

## 48 Hours 701

### Chapter 701: Alien (End)

[Could that be fake? Am I blind? What the hell is wrong with the player's score who ranked first on the official website?!]

Posted by: Madrid Is Incredible

[1475 points??? Holy sh\*t! A mistake made by the system? The one in second place has only 360 points. This is only the first day of Proxy War. The powerful players of the three major guilds may not have finished their games yet. But his score insane!]

Posted by: Can You Introduce Your Sister To Me?

[It is said that the Proxy War quest's difficulty is much greater than that of the ordinary quest. Many people failed their first game, as far as I know. Of course, they are the kind of agents that are not that strong. Their score should be around 70. But 1475... Who the hell is this player with the name, Simon?]

Posted by: Fruit Egg Tart

[Simon is a newcomer. We met at the auction at the end of last year. At that time, he didn't even know that he could team up with others to complete the game.]

Posted by: Professor

[Is that supposed to be a joke? How can a newcomer become so strong in less than half a year? This can no longer be considered growth. This is mutation!]

Posted by: Carousel

[I want to know more about him too.]

Posted by: Professor

[Maybe someone else has the same name as him. I have seen three players with the name Ash. Anyway, we can come up with all kinds of random names for ourselves.]

Posted by: Pikachu

...

After the start of the Proxy War, this had been the hottest topic of discussion on most player forums.

The player with the name Simon had become the most discussed topic. Having obtained an unbelievable score in his first game, some people even suspected that he must have completed three games in a day.

The mechanics of the Proxy War's dungeon differed from that of an ordinary game. Players were required to clear three games within 45 days. In theory, as long as the players did not need rest or recuperation, they could complete all three in one go.

Even if the score that Simon acquired was divided among three games, the figures garnered were still ghastly. And if this score had been obtained from a single quest, it would be even more mind-blowing.

Simply put, even if this player called Simon did not participate in the second and third games, and he would still qualify for the next round of Proxy War.

Less than a day later, another player who went by the handle of 'β' scored over 1,000 points. And this time, someone happened to have just refreshed the list, indicating that just a few minutes ago, β's score was, in fact, zero. In other words, β's score had been acquired from a single game. This individual now placed second with a score of 1007.

The third player on the leaderboard was not as mysterious as the first two. Pegasus was the current president of Silver Wing guild and holder of 3 Grade-B game items. He scored 872 points in the first game, and if it were not for the mysterious Simon and β, he should have topped the leaderboard by now.

It could be seen from this list that the gap in strength between the agents might be larger than most of the people imagined. For a game of the same difficulty, the few people at the top of the leaderboard and the other ordinary players were not on the same level.

Zhang Heng did not care too much about his ranking. On the contrary, Rabbit sent a text to Zhang Heng through WeChat and asked if he was Simon. After Zhang Heng admitted that he was, she stopped asking anymore. Perhaps, it was because she witnessed how Zhang Heng fought with the Sphinx and saved her. To her, Zhang Heng was the best player, and she wouldn't be surprised even if he scored more than 1,000 points. After she got the answer she wanted, she happily proceeded to her homework.

After that, Zhang Heng also ran into Shen Xixi at school. It seemed Rabbit had told her that Zhang Heng was Simon, and she congratulated him when they met. On the other hand, Shen Xixi did not have the time to do the quest yet.

When she saw Zhang Heng, she hesitated and asked, "Do you remember them in 1810?"

"Yes."

1810 was the flathead man's code name. He and his team participated in the previous Sphinx hunt. As agreed, they took away the stunned Sphinx with them.

"Their team had an accident on their way back," Shen Xixi sighed.

"What do you mean by accident?"

"Someone attacked them."

"Who?"

A strange look flashed across Shen Xixi's face. "Dumbledore," she said.

"Who?" Zhang Heng wondered if he had misheard.

"Albus Dumbledore, Hogwarts' principal in Harry Potter."

"I know who Dumbledore is," said Zhang Heng. "The question is, why did Dumbledore attack them?"

"It must have something to do with that Sphinx. 1810 said that Dumbledore used a stun-spell on them when they crossed paths."

“That’s the spell from “Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire.” The movie was still clear in Zhang Heng’s mind. “Did they become unconscious or frozen after the spell was put on them?”

“1810 said that the feeling was more like the kind of coma that followed an electric shock. After getting stunned, those that didn’t fall into a coma would enter a state of trance. They would lose the ability to move around and could only watch Dumbledore rescue the Sphinx from the trunk.”

“That shouldn’t be a big deal,” replied Zhang Heng. “At most, the Sphinx would only carry a Grade E or F game item.”

“That should be the case. However, after Dumbledore saved the Sphinx, he walked a few steps but suddenly stopped and turned back.”

“Did he forget his wallet?”

“Unfortunately, that wasn’t what happened. After Dumbledore walked towards them, he carried the unconscious Yogurt with him. Oh, Yogurt is one of the two girls in their team. She was the smaller girl. She named herself with such a cute name because she likes yogurt.”

“Dumbledore kidnapped her?”

“Yes. This incident angered 1810 and his team. They could not do anything to stop him. For the past week, they have been looking for... Dumbledore’s and Sphinx’s whereabouts. However, they never showed up afterward.”

“...this experience is really magical,” Zhang Heng shrugged after listening.

“I know you, and 1810 started off on the wrong foot,” Shen Xixi said. “1810 is willing to apologize for his impolite behavior, and they hope that you can help them.”

“Why me?”

“They saw your abilities that night, and your score in this Proxy War is outrageous. They consider themselves as independent players, and they are quite skillful. However, they are still rather ordinary, building no rapport with any of the major guilds. As for me, I do know a couple of elite players, but they have been quite busy with the Proxy War. I think you are one of those rare ones who completed the first game so quickly. By the way, they are willing to pay you with game items and game points if you help to rescue Yogurt.”

## **Chapter 702: Argument**

In Dong Lai Shun Restaurant’s private room—

Other than Yogurt, 1810 and the rest of his team were all there, sitting at the table together. However, worry and exhaustion filled everyone’s faces, with 1810 having bloodshot eyes as well.

Dishes of all manner were served on the table. Whether it was mutton, fish balls, shrimp, or beef tripe, none, however, could arouse the appetites of those present. 1810 had been staring at the copper pot in the center as if waiting for a flower to bloom.

On the other hand, Black Swan was distraught as well. She subconsciously took out the cigarettes from her pocket. Just when she took out a lighter and wanted to light the cigarette. 1810 stretched out his hand and snatched it before pinching the cigarette with his thumb and index finger and then returning it to Black Swan.

The latter rolled her eyes, took back the crushed stick, and threw it into the trash can.

"It's seven. Is he even coming?"

"Wonder Woman promised to come over and meet us," 1810 said.

"Didn't the hospital say anything? You haven't been to work for so long," Black Swan said. "The director from the theater has been calling nonstop. I don't really care about the old drama, but the new one premieres tomorrow night."

"I took funeral leave from the hospital," 1810 said coldly.

"Who passed away?"

"My mother."

"Isn't your mother still alive?"

"Let's hang on until this tough period is over. We have to focus on rescuing Yogurt."

"Don't blame me for not reminding you that she has been missing for more than a week," Black Swan said. "We don't even know if she is still alive. Is it worth the effort to look for a corpse? This also means that all the hard work for the past six months has gone down the drain."

1810 moved his gaze away from the copper pot and looked at Black Swan.

