, nor did you have any sense of your existence at all,” Fan Meinan could not help but complain.

“But Messenger didn’t do anything useful as well. You see, she hasn’t appeared in several chapters,” the bald man growled in annoyance.

“This is the design of her character,” Fan Meinan rolled his eyes, “Anyway, don’t talk nonsense, let’s end this battle quickly!”

After speaking, she took the lead and walked into the elevator. Zhang Heng also took advantage of this time to rebuild the chainsaw in his hand into a lightsaber, preparing for the final battle. They were now only meters away from the top floor. Hence the elevator did not take too long to reach the viewing deck. Everyone was ready to give it their best to defeat Evil Scientist.

It was going to be a tough fight for them. Over the years, Evil Scientist had established a reputation of being extremely powerful. The bald man, the waiter, and Messenger once fought side by side with Scientist, considered as his disciples at one point. They knew how powerful Scientist was. On the other hand, Zhang Heng had spent quite some time with Evil Scientist while in the parallel quest. Even if he learned all the assembly skills from other master builders, he still had no confidence in defeating Evil Scientist.

However, Zhang Heng wasn't as worried compared to the other three team members. After all, this quest was very special. He could leave any time and repeat the game again, no big deal to him. If he failed this quest, he would treat it as a journey of getting more experience.

Zhang Heng gave Fan Meinan a quick look. If things didn't go well, he wanted her to leave the quest immediately. Zhang Heng believed that with Fan Meinan's wittiness, she would make herself fight a battle that she couldn't win, and not putting up a show telling Zhang Heng that she insisted on leaving together. In fact, they cooperated very well when they were facing Zavilcha, and no one got injured or killed in the end.

As the elevator door opened, the six finally stepped into the final stage.

They were a little surprised by what they saw this time. This time, they were not greeted by mechanical beings or zombies, but a band of violinists instead. They bowed their heads in unison and started performing. Strange scene aside, the ground was filled with children's toys and celebrity posters. This suspicious atmosphere had everyone on guard.

The male voice which came across the elevator's speakers said, "Don't worry, your eyes see the truth. There are no traps here. In fact, I don't need any trap to defeat you. Song of the Skylark by Kowski, my wife's favorite song. When she returns to this world, she will want to listen again."

"Your wife and daughter will never back to this world anymore. Evil Scientist, please accept reality, they all died in that explosion," the bald man interrupted the former.

After stepping out of the elevator, everyone finally saw Evil Scientist-architect of the disaster and leader of the evil bionic army. He looked to be about the same age as the bald man and was sitting on the deck in a red windbreaker. When the wind blew at his hair, Zhang Heng saw that half of what used to be black hair on his head was now white.

"How dare you mention the explosion in front of me. If you people had taken my dissuasion and not touched the machine, the explosion would have never happened, and my wife and daughter would still be alive..." the voice of the Evil Scientist got louder and more hoarse. "You are a group of murderers; I should have just killed you all during these three years."

"That was just an accident. No one wanted to hurt your wife and daughter. What more, Phantom Ninja also paid the price. You took his butt away from him... well, I think it's time for you to give him back his

butt. “The bald man continued, “Also, what you have done to other master builders over the years is unspeakable. You should apologize to everyone.”

“Apologize?” The evil scientist smirked. “You really don’t think you got to where you are right now all by yourself, right? Be grateful for my kindness because you are still alive. I don’t want to massacre all of you at our reunion. Otherwise, perhaps you’ll reunite instead with all the master builders currently living in the underworld.”

“Hoho... This joke is not funny. Has your humor disappeared along with your sense of justice?” the bald man roared, then lowered his voice and told the other five people around him, “I have found the quantum collider. The machine is in the green box on the antenna mast, look toward 7 o’clock.”

“Yes, this is so LEGO, with a warning sign next to it to tell us that it’s dangerous. Please don’t touch it,” Fan Meinan said.

“So, this is the next step of our plan. I will try to stall Evil Scientist by pissing him off with my words, and you can take the opportunity to get close to the box and extract the Infinite Building Block from it.”