"If someone kidnaps you, we will do the same."

"That's sweet. However, if I'm dead, it doesn't matter what you do for me." Black Swan opened the cigarette box again while he was talking. This time. 1810 grabbed her wrist.

"I said, don't smoke tonight."

Black Swan looked into 1810's eyes and smiled, "Of course, you are the boss. You have the final say." After that, she put the box of cigarettes away.

1810 frowned. "I thought we had all reached a consensus on this matter. Everyone voted to save Yogurt at all costs. I remember you voted for it too at that time."

"Voting is meaningless. You are the boss. And you have already stated that you will not give up any one of us. That's why we all voted according to your wishes," Black Swan said.

"If you are not happy with my leadership, you can withdraw from the team any time you want," 1810 growled in a deep voice. "And you don't have to pay your share of game points to rescue Yogurt."

"Look, that's why everyone voted yes," Black Swan sneered.

Seeing that the atmosphere had gotten a little tense, Little Yellow Duck hurriedly attempted to calm them down by pouring a glass of orange juice for the two. "Sister Swan, you are not quite right. The fact that our captain can adhere to his principles is the reason why we all follow him. We can always earn back game points, but Yogurt is one of us, and she was taken by our enemy right in front of us. We can't just leave her alone. The captain has also mentioned that he would do the same for all of us."

Black Swan smiled, "Little Yellow Duck, I know what you are thinking. You must be thinking that I'm a cold-hearted bitch, and that I'm incomparable to the righteous captain. You know what. You are right about me."

"No, no, no," Little Yellow Duck waved her hand quickly and explained, "Black Swan, you will always be my sister."

"Okay, let me give you a piece of advice. When you start working in society, you will discover that what you see and hear may not necessarily be true. There are only two kinds of people in this world. The first kind is the successful individual, and the second person is the one who helps the first to succeed. The former will always use some righteous motivational speech to inspire the latter. People like them would turn their idealistic idea into everyone's dream. After that, they would work hard to help him make his goal come true. And you would be branded as a stepping stone for him to achieve his goal. Despite that, the second type of person will still be dumb enough to suck up to the first type."

"If you have something that you wish to say, say it in my face. Don't have to beat around the bush," snapped a dispassionate 1810.

"Do you really think that we are the second type?" Black Swan turned her head and asked, "Yogurt was the last to join the team, and she had the least strength among us. I'm more than happy to say that she is suspicious. Two months ago, you said you need someone meticulous to take care of the team's logistical issues. But the truth was what we lacked at the time was a good attacker."

"Oh, I see. You're angry because I rejected the person that you recommended to join the team."

"Actually...not really." Black Swan said, "You have been trying to convince everyone that you are a fair, responsible, and righteous team leader, but when you are with Wonder Woman, both of becoming completely different people," Black Swan paused. "Are you going to tell the truth, or are you going to let me reveal your little secret?"

"Since you like Wonder Woman so much, why don't you go join her team?" 1810 asked rhetorically.

"I appreciate people with a sense of justice because they are rarer than diamonds amid our society. Humans are inherently selfish by nature. I don't want to go the extra mile for the sake of some pointless justice," Black Swan went on, "I accepted your invitation because we are the same. Admit it, the reason why you want to rescue Yogurt is not that she is your team member."

"What's the reason then? I'm old enough to become her father," 1810 smirked.

"Yes, she is your daughter." Black Swan took a sip of orange juice and said casually, "She was born into this world with your first love. However, you married the former dean's daughter for the sake of your future. Deep down in your heart, you are filled with the guilt of abandoning them. Out of coincidence, after you discovered that your illegitimate daughter is also a player, you recruited her into your team."

“You dug my background without my consent?” 1810’s face had literally become black, his lips turning downward, his jaw clenched and quivering.

“As I said, your team is not only made up of the second type of people,” Black Swan said.

Just when everyone was feeling extremely tense, the private room’s door was pushed open.

Zhang Heng and Shen Xixi walked in.

“Sorry, I had to attend a class in the afternoon. It just ended.” Zhang Heng said as he quickly looked around the room, observing the expressions on everyone’s face, “...should I go out first to give you some time to prepare for the meeting?”

### **Chapter 703: Reward**

“Welcome,” 1810 got up first and tried to squeeze a smile on his gloomy face. “We might have set off on the wrong foot the last time we met. I had to perform two surgeries right after that incident. I was in a rush. That was why my attitude was not pleasant on that day.”

“Don’t worry about it. It’s understandable since you are a surgeon. Besides, we didn’t know each other that time.” Zhang Heng then shook hands with 1810. Frankly, the conflict between the both of them was not that serious to begin with. When they first met, Zhang Heng turned up late, and 1810 had to wait for him. Hence, 1810 thought that Zhang Heng was arrogant and irresponsible.

If Shen Xixi hadn’t reminded him, Zhang Heng would have completely forgotten about it after completing a quest.

After that, Black Swan and others also stood up and greeted Zhang Heng with a smile. Except for Little Yellow Duck’s expression, experienced players like 1810 and Black Swan had their expressions return to normal. No one could see that they just had a big quarrel.

No matter the conflict, they were all on the same team. After all, and they needed to work together to rescue Yogurt at a critical time like this. Black Swan pulled up a chair for Zhang Heng, and after thanking her, he sat down with Shen Xixi.

1810 was relieved. He was worried that Zhang Heng would hold a grudge against him and make him pay for what he did. If Zhang Heng were that kind of person, though, this meeting would most likely end badly.

However, according to Shen Xixi’s description of Zhang Heng and the brief contact between the two, 1810 felt that Zhang Heng was an easygoing person to communicate freely and easily with him. As long as one did not interfere with his principles or had any conflict of interest, he would not hold a grudge. But on the other hand, it also meant that he would not be triggered and manipulated easily like other youths.

When facing these types, 1810 would find it best to be honest with every word said.

1810 did not sit down with the others. Instead, he called the waiter in and asked her to open the two bottles of Feitian Moutai that he had brought along. At the same time, he was sorting out his thoughts in his mind. To his surprise, Zhang Heng took the initiative to speak first.

“Since you are very worried about your ally’s safety, let’s get down to business first. Besides, I still need to drive later. I shouldn’t be consuming alcohol.”

1810 nodded and signaled the waitress to leave the room.

“This is embarrassing. When we fought against the mechanical Sphinx that night, you contributed the most, but we reaped the reward in the end.”

“Oh, about that. Since you have discussed with Shen Xixi beforehand, it is correct that you stuck to the agreement. I was just there to help,” Zhang Heng said truthfully. Although he was in need of points to recast the katana, he did not mind missing out on a Grade-E or F item.

“We couldn’t keep that thing with us in the end,” 1810 smiled bitterly, “Wonder Woman’s told you that we got attacked, right?”

“I heard that it was Dumbledore?” asked Zhang Heng with raised eyebrows.

“I was a fan of his, and I even bought the entire collection of books and movies that had him in it,” Little Yellow Duck interrupted and complained. “Not only did he paralyze us, but he also abducted Yogurt. He is out of character.”

On the adjacent side, Black Swan was able to analyze this incident more thoroughly. “According to the behavioral pattern of mechanical creation, they would not hesitate nor would they change their mind all of a sudden.”

“So you think that it came back after receiving a set of instructions?”