This time, it was Evil Scientist’s turn to interrupt the bald man, “Are you guys discussing how to extract the Infinite Building Block from my quantum collider? Pity, no matter what you do, it will all be in vain. Yes, because I have placed 329 shields over there!”

“329 Protective Shield?! How did you even build that thing?”

The waiter’s expression changed drastically, and Zhang Heng frowned as well. Fan Meinan looked around, hoping to get some answers. “Anyone going to explain to me what a 329 Protective Shield is?” she asked.

“The 329 Protective Shield is also called an absolute defensive shield,” Evil Scientist said proudly. “As its name suggests, it is a shield no one can break. Don’t underestimate it; even a nuclear-bomb level attack can’t break the defense. When it is activated, it can never be turned off. Only me and my subordinates can enter and leave freely. If I had this thing three years ago, you guys would have never been able to ruin my plan.”

### **Chapter 367 You Guys Disappoint Me**

“What do you think? Managed to dismantle it?” Fan Meinan asked Vandal King. She had attempted to attack Evil Scientist with her battlesuit’s many weapons, and the results were just as Evil Scientist predicted. There seemed to be a transparent wall in front of them, blocking out all the targeted attacks.

Evil Scientist sat behind the wall quietly, wearing a mocking look across his face. He watched condescendingly at the team’s futile struggle.

In an attempt to ease the situation, Vandal King stretched out his hand and started to decode the 329 Protective shield, closing his eyes to concentrate better. About five minutes later, he opened his eyes, sighing, “The 329 shield is not without weakness, but I would need more time to look for it. I’ll need at least a day to figure out its mechanic, and at least three to dismantle it.”

“What about the underground?” Fan Meinan shot at the ground beneath her feet with the cluster cannon on her chest. However, she tried to get through the wall and approach Evil Scientist and found that she was still blocked by the invisible barrier.

“Haha, if the 329 Protective Shield can be broken so easily, I wouldn’t have called it the absolute solution for defense. Just give up. Even if you demolish the entire Canton Tower, you will not be able to lay your hands on me,” Evil Scientist sneered.

Fan Meinan looked at Zhang Heng again, but this time, he didn’t continue performing miracles. Going against the 329 Protective Shield had Zhang Heng baffled and he couldn’t figure a way to deal with it. Even though he went through all the creations he learned so far, he found nothing useful for this situation.

The 329 Protective Shield was an idea that Evil Scientist came up with a long time ago. During the parallel quest, Zhang Heng and Evil Scientist discussed its feasibility but there were too many bugs and snags that needed to be solved during that time. Hence, Evil Scientist put the idea on hold. The shield was different from other creations, where 329 Protective Shield’s core value was to visualize the concept of absolute defense. The difficulty of creating it was also much more significant than building real-life objects.

Zhang Heng did not expect Evil Scientist to make his crazy idea come true, and that he would actually use it here, eventually putting the team in insurmountable danger.

After one minute, the massive cyclone above everyone’s head also started changing. It slowly moved from white to a thick ink-like black. It looked like something big was about to go down.

The six initially thought that they still had a lot of time. After all, they spent less than half of that time getting to the top of the tower. The 40 minutes they had was supposed to be more than enough to end the battle. Now, they couldn’t even lay a finger on Evil Scientist. This sticky situation greatly discouraged every member of the New Year’s Eve Game Team.

Even if Zhang Heng repeated the quest, he had to admit that he’d still fail to find a way to take down the 329 Protective Shield. Evil Scientist raised his head and looked at the sky. A look of excitement and expectation gleamed in his eyes. “My wife and daughter are coming back,” he said. “I can feel them. They are calling my name. Today is the day I reunite with my family.”

“No. Stop lying to yourself. If this continues, you will destroy this city. Open your eyes and take a good look at what’s beneath your feet. That is the place we fought and protected. Look at the innocent people below! You told us to protect them. Have you forgotten your oath?” the bald man earnestly persuaded.

“Yeah, I used to worry a lot about such illusions. For the sake of senseless ambition and so-called justice, I had to be patient while working with a bunch of hopeless people. I was like... like a full-time nanny! I was there to tell you what to do and what not to do. But in the end, what did I get? Look at what you have done?! You caused me to lose my wife and daughter. You really... let me down.”

Evil Scientist turned on the projector and blasted it into the sky, displaying scenes of the previous battle. It included the bald man fleeing the Transformers, the waiter’s butcher transforming into a zombie, and Daddy Cowboy doing nothing. Dessert King and Candy Baby began to talk about love in the middle of

the fight, and Cat Lady, who was supposed to guard the power distribution room, lost her cat at the crucial moment. She was now working overtime in the office, writing codes, and watching Gakki's new drama, King of the Ocean.

"I have to say, that's rather disappointing. You never failed to disappoint us..."

"You are digging out everyone's most embarrassing moments and putting them together. This doesn't prove anything about them."

"Hehe, so many of you are gathered here together, but you can't even touch a single strand of my hair. Doesn't that make you feel useless?"

"Well, even if you're right about all of us being idiots, at least we've found the chosen one, and the prophecy says they will stop you. Well, even though they're just standing there and staring at you, and it seems they have no way to stop you as well..."

"Thanks for mentioning..." Fan Meinan rolled her eyes. "Oh, so you really believe that so-called prophecy? I don't believe it. After seeing so many stupid things, prophecies are one of those stupid things people actually believe in. That prophecy is simply nonsense," Evil Scientist sneered in disdain.

"No, it's because you haven't experienced the miracles of the chosen ones. They can be awakened and allow a soul to possess them. I saw the soul of Plant Queen attaching itself to one of them," defended the bald man.

"I said the prophecy is nonsense... because I was the one who created the prophecy," Evil Scientist nonchalantly continued, "I made it up to test your stupidity. It's a now proven fact that you are hopelessly stupid."

After saying that, Evil Scientist didn't bother looking at the six of them again. He turned around and looked at the huge whirlpool above his head, preparing to welcome the return of his wife and daughter. Suddenly, someone patted his shoulder.

"You've gone too far this time. I'm furious," the bald man frowned. "No matter what happens, you should never take advantage of someone's trust."

Evil Scientist's eyes opened so wide they almost popped out of his sockets. "Oh f\*ck, how the f\*ck did you manage to get in?!" he growled.

"I don't know. I walked in as soon as I felt angry," the bald man scratched his head. "I didn't feel an air-wall in front of me. When everyone was all excited about it, I had to pretend that there was actually a wall. I was only concerned about the hidden secret in your plan. For example, only a fool wouldn't be able to detect the wall. After all, you have cheated me several times, and I have to be careful."

"Is there such a loophole in the 329 Protective Shield?!" Evil Scientist was shocked, but then, he saw the toilet seat the bald man was holding. Then, he suddenly came to a realization. "This smart toilet seat and the bionics use the same set of AI systems. The only difference is that the bionics are upgraded, which is why the 329 Protective Shield recognized my toilet seat and you as my subordinate. Are you really an idiot? This is the best opportunity for you to extract the Infinite Building Block from the quantum collider. Why are you here with me?!"



## Chapter 368 But I Have Something To Say To You

In a furious rage, Evil Scientist stomped his feet. "I've had enough! Is there no end to your stupidity? You're as dumb as iQIYI'S advertisements. I can't believe I used to be one of you! If you're so eager to die, I'm more than happy to oblige!"

Evil Scientist then took apart a toy car to build a mechanical viper. He then swung it into the air to throw it at the bald man.

However, the bald man stopped him. "Hold on."

"What is it? Any last words?"

"Yes, you're right. Our plan is to remove the Infinite building block from the quantum collider and stop you from destroying the city. That aside, there's something important I need to do."

"And what's that?" Evil Scientist frowned.

The bald man grabbed the smart toilet seat under his armpit and offered it to Evil Scientist.

Evil Scientist looked perplexed. "What? I didn't say that I would provide any warranty service when I gave it to you, did I?"

"I've been thinking... about how to end our relationship. I lost my father when I was only a child, and I dropped out of high school to work at a small brick factory-I used to think that getting paid and buying a can of soda in my village were the best things in my life. If you hadn't found me and told me you saw something in me that no one saw, I would have continued living like that, accomplishing nothing..."