“Yes,” Black Swan nodded. “The Sphinx that we dealt with before has a behavioral pattern typical to machines. It would force the person that it met to guess the riddle, and the person would be given only three opportunities to guess the right answer. No matter what we say, as long as it is not the correct answer, we would waste a chance. If we got the right answer, it would leave. If we use up our chances and guess the wrong answer, it will punish us. There is no middle ground. As for the Dumbledore that attacked us, his goal was to rescue the Sphinx. However, it looked like someone was manipulating him.”

“Is that the last time you saw Dumbledore?”

“Yes,” 1810 said. “I could easily recognize him, especially that big beard of his. If he walks on the street, he is hard not to notice unless he used some kind of invisibility spell on himself. We thought that he would have surely some kind of trace behind, so we have been retrieving nearby surveillance tapes nearby for the past week. As a result, although Dumbledore’s whereabouts have not been found yet, we have discovered something new...” 1810 hesitated. “We saw the Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles and Master Yoda.”

“Huh? You are referring to the Master Yoda in “Star Wars?”

“Yes, he’s exactly the same as in the movie. He has green skin and a pair of pointy ears and looks like a long-haired goblin. As for the Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles, all four were there. With our current team, I am afraid that we are not strong enough to deal with them,” 1810 said.

It was no wonder that 1810 was so troubled. They had a hard time dealing with the Sphinx earlier, let alone the other fictional characters that played an important role in the original films and novels. Even if

they did not get to keep their full strength here, as long as each possessed the strength of Sphinx, 1810 and his team could do nothing if they were to get swarmed.

They were very likely facing a group of mechanical armies. With their sole strength, the possibility of saving Yogurt was too slight, which was why they sought the elite players' help.

"Of course, we will pay you if you decide to help us. We can pay you 400 game points and two game items. However, they are only of E and F-grade."

These items might be no big deal to a grand guild, but considering that these were just a team made up of independent players, they should be giving off everything they had to Zhang Heng. It was a sincere move from them. To prove that they were not wasting his time, 1810 showed Zhang Heng the two items and the 400 game points that he had. These items should worth a hundred game points.

Seemingly worried that Zhang Heng was unhappy with the reward, 1810 then said, "We now have two Grade-E and three Grade-F game items. You can choose from them," he said as he took out a lighter and a bottle cap.

Black Swan frowned, but in the end, she too unclasped the choker on her neck and put it on the table. Little Yellow Duck and Mole did the same as well. One of them took out a fish hook, and the other one took out something that looked like the foot of a bird.

Immediately, Zhang Heng was drawn to the last game item.

#### **Chapter 704: Shadow Feet**

The Mole saw Zhang Heng eyeing the game item that resembled a bird's foot, and proceeded to explain in an enterprising manner. "This is Shadow's Foot, Grade-F. The effect is kind of... useless. It allows the user to summon a shadow, and the shadow covers an area of about ten square meters. It's just an ordinary shadow, though. It has no offensive capabilities or special effects. At most, you can use it to deceive your enemies. I have to say that it is not very useful in a real battle. And there is a limit on the number of times you can use it. Right now, you can only use it once more."

"This should be the least valuable item here." 1810 added, "Perhaps you can look at the others."

Since Zhang Heng was about to pick two game items, 1810 clarified things, ensuring that Zhang Heng would not regret his choice. After all, these items were just Grade-E and F, and even if they were of different value, it was not that significant. Hence, there was no need to sweat over the minute differences.

"That's fine. I just need this Grade-F," Zhang Heng said.

Ever since he learned that he needed to collect every single piece of item to complete the Shadow Set, Zhang Heng had been paying attention to the whereabouts of the remaining ones. Earlier, he even entrusted Fulou to help him find the rest, but he had not heard back from them ever since. This time, Zhang Heng was lucky enough to encounter one. The name of this Shadow Set item was easy to recognize—the Shadow Feet's effect was similar to his Shadow Moment and Shadow Key. Even without the four hundred game points, this trip was worth it.

After that, 1810 introduced the two other Grade-E items, to which, Zhang Heng went for the bottle cap.



This object was called Ramune, and its effect was fascinating. When the user poured any kind of liquid in the bottle and closed it with this unique cap, the liquid would instantly turn into Ramune. However, it would yield a random flavor each time. Now although it looked amazing, it served no other function except saving Zhang Heng some money if he wanted soda.

Though this game item was nowhere nearly as versatile as Black Swan's choker, Zhang Heng could see how unwilling she was to give it up. So, since he had obtained the Shadow Foot, he had no intention to possess a beloved game item of another. Besides, he was a man and it would be a little too weird for him to go out wearing a choker...

As for the remaining four hundred game points, Shen Xixi would act as their middle-woman, waiting until Zhang Heng had rescued Yogurt before seeing that they paid him.

Seeing Zhang Heng had agreed to help them out, 1810 was relieved, asking for everyone to enjoy the dishes on the table and at the same time, streamlining the next plan of action with Zhang Heng. To his surprise, Zhang Heng insisted on investigating the case alone this time.

Black Swan's and 1810's expressions remained unchanged, but the embarrassment on Little Yellow Duck's face was obvious. Upon seeing this, Zhang Heng quickly explained, "Don't get me wrong, I'm just used to acting alone. I will contact you if I have any questions."

Hearing this, Black Swan bowed and silently drank her orange juice, making it clear that she planned to stay out of the matter. 1810 thought for a while before subtly voicing out.

"Our enemies are quite powerful. If you act alone and encounter any danger. ..."

Shen Xixi knew that 1810 was still a little apprehensive. This was, after all, only the second time Zhang Heng worked with them, and although they knew he ranked first in the Proxy War's first round, they still had no idea how powerful he really was. She was also worried that Zhang Heng wouldn't do his best in his attempt to rescue Yogurt.

So she said, "I will investigate this matter with him. What do you think?"

Shen Xixi turned to face Zhang Heng.

Zhang Heng nodded. "Okay."

He had a lot of secrets, and he did not want his secrets to be known by outsiders. It would be hard using his full strength when there were others around him. Fortunately, Shen Xixi was one of those allies that he could fully trust. Besides, he could simply wait until midnight to act independently after finding out where Yogurt had been held.

As they all began to devour the food on the table, Zhang Heng inquired about the details of their latest investigation and even took notes of key points worthy of attention.

...

The meeting ended in less than an hour. After the meal, Black Swan took the initiative to exchange phone numbers with Zhang Heng. She dug up two tickets from her bag and handed them to Zhang Heng. "I'm playing in this musical theater. If you are interested, you can come and watch with your friends."

“Sorry, I have to deal with things here first...”

“I know. I’m not giving you the ticket for the premiere tomorrow night. These tickets are for next week’s show,” Black Swan smiled. She then whispered into Zhang Heng’s ear, “Thank you for not choosing the choker. Maybe when you are free next time, we can discuss how I can repay you.”

“You’re welcome. It just happened that I had no use for it.”

Black Swan winked at Zhang Heng and got into her car.

Meanwhile, Shen Xixi who had been left behind, walked over after talking with 1810. “What did she tell you just now?” she asked curiously.

“She gave me two tickets to a musical theater,” Zhang Heng explained.

“Oh...” Shen Xixi responded with a playful look on his face.

“...”

“You performed so well in the first round of the Proxy War’s quest. It is normal for a girl to notice you.” Shen Xixi said, and she sighed again, “Black Swan has been through a lot. A woman like her will always attract the men around her. I heard that she was unhappy with her original team. And she was forced to play two single-player games before joining 1810’s team.”