"There are times when I get blinded too. Don't take it at heart."

"You told me I could be a different person. You taught me how to discover my potential, potential to build something to make the world a better place. I don't know... ever since I was a kid, people kept telling me that I could never achieve anything and that I was destined to fail in anything I do. My employer even told me that if I left the factory, I would starve to death, so I should be grateful even if I had to work eighteen hours a day. That was the first time anyone's ever praised me. I've never met my father and never knew what it was like to have one. But at that very moment, I felt certain that you were my father."

"Why are you suddenly talking about this... you hope I'll be guilty after killing you? What a contemptible maneuver!" Evil Scientist hissed.

The waiter piped in, "Yeah, I still remember the first time I met you. At that time, I failed my college entrance exam, and I was about to join a gang with Brother Kun next door, collecting protection money from the stalls on the street. You were the one who told me

-before becoming a hero; all heroes have to endure pain and suffering no ordinary people can bear; even if they keep getting knocked down, they'd always stand up again. That's why they're called heroes. In the end, I chose to repeat a school year... although I still failed the second."

"That... Well... it's always easy to go on about philosophies," Evil Scientist shook his head.

“You were our leader once, the person I admired and loved the most,” the bald man continued. “But since the explosion, you’ve become different. I should be the one who’s disappointed here. Look at what you’ve done — pulling out Phantom Ninja’s butt and displaying it on the wall of the theatre, hunting down and killing the remaining master builders, and sacrificing the entire city for your own selfish reasons. You even... turned all those innocent tourists into zombies! By the way, you could have just called me and given me a notice in advance. I could have invited my elementary school headteacher here—always hated that one.”

“The point is, you’ve betrayed my love and respect for you, so I don’t think I can still regard you as my father, mentor, or even a person I respect...” The bald man opened his mouth several times, trying to coax something out, but the words just wouldn’t come out. Then, after a while, he finally said with hesitation, “I... I don’t think we can continue our relationship.”

A look of sadness flashed across the Evil Scientist’s face, but he maintained his bluster. “If it’s over, it’s over. I’ve already proven that I am stronger without you idiots anyway.”

“Since it’s over between us, I feel that it’s only appropriate to return this to you.” The bald man offered the toilet seat to the Evil Scientist again. “That’s why I brought it here. Once you accept it, it means that from now onward, you and I are strangers.”

Evil Scientist harrumphed and reached his hand out. “Fine... then we can permanently...”

Just as he was about to touch the toilet seat, the bald man retracted his hand. “You couldn’t do it, right? Just like me. To be honest, I’ve played this scene this a million times in my head before I came to see you. I thought I’m ready to be done with you, but when the moment came, I realized I couldn’t do it. I can’t pretend that the relationship we had never existed... most importantly, I can’t lie to myself...”

The bald man looked into Evil Scientist’s eyes and said softly, “Come back, dear scientist. It’s still not too late.”

Evil Scientist was quiet for a moment. Then, he looked up. “No. I may be able to stand your idiocy, but I will never be able to forgive you for what you did to my wife and daughter,” he said resolutely. “Everything that’s happening now; take it as atonement for what you’ve done.”

With that, he reached out and grabbed the toilet seat from the bald man’s arms, and in a swift motion, broke it apart. Then in a cold, calm voice, he said, “As you wish. We no longer have anything to do with each other.”

“Really? We’re no longer friends?” “Yes, and you better leave before I change my mind, or else...” The bald man stood his ground, unmoving. “But I still have things to say to you,” he said.

“My goodness! Are you really going to continue playing the emotional card? Can’t you say what you need to say in one breath? I’m getting really tired of all of this,” Evil Scientist shot his old companion a murderous look.

“No. It’s something I can only say when we’re no longer friends,” said the bald man. “We’re not responsible for the death of your wife and daughter.”

“What?” Evil Scientist frowned. “What are you blabbing about?”

“We operated that machine exactly according to the manual you gave us. It exploded because there was a flaw in your design.”

### **Chapter 369 Come Closer**

“No, that’s impossible. There aren’t any flaws with my design. I repeatedly checked,” Evil Scientist said confidently.