“Really?” Zhang Heng paused, then asked, “What about you?”

“I’m lucky. When I was in the Novice Group, I met some nice people,” Shen Xixi chirped. “It’s a pity that some of them didn’t make it to this day.”

Although Shen Xixi made it sound so easy, Zhang Heng knew that her initial gaming experience was not the most pleasant. In fact, that was how most new players felt. Zhang Heng’s first game was quite challenging as well. He had to stay on the deserted island for more than a year to the point he was close to becoming the next Robinson Crusoe.

Shen Xixi opened the Polo’s door and naturally sat in the co-drivers seat, just like when she came. After thinking for a while, she decided to ask Zhang Heng. “Do you know why 1810 wants to rescue Yogurt so desperately?”

“I know. Yogurt is his daughter,” Zhang Heng nodded.

“Huh? When did he tell you?” Shen Xixi was stunned.

“It is actually quite obvious. All I did was observe them. They were probably arguing about this matter before we came.”

## **Chapter 705: Emperor**

“You can even tell that they had a quarrel?” Shen Xixi asked with raised eyebrows.

“Well, I spent quite some time with Holmes in one of my previous quests.” Zhang Heng explained as he started the car.

“How long? Two months? And that’s enough for you to learn his deductive reasoning skill?” Shen Xixi asked.

“Actually... slightly longer than two months.”

“That’s amazing,” Shen Xixi complimented, “It seems that 1810 has found the right person this time.”

“...I’ll do my best,” Zhang Heng said and drove his car out of the parking lot. He then continued, “We still have some time. Do you want to go back to school?”

“No need.” Shen Xixi shook her head. “I have nothing to do when I go back. Yogurt has been missing for more than a week. The sooner I can find her, the better. How about you? Detective, do you have any clues?”

“Hmm, we need to find the mastermind. First, we need to play by his rules. Do you remember the Sphinx that attacked us earlier?”

“Of course.”

“Although the sphinx is a fake, its behavior was a direct copy of the Greek mythological Sphinx. In the surveillance video that 1810 showed me, the four Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles got into the sewer after passing the intersection. Except for Dumbledore, who acted out of character, the others tried their best to stick to their roles. That shows that no matter who their creator is, they tend to imitate their original characters.”

“Hmm... Indeed.”

“We can use this pattern to find them,” she said after thinking for a second.

“To be precise, we’ll let them come to us,” Zhang Heng said. “Although they change locations constantly, we know the place that they always go to and their behavioral pattern. Maybe we can lure them out.”

“So... we’re going to go into the sewer next?”

“No, I mean we can pretend to be the emperor.”

“Who?”

“Sheev Palpatine, the Galactic Republic’s former speaker, later launched the Clone War, declared the Jedi Order’s treason, and singlehandedly established the Galactic Empire. He is regarded as the number one enemy of the Jedi Order.” Zhang Heng briefly introduced the emperor’s background to Shen Xixi, “If Master Yoda sees the emperor, he will definitely show up.”

“Okay, I understand your plan now. Where should we start next?”

“Let’s figure out a way to get the emperor’s costume first. Know where we can get it?”

Zhang Heng actually knew how to procure it, but doing so would be very troublesome. Eventually, he decided to ask Shen Xixi first.

“Well, let me think about it,” the latter raised her eyebrows, “I can ask Rabbit to help us. She is a huge anime fan and is in a cosplay club. She should be able to get us the costume.”

"We owe her a favor this time. It would be ideal if we can buy it because I can't guarantee that we won't damage it," Zhang Heng cautioned.

An hour later, the two came to an apartment. A boy with glasses was waiting for them at the entrance. There was a box beside his feet with the emperor's costume in it. Zhang Heng did a quick take and found out that it looked realistic enough. Although not on the same level as the Sphinx, it was good enough to fool the enemies if one didn't take a good look at it, especially at night.

"Are you really willing to spend two thousand yuan for this costume?"

The boy hesitated.

The price of cosplay outfits fluctuated greatly and could cost up to tens of thousands of yuan. This set of Palpatine's costume was a well-made reproduction. Its real cost, however, was estimated to be only around five-hundred yuan. Besides, the seller was bored of playing an emperor at comic con, deciding that it was time to make a change. So, when he heard that someone was willing to pay a high price to buy his costume, he immediately agreed to it.

"Hmm." Zhang Heng took an envelope from the storage compartment in the car and handed it to the boy. "You can count it."

The latter took the envelope and opened it. He felt the envelope's thickness and smiled, "No need. You are a friend of Rabbit. I know I can trust you."

After that, he looked at Shen Xixi. "Dude, are you interested in Shimakaze's costume? It is a treasured collection of mine. Initially, I planned to let my future girlfriend wear it for me, but it seems that's not going to happen anytime soon. I can sell it to you at a low price."

"Thank you for your kind offer, but I think you shouldn't give up your dream," Zhang Heng said, "after all, who knows will happen tomorrow."

The boy with glasses put on a bitter smile upon hearing those words. "Tomorrow. Perhaps I will be on my own tomorrow..."

Before he could finish, he heard Shen Xixi suddenly saying, "Do you have Voldemort's costume?"

"I don't have a Voldemort costume. His popularity has dropped a lot recently. I do have Hermione's costume, though. Are you interested?" The boy was getting excited.

"How much would it set me back?"

He hesitated, "You don't need to pay me. Just wear it, and let me take a picture of you."

"Okay?"

He seemed afraid that Shen Xixi might change her mind, so he hurried back home to grab the costume.

"You guys, wait for me."

Less than five minutes later, he was back. There was a box in his arms, and he was sweating profusely.

"Gryffindor school uniform. Tie, cloak, skirt, magic hat, scarf, and staff. It's all inside the box."

“You came well-prepared,” Shen Xixi grinned.

“You’re right. Everyone in the cosplay scene knows how serious I am. I used to crawl on the ground for the entire day in my Bulbasaur costume,” the boy with glasses gushed. He then passed the box to Shen Xixi and shouted, “Oh, yes, I still have something to do. I need to head back first. I wish you all a good time!”

Shen Xixi frowned. When the boy with glasses ran away, she opened the box. The items in the box matched his description. When she noticed the size of the shirt and skirt, however, she became a little unhappy about it.

But soon after, her anger dissipated, seemingly amused by the boy. “The guy said he wanted my photos, but he didn’t even add my WeChat account. Forget it. Let’s just consider this a gift from him to us.”

On the other hand, Zhang Heng had changed into the emperor’s costume. Compared to other more complicated designs, this one was rather simple to wear. All he needed to do was to put on the black robe and a special skin mask. The boy with glasses was not bragging when he told them that this set was his masterpiece. He had even fashioned a pair of ‘wrinkled hands’ gloves.

Upon donning on the costume, Zhang Heng felt like he had transformed into a Star Wars major villain.

### **Chapter 706: Busybody**

The next thing that they needed to do was to head to where their targets would typically appear.

Zhang Heng drove to the spot where the aliens had been accidentally captured in the surveillance video. This was a rather vast area, and they could only pray that they were lucky enough to encounter them. It made no difference where Zhang Heng parked, so he looked for a random lot and parked there. After he turned off the engine, he opened the trunk and grabbed all the equipment and game items needed for tonight’s operation.

“You forgot your weapon.” Shen Xixi got out of the car and stretched out, and threw the lightsaber to Zhang Heng.

Shen Xixi appeared to be in a good mood tonight. Even she did not know why she felt like this. She knew that she could always relax when she was with Zhang Heng, and at the same time, take a break from her hectic lifestyle. As a team leader, she had to always keep her mind clear and provide fair judgment. Since the union’s establishment, there were many new things for her to consider and deal with. Just not too long ago, she was in a state of confusion. Initially, she had established the consortium with the goal of uniting players to protect ordinary people from the threat of supernatural forces.

But when the union was established, things became more complicated. Whether it was the conflicts between the internal groups or friction between the major guilds, they continued to snowball. As a result, she had to spend most of her days dealing with these matters that had nothing to do with her original intention.

Therefore, when the consortium was really disbanded, she was not as disappointed as others had imagined. On the contrary, she felt relieved that she was free to do whatever she wanted to do again.

Shen Xixi realized that she was lost in her thought. So, she turned around and asked Zhang Heng, “Are you going to open it?”

“Yes.”

Anyway, he had to use it eventually, and it was pointless dragging it along. With no hesitation, Zhang Heng pushed the bottom switch, and a red glowing beam shot up from the handle, just like how it was in the films. The lightsaber also came with some cool sound effects.

“Wow, is this what a major villain should look like?” Shen Xixi stepped back and admired. “I’m sorry, can I take a photo?”

“Do as you wish. No one can tell it is me anyway,” Zhang Heng sighed helplessly behind the mask.

Shen Xixi took out the phone, stood next to Zhang Heng, tilted her body slightly, and pressed the shutter.

“If you remember correctly... this should be our first photo,” Shen Xixi said while examining the picture she just took.

“I think you are right.”

“The good news is that your lightsaber is pretty photogenic. Okay, let’s get to work.”

.....

When Shen Xixi said work, she meant that Zhang Heng and her would wander around the streets. They were supposed to wait for Master Yoda, representing the light side, to fight with the dark emperor. Admittedly, this plan did sound like a fantasy but considering that the Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles had left the sewers to roam the streets, it seemed nothing was impossible now.

The two talked while walking along the river next to the parking lot. Most of the things they talked about still revolved around this matter.

Shen Xixi stepped on the stone bricks in the grass and lifted her forehead’s hair. “I have watched the surveillance tape as well, and I agree with you. No matter who the mastermind is, he is a childish guy. And I figure that there is a high chance that the mastermind is a player like us. After witnessing the Sphinx’s strength that night, it was more than capable of killing the people who failed to answer the riddles, much like the real Sphinx in the myth. However, instead of doing that, it adopted a relatively light punishment, making the whole thing look more like a prank. Maybe he’s trying to avoid the scrutiny of the authorities, or maybe he has the habit of obeying society’s rules, making him less destructive.”

“Yeah.” Zhang Heng adjusted the mask on his face.

“But Dumbledore lost control that time,” Shen Xixi said. “According to 1810’s description, I believe he was struggling with a decision at the time, but in the end, Dumbledore still turned around to grab Yogurt. This is the part I’m most concerned with. I have dealt with supernatural events before, some of which are caused by monsters—creatures that can control a wall that we have dealt with together. Most of these events, however, are actually caused by players. I don’t know how the committee selects the players, but there is no doubt that the composition of the player base is very complicated.”

“This is true,” Zhang Heng nodded as he recalled the players he had met before.

“Whether the game items or the abilities given to the agents, these are powers that defy the law of nature. Like you and me, many players fail to practice self-control. Take a look at this incident. Many of them started out as pranks. When they began to receive some kind of pleasure or satisfaction from it, they would begin to deteriorate.

“You are worried that the Dumbledore incident would cause the mastermind to realize that he can do more with these robots?”

“Yes,” replied Shen Xixi. “I want to find the mastermind as soon as possible. I want to save Yogurt, and I also want to stop him from going down the evil path before it is too late.” Shen Xixi looked at Zhang Heng again. “Do you think that I am a little too nosy? Many seem to think that I should mind my own business.”

“No,” Zhang Heng shook his head, “It’s a good thing to have faith. Just do what you think you should do. Ignore what others think about you.”

“What about you? What is your belief?” Shen Xixi asked curiously. “You are calm, meticulous, clear-headed, and powerful, yet I never knew who or what you stood for. And I am a little curious about the person who hired you.”

“Is this some kind of compliment?” Zhang Heng asked.

Shen Xixi seemed to have made up her mind, and before Zhang Heng could finish, she quickly said, “You are the one that helped us that night, right?”

“Hmm?”

“The mysterious sniper who appeared on the night where the union fought Arc of Light. I always had a premonition that that person was you.”

“I don’t remember displaying my marksmanship in front of you.”

“It’s just a guess of mine. I don’t have any evidence to prove you are the sniper, and I can’t do anything if you don’t want to admit to it. It doesn’t matter. Anyway, I owe you a ton of favors. I don’t mind owing you another.” Shen Xixi stopped and looked at Zhang Heng’s eyes behind the mask. “Hey, did you know that someone reminded me to be wary of you?”

“Uh-huh.” Zhang Heng harrumphed.

“What do you mean by uh-huh?”

“What do you think?”

“If one day you are really lost in the dark, no matter how far you are lost and no matter what great evil you have done, I will never give up...on you.” Shen Xixi said solemnly under the starry sky.

“Because I’m a nosy girl.”

## **Chapter 707: Enemy Behind You**

Zhang Heng and Shen Xixi walked around the riverside, and despite feeding the multitudinous mosquitoes that hounded them like hungry wolves, they did not manage to bring out Master Yoda as hoped.

"Maybe someone else is on duty tonight. Should I try putting on Hermione's costume to see if I can bring out Dumbledore?" Shen Xixi said.

"Are you sure?"

Zhang Heng had seen the costume in the box and could understand why the latter had become so angry at that time. There was a reason why the previous owner treasured this costume. There were no problems with its looks and was even made with fine craftsmanship as well. However, the sizes of the shirt and skirt were too small. It appeared that this set was designed to fit a kid. If Shen Xixi put it on, she could probably only get to cover her privates.

"Or..." Shen Xixi took a breath, "Let's just be more straightforward."

"How more straightforward can we get?"

"Whether it's the Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles, Master Yoda, Dumbledore, or something else, they are the characters designed to uphold justice."

"That's right."

"Maybe we can create a crime scene. No matter who is on duty tonight, there's a high probability that we can attract their attention."

"Uhh... have you ever thought that we might attract the police's attention?"

"We can try our best to find a place with fewer people," replied Shen Xixi. "We'll be creating a scene tailor-made for a superhero appearance."

"...If you are fine with it, then I'm fine with it too," said Zhang Heng. "But we'd better put on some makeup and change to a different set of clothing to avoid being spotted. We don't want them to know that we are already here."

Since they had decided to create the perfect crime scenario, Zhang Heng could only try his best to give the details a little fine-tuning.

"Okay," Shen Xixi nodded.

...

A drunk woman stumbled along the dark alley late at night. When she walked past a trash can, she was unable to hold it in and started retching her guts for a good half minute. However, she did not get better after vomiting. She was so drunk that she had to sit down beside the trash can and lean against the wall. Her head drooped to the side, and she fell asleep after that.

Her chest was heaving slightly beneath her suspenders, and it looked like her guard was completely down. She even put on a smile, as if she saw the prince charming of her dreams.