“Your design is indeed problematic. Otherwise, why did the machine explode in the end? Also, I wanted to complain about you a long time ago. Was it necessary to make an automatic popcorn machine two buildings tall? You even used nuclear energy to power them! Are you serious? Your quantum collider is only as big as a biscuit box!”

“This is some sort of... contrasting beauty. But that is not the point. The point is that you operated the automatic popcorn machine wrongly, and it killed my wife and daughter. Now, you want to push the responsibility to me? That’s too much.”

“On the contrary, your design has been flawed from the beginning. We just did what you asked us to do. Then the machine exploded.”

“No, it was your fault. You already admitted it. And the main operator, Phantom Ninja, also admitted that it was his mistake as well.”

The bald man(Baldy) shrugged, “That was just to make you feel better. We all know how important your wife and daughter were to you, so we decided to refrain from telling you the truth after we discussed it. After all, you have done a lot for us. On the other hand, we didn’t get a chance to do anything for you, and we didn’t want you to blame yourself for the mistakes you’ve made. I know you well. If you knew that you were the one who actually killed them, you would drown in your guild until the day you die.”

“Oh, you don’t know me at all.”

“No, I know you very well. I said that I admired you very much, and you’re like my idol. I know everything about you. I even rummaged through your trash!”

“That’s a bit too much.”

“It was one of those stupid things I did before, I know. I told myself that I wouldn’t do it again. Do you remember that time in Tangxia? A dangerous building was about to collapse, and a group of children was playing downstairs. You showed up at the critical point and demolished the building, rescuing them in the end. At that time, news channels covered it for a whole week, and the internet was abuzz with the praises that people had for you. However, you still became depressed for an entire month because a block from the building you demolished accidentally crushed a stray cat. You blamed the incident on yourself because it wasn’t actually under the building when you demolished it. In other words, the building should have never been able to hurt it. The cat was killed instead by the block you tossed. I have never seen you blame yourself so much.”

Baldy shook his head, “You thought you were the one who caused its death. You were feeling so guilty that you couldn’t even eat properly. Sometimes you... are really too harsh on yourself. I can’t imagine how you’ll be when you discover that you were actually the one who killed your wife and daughter. How will you punish yourself? I don’t even know if your heart is strong enough to face this.”

“Well, even if you know about the Tangxia incident, it still doesn’t prove the explosion wasn’t your fault.”

“You don’t actually believe what I said, don’t you?” Baldy sighed, “If you need proof, fine, Messenger.”

Messenger: “...?????”

“Help me contact Ocean King and tell him to send the video to my mailbox.”

Messenger nodded, immediately assembling a homing pigeon.

“What video?” Evil Scientist frowned.

“Ocean King works at Zhujiang New Town. It’s very close to here. You will know soon about the video,” said Baldy.

The pigeon came back ten minutes later. Baldy then quickly built a laptop and turned to ask Evil Scientist, “What is your WiFi

password?”

“Ilovechangzeyamei.”

“Wow, you haven’t changed your WiFi password for almost ten years!”

“So what? As long as Nagasawa Masami is still acting, my password will not change,” Evil Scientist proudly proclaimed.

“Okay, okay...” Baldy typed in the password and pressed Enter. “Okay. Now I’m connected to the internet. You want to come closer and check out the video?”

When he heard that, Evil Scientist moved from where he stood and came to Baldy’s side.

“Come a little closer, the screen is a kind of small.”

Evil Scientist held back for two seconds, moved closer, and stood almost side by side with Baldy.

“Ha! Next, I will open my mailbox.”

“Wow! You have a lot of junk mail!” Evil Scientist frowned as his head shook.

“Yeah, I can’t help it. They keep sending me these spam emails, and I can’t delete them in time.”

“Really? And you even registered for an adult forum?” Evil Scientist asked curiously.

“No. You must have seen wrongly.”

Baldy then clicked on the new mail sent by Ocean King as fast as he could.

The attachment was a video file, and after clicking the play button, a huge factory building appeared on the screen.

Evil Scientist’s face immediately changed, “This is...”