For a split second there, she appeared to have forgotten that she lived in a chaotic and dangerous world.



Just like what they planned, the bad guy appeared!

A dark shadow passed by the alley and witnessed this rare scene. Immediately, he looked around to see if there were people around him. Once he made sure that he was alone, he took out his mobile phone and took a dozen pictures of the girl from various angles.

Seeing that the girl did not respond, he became bolder. He then decided to move closer to the girl and tapped the girl's shoulder with his hand.

"Miss, miss. Do you need any help? "

The girl was still out cold, not knowing what was going on in the real world.

The man's mind started to come up with some bad ideas. He drew in two deep breaths after that. Perhaps the dark alley had given him the courage he needed, or he found it too challenging to resist the temptation in front of him. In the end, he decided to stretch out his hands, lifted the girl from the ground, and carried her on his shoulders.

Just as he was about to leave the alley with the girl, another figure landed behind him like an oriole. The person raised his hand and shot a ball-like object from his wrist at the villain. To the person's surprise, the bad guy seemed to know that he was behind, and he managed to dodge the sudden attack.

When Zhang Heng saw the white spider silk on the wall, he knew who was here tonight.

"Spider-Man?" Zhang Heng turned around and raised his eyebrows.

Although the other party did not answer Zhang Heng, his distinctive red and blue uniform had confirmed Zhang Heng's suspicions.

It was neither the Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles nor Master Yoda who had come here tonight.

This new version of Spider-Man was the mascot of the Marvel universe, and the image of the friendly neighborhood Spiderman had gradually become popular as well. If Zhang Heng were required to choose an opponent from the Marvel universe, Spider-Man would be the last he would choose to go up against.

The reason was simple. Spiderman's abilities might not be the strongest, but compared to Thor's and Scarlet Witch's fancy abilities created by special effects and CGI, it was a lot easier to replicate.

Spiderman's endurance, reaction, speed, and fighting ability could all be achieved through adjusting the mechanical replica, not to mention that he had the annoying ability to manipulate spider silk.

Shen Xixi began to worry about Zhang Heng. However, her eyes were still closed, and only moved her lips. She then whispered, "What should we do?"

"Continue pretending you're drunk. Let me test his abilities first."

Zhang Heng put Shen Xixi down again. After that, he dished his hands in the trash can and took out a Tachi.

The [Ordinary Katana] that made him miserable was still being recast by the blacksmith, so Zhang Heng's current weapon was an ordinary weapon that he just bought. Spider-Man watched Zhang Heng draw the Tachi from the scabbard. He did not stop him or run away.

Because fear meant nothing in the face of justice!

“Heh, it seems it is going to be an exciting night.” Zhang Heng went into his attack stance. At the same time, Spider-Man was already on the move. Without exerting much strength, he leaped onto the wall, touched it gingerly with his foot, and his body sprung high into the air.

He then shot two more Web Balls at Zhang Heng.

Taking into account the stickiness of the Web Balls, Zhang Heng decided to dodge it. When he raised his head again, Spider-Man was about to land a flying kick on him. Immediately, Zhang Heng struck his Tachi at the Spider-Man. With Spider-Man’s tingling sensation, he could use his spider silk to change trajectory in the air, and the next second appeared behind Zhang Heng again.

Zhang Heng turned around and struck his Tachi at Spider-Man, who used his spider silk to dodge the attack in a split-second.

In the first round of the battle, both sides were equally competent.

However, after only two short moves, Zhang Heng could feel how difficult it was going to be to deal with this opponent.

Spider-Man’s movements were unpredictable. In just one second, he had several positions in the air. Not only did Zhang Heng have to guard against fists and flying kicks that came out of nowhere, but he also needed to look out for the pesky Web Balls.

Perhaps the only thing that offered him relief was that none of the mechanical enemies knew how to speak. It could be a manufacturing defect or intentional.

### **Chapter 708: Second Thrust**

Two figures were fighting each other in the dark alley.

One of them was so agile and swift that he had unquestionably exceeded the human body’s limits. It could perform incredible movements at critical moments. In contrast, the movements of his opponent were obviously slower. However, this opponent managed to block the swift attacks with the lone Tachi in his hand, like a rock on the shore—no matter how the wind and waves beat it, it still stood resolute.

Shen Xixi leaned against the wall and opened her eyes secretly. She was also the only witness to the battle tonight.

She was admittedly quite surprised when she learned that Simon ranked first in the proxy war’s first round. The impression that Zhang Heng used to give her was that of a calm and reliable man. She had never seen him engaged in a battle before. In Dreamland of Death, the two had acted separately from the beginning, and during the Sphinx incident, Zhang Heng only showed that he could drive well and rescue Rabbit in time.

Tonight was the first time she witnessed Zhang Heng fighting. And she finally understood how he could get such a high score in the first proxy-war quest. His speed, strength, reflexes, and sense of balance were extraordinary. Although nowhere nearly as dextrous as Spider-Man, he still beat out most ordinary people. Clearly, Zhang Heng had undergone a lot of training to get to where he was today. What surprised Shen Xixi was Zhang Heng’s skills on the sword and his combat experience.

Shen Xixi, a player herself, knew a thing or two about the skills that one could learn throughout the duration of a quest. Generally, most players had skills of Lv.0 and Lv.1. Those who possessed Lv.2 skills were relatively rare, considered as semi-experts in their related fields. As for players who possessed Lv.3 skills, these were one in a million. Most of them were players that practiced serious disciplines, and many played the role of team strategist.

Almost all the top guilds would treat these Lv.3 skilled players differently. As long as they had one Lv.3 skill, the three major guilds would offer generous benefits to recruit the player.

Shen Xixi figured that Zhang Heng had an Lv.2 driving skill, an unknown level of deduction skill, an Lv.2 shooting, and makeup skills. For the average player, this was their limit. Even if they had other skills, they would stay at Lv.0 for most of their journey. That was because everyone had limited energy to spend.

However, the sword skills Zhang Heng unleashed tonight were estimated to have reached Lv.3. Shen Xixi even suspected that it might have surpassed Lv.3. However, she had never seen an Lv.4 skill before. The results were inconclusive. With only a single Tachi, Zhang Heng managed to take on the Spider-Man, which possessed extraordinary power. This surely wasn't how a person with an Lv.3 skill performed.

Shen Xixi still could not figure out how Zhang Heng managed to accumulate so much combat experience. This was not something that could be faked or made quickly. It could only be earned through enduring battle after battle. The combat experience Zhang Heng demonstrated made Shen Xixi wonder if he had been fighting since he was born. Even if she factored in the time he spent in the dungeons, it was almost impossible for anyone to have such rich combat experience.

...

As Shen Xixi entered a state of trance, Zhang Heng and Spider-Man on the other side had understood each other's strength after a round of fighting and testing. Both sides knew that Zhang Heng could never defeat the Spider-Man with the Tachi he held. Even if he could land a successful hit on his opponent, he would not be able to deal much damage. From the very beginning, Spider-Man had been trying his best to behave like a human, pretending to avoid Zhang Heng's attacks. If his body composition were similar to that of the Sphinx they had dealt with, this Spider-Man would have no physical weakness.

Other than that, the trick Zhang Heng used to deal with the Sphinx earlier was estimated to be useless on Spider-Man. It seemed the enemy had learned lessons from previous battles. This "Iron Spider" suit looked like it was made of some kind of insulating material where an electric shock would not affect or destroy the components inside his body.