“Yes, your laboratory. To be more precise, this is your previous laboratory.”

The video shook a little—the recording should be from a handheld DVR, and the person behind the camera seemed extremely excited. He pointed to the massive microwave-like machine in front of him and said, “Did you see it? It is a nuclear-powered automatic popcorn machine! Use this! This popcorn machine is so cool!!! Oh, I can’t believe such a cool popcorn machine exists in the world!”

“I love the Scientist. His inventions are not only practical, but they are very cool as well! I want to ask him to create something for me when I move into a new house. I need one of his inventions in my life,” a voice said.

“Forget it, can you put that in your new home? Doesn’t it use enriched uranium as fuel?! Does that mean that the next time we have popcorn, they’ll be genetically modified? But it’s still cool...” exclaimed another voice.

At the same time, the camera rotated and aimed at the eyes of Ocean King. The person then started to zoom in on his face quickly, before zooming out again. By repeating it, the person seemed he would never get tired of it.

“Have you guys always been this stupid when I was away?” Evil Scientist asked in disgust.

“Not all the time... but most of the time, yes. We have to have some fun, too,” said Baldy.

While the two talked, a voice in the video said, “Let’s see who is here, our little birthday star!”

“Oh! Oh! Oh!!!” Everyone roared, and the camera finally stopped pointing the poorly focussed Ocean King’s face. This time the camera was pointing toward a woman with a little girl. The little girl was so shy that she hugged her mother tightly.

Evil Scientist was shocked when he saw the video, “Qianqian, and Mengjie.” A gentle look appeared on his face, “I miss you so very much.”

### **Chapter 370 Just Cry It Out**

“Okay, let’s make some popcorn for the little birthday star!” a voice suggested. “You’re right. We’ll use this cool popcorn machine to make some cool popcorn! What kind of popcorn would you like, Qianqian? Avocado, and custard apple? Got it. Let’s head to the control room.” “Hold on. This thing has a control room?”

“Yes, yes! Of course. Such a cool thing needs to have the most advanced technology. In fact, it can even be controlled remotely by Bluetooth.” “Wow! Although I don’t know why Bluetooth technology would be used on a popcorn machine, it’s still cool anyway!” “Isn’t Qianqian coming with us? Are you going to stay here and wait for the popcorn to come out? Err... is it okay? Is it safe?”

“Let me take a look at the instructions given to me by the scientist...” a voice said.

The lens then pointed toward the person behind it.

“That’s me. I mean, me three years ago,” Baldy said. “I was pretty handsome back then.”

“I found it... the instructions say, please do not enter the heating chamber when the machine is in operation,” Baldy was saying.

“That means the other places are okay?”

“Yes, I’m just following the instructions. The scientist can’t be wrong.”

“Cool! Then the little birthday star can stay here. The rest of us will go to the control room.”

The camera started re-recording the shy little girl, before panning to another angle. Evil Scientist knew the moment was coming, and he had his eyes glued to the screen, afraid that he would miss something important.

However, the next moment, Baldy clicked the space button and paused the video. He then gazed into Evil Scientist’s eyes and said, “Are you sure you want to continue watching? I’m not sure if I should show you this video.”

“Of course, I need to know the truth,” Evil Scientist firmly replied.

“But, you know, the truth doesn’t always make people feel good,” Baldy sighed.

“I understand... but even so, it’s still the truth,” insisted Evil Scientist.

“Okay.” Baldy pressed the spacebar again and let the video continue.

This time the camera was shooting a convenience store, where everyone bought beer and braised peanuts. Some were craving for milk tea, and later, everyone went to a different street and got themselves milk tea and egg waffles. At the same time, Ocean King forgot to turn off the DVR, and the camera was recording his feet...

Ten minutes later, Fan Meinan could not help but blurt, “The two of you, no matter what you want to do, you best hurry up, because the situation above your head doesn’t look too good.”

High above in the sky, the menacing claws of a dragon-like creature pierced out of the cyclone, exuding a terrifying aura.

“Give me two more minutes. I will be done in two minutes... We are about to reach the most important part,” Baldy pressed on.

“Well, I don’t have a problem with that but the city might not wait for you to be done with the video.” Fan Meinan chewed on the gum Zhang Heng handed her. The two now knew the zombie battle downstairs was the final battle of this quest.

As for Evil Scientist, no one could defeat him at this stage. The outcome of the game here had nothing to do with the player. Fan Meinan and Zhang Heng stood there as they watched the drama unfold before them.

“Well, let’s speed up the video a little bit.”

In the control room, Baldy rubbed his hands and opened the instruction manual. “Next, just follow the instructions above, and you will be able to make the most delicious popcorn in the universe. What’s the flavor Qianqian requested again?” “Uhh... I don’t remember. I think it’s grape and apple?”

“I think it’s banana and durian.”

“No, it’s lychee and milk.”

“Everyone,” Baldy said solemnly, “The scientist has always been helping and guiding us. He has done a lot for us. Now, we shall do him a rare favor, and that is to celebrate his daughter’s birthday when he is away. We need to make sure that it’s perfect. So... please think about what kind of popcorn Qianqian would want to eat.”

Half a minute later, Candy Baby suddenly chipped in, “Chocolate.” “Eh?”

“Pure chocolate, no sugar, the taste of cocoa exploding on your tastebuds, its bitterness, and mellowness, just like first love.”

“That’s right. It’s chocolate. I remember it too. She is absolutely right!”

“Now that you’ve mentioned it, I seem to remember it...”

“Okay, I get it. Let’s do it. Phantom Ninja, can you operate the machine?” Baldy shrugged and turned to the page with the chocolate recipe. “Let me see... turn on the power button and preheat the machine for ten seconds... enter the code, coco... ...”

Evil Scientist opened his eyes wide, carefully scouring the video to see if Phantom Ninja had done anything wrong. However, no matter how hard he looked at it, he could find no problem with the operation.

“Finally, press the enter button. Why is there an enter button here?” Baldy picked up the manual and looked at it thoroughly.

“I don’t know, just press it. The scientist doesn’t make mistakes.”

“Yeah, you’re right.” Phantom Ninja’s finger dropped and hit the enter key.

After that, the control room remained quiet for half a second, before the place suddenly erupted in cheers and applause. Someone opened a can of beer and sprayed it all around the place. Some even spilled milk tea on the DVR’s lens.

“We did it. We did it!!! I can’t believe that that we actually did it.”

“Yes. Just like what the scientist said, as long as we stick together, there will be no difficulties that we can’t overcome.” “It’s true. I feel we are one big family.”

While everyone was celebrating, a loud explosion suddenly erupted in the background.

“What’s that? The sound of popcorn popping out of the pot?”

“I don’t know. I can’t find it in the manual...”

“Should we check it? I feel having eating popcorn now.”

“Uhh... urm... but the manual says that we shouldn’t simply move around at this time.”

“What should we do now? Should we head out?”

“No, no, we should just listen to the scientist. He is always right.”

“Also, the scientist is the best! Let’s just follow what he says.”

As the video progressed, Evil Scientist started sobbing. Baldy built a roll of toilet paper, tore off a sheet, and passed it over to him silently. At the same time, he moved his shoulder to the opposite side as well. Finally, Evil Scientist could no longer control his tears and started crying bitterly on Baldy’s shoulder. Despite how terrifying a person Evil Scientist was, he was now no different than a lost child who had misbehaved and didn’t know what to do right now.

“It’s okay, it’s okay,” Baldy patted him on the back, “Just cry it all out. Don’t hold it all in your heart...”

“It’s me... It’s all my fault... I don’t have a family anymore,” Evil Scientist buried his face deep into Baldy’s shoulders. His voice was blown away by the wind blowing at 488 meters above ground, carrying with it the tune of a heartbroken man.

“I don’t think so,” Baldy softly said as he hugged Evil Scientist. “You haven’t lost all your family members. You see, I’m still here. We are all here. Every day... we are always waiting for you to come back to us. As you said, idiots like us are the garbage of society, and nobody pays attention to us. Without your leadership and guidance, we can never do anything well. We wouldn’t be who we are today if it wasn’t because of you. So... please, don’t give up on us.”