Fortunately, Zhang Heng was well prepared for such a situation.

He no longer focussed on defending this time, and in a jiffy, changed to an offensive fighting style. His attacks got faster, and after a while, he managed to back Spider-Man up against the wall. Zhang Heng then leaped and threw away the Tachi in his hand.

Spider-Man tilted his head, seemingly puzzled by Zhang Heng's actions. But then he noticed that Shen Xixi was no longer standing there. At some point, Shen Xixi had snapped back to reality, ran back to the trash can, took out a large travel bag from it, and passed the anti-material rifle to Zhang Heng.

This was the first time Spider-Man witnessed a criminal working together with the victim. He was left startled for a while. Zhang Heng did not waste this precious opportunity, and he instantly got down on the ground and aimed at the nearby Spider-Man with the anti-material rifle.

The previous battle with the Sphinx confirmed that ordinary bullets were useless against these things. However, the anti-material rifle's explosive bullets would explode when they landed on the target. It would then produce two times the force of the explosion to penetrate the armor.

When Spider-Man saw the anti-material rifle, he realized that his situation was turning for the worse. Immediately, he tried to make a run for it. Just when he raised his hand and was about to shoot a web to the wall, he was hit on his wrist. If this shot hit an ordinary person, the entire hand would have been blown off. With this mechanical body, however, Spider-Man's defense might simply be better than the original. The shot had destroyed his Web-Shooter, though, rendering him unable to shoot out webs.

Afterward, Zhang Heng fired a second shot, hitting the spider mark on Spider-Man's chest, sending him flying. The creature finally stopped moving when he landed on the ground.

"Did you kill it?" Shen Xixi asked.

"It looks dead," Zhang Heng replied.

After that, the two walked up to get a closer look at Spider-Man's corpse. However, just as Zhang Heng turned it over, Spider-Man opened his eyes again. He was about land a kick on Zhang Heng's chest, but Zhang Heng managed to step back to avoid the attack. When Zhang Heng turned around again, Spider-Man had already jumped onto the wall, quickly disappearing into the darkness.

Zhang Heng didn't panic. He deliberately missed the target's vital spots because his target was neither Spider-Man nor Master Yoda. He wanted to know who the mastermind was.

After the injured Spider-Man had gone for a while, Zhang Heng took out his mobile phone from his pocket.

"Is the tracker installed?"

"Well, let's get back in the car. Let's see where he takes us."

## **Chapter 709: Hoax**

Zhang Heng drove his Polo, following the target from a good distance.

It was said that injured beasts would always find a way to return to their lair to lick their wounds. If that were true, then the injured little spider should also find his way home, returning to his owner.

But to Zhang Heng's surprise, the tracker stopped at an ordinary community.

This was no evil manufacturing factory nor a mysterious laboratory. It was just a normal residential area.

Zhang Heng and Shen Xixi got out of the car and took a good look around.

This residential area looked a little old. Some of the outer walls beside the staircase had begun to peel off. However, the location was good, mainly because the land price hadn't risen yet at the time

community was built. At times, the accumulation of personal wealth was inseparable from an era's background.

Zhang Heng then looked at his mobile phone again and saw that his target was less than a hundred meters away from him.

"It should be right here."

"This place seems a little quiet," Shen Xixi frowned.

Zhang Heng knew what Shen Xixi meant. It might be an excellent place to live, but it was not a good spot to imprison people. Yogurt had been missing for more than a week, and if she was here for such a long time, the small community here would have instantly noticed her. In other words, the possibility that Yogurt was dead was very high.

"Let's act according to the situation later," Zhang Heng said.

Suddenly, Zhang Heng noticed that his mobile phone's tracker signal had disappeared. It could only mean that Spider-Man must have spotted the tracker that had been planted on him. In other words, their enemies were anticipating their arrival.

"Do you need any weapons?" Zhang Heng asked Shen Xixi, who was beside him.

"No, I have my equipment with me," Shen Xixi replied, taking out a small scale from her backpack.

This was the first time Zhang Heng caught the eye of Shen Xixi's weapon. Also a game item, this weighing scale was a tad smaller than the ordinary one, hence easily carried in her hand. It was made of unknown materials, and it looked sacred. Just by taking a look, Zhang Heng could feel that all the evil in this world would have to bow before it.

Zhang Heng suspected that this small scale once belonged to Justitia of the ancient Roman myths, which proved that the one who fought him that night was indeed the Goddess of Justice herself.

"This is a gift from an elder..." Shen Xixi saw Zhang Heng's gaze falling on the scale in her hand and explained vigorously.

Having no intention to pry into Shen Xixi's secrets, Zhang Heng merely nodded and said no more. He then said, "We now know which building our enemy lives in, but we don't know which floor he is at. You stay downstairs. I'll go up and have a look first."

"Go up... How are you going to do that?" Shen Xixi was a little puzzled.

Zhang Heng then pointed to a window not far away, "I'm going up from outside the building."

After witnessing Zhang Heng's various skills, she had developed a certain immunity to these feats. When Zhang Heng told her that he could scale the wall, Shen Xixi felt a little numb, notably a little less surprised as she used to be. So, she simply reminded Zhang Heng to pay attention to his safety.

After that, Zhang Heng began to climb onto the rack of the air conditioner's compressor on the wall. His destinations were the two households with their lights still on. At this time, most people should have

fallen asleep. The ones who had not turned off the lights were either night owls or the mastermind he had been looking for.

As soon as Zhang Heng climbed to the third floor, he found that one of the houses had turned off its lights. Since he had just lost the tracker's signal, something didn't seem right with that particular unit. So, he climbed toward the unit that had just gone dark. To his surprise, the windows were still open.

Zhang Heng jumped in from the window without much hesitation. The enemy had just discovered that someone was after him, and there was no time to set up any traps.

Soon after he entered the house, he could feel someone jumping on him from behind. He swiftly tilted his body to dodge the heavy blow. When he turned around, he saw his old acquaintance, the Spider-Man who had fought so fiercely earlier. It seemed he had stayed back in this house to buy someone time. At the same time at the door on the other side was opened. Zhang Heng could hear a woman whisper, "Go!"

In that split second, Zhang Heng paid the price for not focusing on the enemy in front of him. Spider-Man punched him in the stomach, causing him to fall into the cabinet beside him while spilling its contents all over the floor.

Zhang Heng looked at the contents and realized that they were all action figures from Harry Potter, the Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles, Star Wars, and even Cardcaptor Sakura... Spider-Man's figurine, however, seemed to be missing. The latter was probably busy fighting him right now.

Also, Zhang Heng saw various CDs of games and movies on the lower level of the cabinet. The owner of this room appeared to be a geek of some sort.

Before Zhang Heng could take a closer look, his adversary, from the other side of the room, charged at him again. Spider-Man was not in his best shape since he could no longer shoot out webs. Besides, there was also a small hole in his chest. The circuit components inside it were now exposed and his movements had gotten slower too. Similarly, Zhang Heng was not looking too good himself.

Due to the limited space in this room, Zhang Heng had left his Tachi behind, and the anti-material rifle was in the trunk as well. Fortunately, his Infinite Building Block was small enough to be with him, and he was lucky enough to find a Lego truck under the bed.

Zhang Heng grabbed the Lego truck and reassembled it into a taser in a split second. He then aimed at the small hole in Spider-Man's chest and pushed the button. The next moment, a blue light flickered at that spot, and Spider-Man abruptly froze in its tracks, just like the Sphinx.

Zhang Heng took a deep breath, walked out of the bedroom, pulled out his mobile phone, and called Shen Xixi.

"How's everything over there?" Zhang Heng asked.

"The enemy got away from me, and he was holding Yogurt." Shen Xixi sighed helplessly on the other end of the line. "This is impossible. Since he kidnapped Yogurt, there is no way that he could pass my Evil Identification."

Shen Xixi scale was a special kind of game item. She would have to set the benchmark, and once her opponent exceeded its value, the item would come into full effect.

“Have you ever thought that Yogurt hasn’t actually been kidnapped?” Zhang Heng quickly checked the living room and found two novels for girls on the sofa, potato chips, popcorn, and a pair of female slippers on the shoe rack.

“Huh?”

“This whole thing might be a hoax.” Zhang Heng recalled the female voice he heard at the door before and confirmed that it was indeed Yogurt’s voice.

“You mean 1810 made up this whole thing to deceive us? Why? It doesn’t make sense for him to give out 400 game points and two items for nothing.”

“Not 1810. I think Yogurt directed this whole incident.” Zhang Heng walked into the bathroom, turned on the light, and saw many skincare products on the shelf.

### **Chapter 710: Abnormal**

Zhang Heng opened the security door downstairs for Shen Xixi. The first thing she saw when she walked up was the messy living room.

“You just fought here?”

“No, I was fighting in the bedroom. As for the living room... I think this is the prime example of a modern teenager’s living environment.”

Shen Xixi thought for a while, “Are you saying that they never clean up the house?”

After that, she squatted down, rummaged through the trash can with a pair of disposable chopsticks on the table, and dished out two pieces of facial masks.

“It seems that the person we are going to rescue has been living here quite comfortably for some time.”

Shen Xixi tossed away the chopsticks. “What do you think? Is this just another young couple eloping?”

“I don’t think the two of them are lovers,” Zhang Heng said, “Perhaps the man really likes the woman, or he wouldn’t have worked with her to do such a thing. On the other hand, I think the woman has no intention to develop a romantic relationship with the man for now.”

“Why do you say that?”

“I searched the house briefly before you came up, and I couldn’t find the one thing that is commonly used by couples.”

Shen Xixi raised his eyebrows, “Are you talking about...”

“The man and the woman have lived together under the same roof for more than a week. And the two seemed to have never left the house as well. If they fancied each other, it would have been difficult for them to control their sexual desires.”

“That’s true. Why would Yogurt fake her own kidnapping?”

“You should ask 1810,” Zhang Heng said.

...

Forty minutes later, 1810 met up with Zhang Heng and Shen Xixi. Although it was almost midnight when he received the call, he still had not gone to bed at that time. He appeared to be still worried about Yogurt, and once he heard that Zhang Heng found something new, he instantly looked for him.

On the other hand, Spider-Man was stunned by Zhang Heng in the master bedroom half an hour ago and had transformed back to a figurine. However, there was still a small hole in his chest. Zhang Heng was playing with it in front of the bookcase.

While 1810 was on the way to meet them, Shen Xixi had told him everything that happened tonight. His face remained dry and expressionless. After a long silence, he asked Shen Xixi, “What is the name of the person you saw downstairs?”

“Shen Dongxing,” Zhang Heng said, “His name is on the parcel.”

“You saw the guy named Shen Dongxing kidnapping yogurt? Doesn’t this prove that Yogurt has nothing to do with this matter? That means she’s just a victim.”

“But Simon heard Yogurt asking Shen Dongxing to escape the place with her,” Shen Xixi said. “If you saw the situation in the house, you should know that Yogurt is not the victim here.”

“Her voice can be faked, and the fact that she was not imprisoned is not enough to prove that the man didn’t kidnap her. He may have some other way to make Yogurt stay in the house. According to what you said, the kid is also a player, and he may possess some unique game items,” 1810 said.

“It’s possible.”

Before Shen Xixi could say anything, she saw Zhang Heng nodding. He put down the Spider-Man figurine and said, “So you want us to continue investigating until we find Yogurt?”

“Yes, wasn’t that the agreement? Once you find Yogurt, I will pay you the balance,” 1810 said. He still behaved politely, getting up to shake hands with Zhang Heng. “Both of your investigation abilities are truly amazing. You guys have made so much progress in less than one night. I hope you two can keep up the good work and rescue Yogurt sooner.”

Shen Xixi frowned and wanted to say something, but 1810 had readied himself to leave. “Sorry, I left the house secretly just now. I can’t stay outside for too long. Otherwise, my wife will start to ask me questions. Please see if you can find more useful clues here.”

Shen Xixi stood in front of the window sill while watching 1810 hastily leaving the apartment and returning to his car.

“What do you think? He is acting weird tonight. The whole thing is so damn obvious. No one kidnapped Yogurt. Every evidence we presented him is enough to prove that he was wrong about this whole thing. However, he still insisted that he was in the right. If he cares so much about Yogurt, why would he leave as soon as we finished talking to him? He didn’t even take a good look at the house.”



"I agree with you. And one more thing. The strong scent of stale tobacco on his body was overpowering. If I remember correctly, he has a child. He should not be able to smoke at home. That means he smoked at least seven to eight cigarettes while he was driving just now," Zhang Heng said.

"He is very anxious. Why? We are very close to finding his daughter."

"I have some idea, but I need to look for more evidence first," Zhang Heng said. "Wait a minute, I'll make a call."

After half a minute, Zhang Heng hung up the phone. "We have another guest tonight. Would you mind?"

"Who?"

"Black Swan."

Black Swan happened to live around the area, and it would only take her less than fifteen minutes to get to them. When Zhang Heng opened the door, he saw that she was in her pajamas. She appeared to have just gotten out of bed and had rushed to them as quickly as she could.

But as a woman herself, Shen Xixi quickly noticed that Black Swan's hair was tied up and not messy. There was some light makeup on her face as well. It made no sense that she did not change her clothes. However, Shen Xixi chose not to expose her.

"Here's the situation..."

Black Swan spent three minutes briefly explaining the seemingly inconspicuous conflict at the dinner table before Zhang Heng and Shen Xixi arrived at the restaurant.

But with Shen Xixi's wittiness, she quickly realized how this matter had nothing to do with 1810's reaction. She might not be as observant as Zhang Heng, but she was far from stupid. Otherwise, she would not be elected as the leader of the union.

"Ever since you exposed him, 1810's reputation among his team has been severely affected. The reason why everyone still obeys him is because he is still the captain. If they find out that Yogurt was the one who planned the whole thing, they would definitely not let them off the hook so easily."

"Yes." Black Swan pulled out a box of slim, menthol cigarettes from her pocket and pulled a stick out.

"Do you mind?"

Shen Xixi shook her head. After that, Black Swan lit a cigarette, took a drag, stretched, and leaned back on the sofa. When she sat like that, she inadvertently revealed her bosom a little more. Nonetheless, she acted like she did not notice it.

"500 game points is no small amount. Everyone in the team contributed to gathering this many game points. Yogurt is the latest member of the team, and she doesn't get along well with others. At most, we are just acquaintances to her. For the sake of 1810, we treated her as our little sister. Now that she is missing, some of us had to give out our hard-earned game points. For her, however, she's just playing hide and seek with us. Hehe."