

Am I A God 221

Chapter 221: King George's Rule

Zhao Yao had some ideas to convince the cats to crown Matcha as their king and to provide them a comfortable environment to live in. However, the first and most crucial step was to prevent himself and Matcha's identities from getting exposed.

With a genial smile plastered on his face, Matcha looked at the supercats and Zhao Xue resting on his palm, "Superpower can do this."

Lion Head struggled to get to her feet. With both fear and curiosity, she looked towards Matcha and asked, "Who are you?"

"I've already told you that I'm George Matcha." Matcha slowly uttered the words to create a dramatic effect. He continued, "The reason for my existence in this world is simple. My only goal is to improve cats' lives and to alleviate the pain and sufferings they have endured in this world. I will ensure they have food to eat and catmint to sniff on. I'm asking you again, would you join me by naming me your cat king?"

The cats turned around and stared at one another. Evidently, they were still very fearful of George Matcha.

The orange Persian cat, Airplane, was the first cat to step forward and refuted, "I do not submit to your rule! I will never accept you as our leader regardless of how strong you are! I'll simply leave Jiangmen University if it comes to this!"

"Hmph, Little Airplane, I think you have not learned your lesson." Matcha reached out his paw as he spoke. The cats detected the presence of an invisible giant paw coming their way as it came swooping towards Airplane. With Airplane firmly grasped in his paw, Matcha began spinning him and toying with his body.

Embarrassment and anger flashed across Airplane's eyes as his temple throbbed with frustration. He repeatedly meowed at Matcha to get him to stop but was futile in his attempts. Regardless of

how his body turned blurry, he was still unable to escape from Matcha's clutches. Airplane was unable to offer any sorts of resistance as Matcha continued playing with him.

Sweat beaded their foreheads as the supercats and Zhao Xue witnessed Airplane's humiliation in Matcha's paws. A thought flashed through all their heads, "This George King ... is too cruel!"

"Huh? Airplane, what did you just say? I can't really hear you." Matcha brought Airplane to his eyes and asked, "Did you just say that you agree?"

Airplane who remained in Matcha's paws nodded his head vigorously.

A contented smile finally found its way to Matcha's mouth as he once again revealed his genial smile. The halo behind his head shone brighter than ever. Matcha exclaimed, "Great! It's such a surprise that you've turned so sensible. Oh my, look at your fur. You're almost furless already. Don't worry, I'll help you take care of it. You don't have to thank me."

Matcha remained indifferent to Airplane's pleas and struggles as he looked towards the remaining cats and asked, "Look. Airplane is a smart cat and has decided to join my side. How about the rest of you?"

As Matcha spoke, the cats have already detected an invisible force encapsulating their bodies, rendering them incapable of moving.

"Calm down, do not worry. As a cat ... I am known for being a fair cat that never bears grudges. Even if you choose not to join my side and leave Jiangmen University's territory, I would never hold it against you."

Uncle Egg bawled his eyes out as he pleaded, "I'm not from Jiangmen University. I'm from the neighboring district, Xiang Yang District."

"There are no borders in this global cat village that we live in. I am an extremely hospitable cat. Just treat this place like your own home."

The remaining supercats instantly nodded their heads in agreement when they felt the invisible force crushing against their bodies.

King George then sat his eyes on Zhao Xue as his eyes sparkled with excitement. He announced, “This young kid over here is special, very special. Would you like to be my disciple and learn the art of superpower from me?”

Zhao Xue replied with a look of shock plastered on her face, “Huh? I can actually learn the art of superpower?”

“Of course you can. I know of many superpowers and I can simply pass down a few to you. I’m sure you would benefit immensely from it. I can see that you have a bright future ahead of you and you’re destined for great stuff. You might even be the savior of this world.”

Zhao Xue was excited over the cat’s claims but was rather skeptical seeing all that he had done and said, “Really? That would be great.”

Finally, King George looked towards the cafeteria lady, Auntie Wang, who was already on her knees with her palms clasped together. She cried, “King George, bless me. Please bless my son so that he can enter a reputable university and improve his skills on Mobile Legends.”

King George simply replied, “Lady would you like to join our side and be the protector our territory?”

Auntie Wang immediately kowtowed to King George and exclaimed, “Long live the magnanimous King George!”

With a curl of his lips, Matcha responded, “I’ll just take it that you’ve accepted my offer then.”

Next, everyone’s vision was submerged in darkness as they lost consciousness after Zhao Yao sealed their five senses.

Zhao Yao, Hanako, Matcha and Dust Ball remained standing in the dugout, with bodies of cats, Zhao Xue and Auntie Wang scattered all across the ground.

Naturally, Hanako had no idea what happened within the illusion. In her eyes, the cats, Zhao Xue and Auntie Wang simply collapsed to the floor all of a sudden.

Matcha tapped his paw on Zhao Yao's feet and asked, "Zhao Yao, will they really listen to my words?"

"Temporarily yes. However, they will definitely start rebelling if we continue to use such lame tricks to scam them. We need to find something to ensure their loyalty in the long run." Zhao Yao then released his deflective field which morphed into a giant hand and scooped everyone off the floor.

"We have to bring them somewhere else first." Zhao Yao dragged the hordes of cats to the entrance before finally reaching the school building's rooftop.

Thankfully, it was extremely late and no one noticed this group of cats which magically levitated from the forests onto the rooftop.

Suddenly, the cats which were unconscious emitted a golden beam from their eyes. From the cat's perspective, their eyes were swarmed by this blinding golden light before opening their eyes and realizing that they had reached the school building's rooftop. They noticed an orange cat standing on his hind feet by the edge of the rooftop. His entire body radiated a majestic golden glow and had a beautiful halo at the back of his head. That cat could only be King George.

King George looked towards them with his genial smile and said, "Hi, everyone."

The mission was completed and Zhao Yao had received 300*2 experience points.

A smile crept up Zhao Yao's face when he saw his BOOK turning to book: lv4(1958/5000).

"At this rate, I can upgrade both Elizabeth and Matcha after receiving the experience points from my monthly mission."

For the next few days, Zhao Yao had brought along Hanako as they hid behind Matcha's back and helped him continue his pretense as King George, solidifying his rule over Jiangmen University.

Boasting his human intellect and life experience, Zhao Yao easily won the hearts of the stray cats with his tricks. He won them over with lots of canned food, catmint, cat toys, and cat tidbits. He even sent the injured cats to a pet hospital. By using his power of illusion from time to time, he had temporarily secured his position as cat king.

The next pressing issue was the problem of food. Hence, Zhao Yao instructed Auntie Wang to prepare meals for the stray cats, with the money coming from Zhao Yao. It was a far cry from the rubbish that they were used to.

Luckily, the money used to buy the ingredients was not included in the cat café's operating costs. Looking at Zhao Yao's bank account, this money was totally negligible. Next, Zhao Yao began selecting the older cats amongst them for sterilization. This was to help him prevent the cats from non-stop reproduction to control their population and relieve them from the sufferings of estrus.

Without having to worry about their three meals, the stray cats naturally had more time to spare and would spend most of their time in the dugout. Zhao Yao had hence selected the dugout as the stray cats' official base.

Without having to mend his café, Zhao Yao was able to complete the laborious task required to provide a comfortable environment for the stray cats. The extra cash in his hand definitely helped as well.

Zhao Yao finally heaved a sigh of relief when he watched the stray cats running around the dugout, chasing each other with a smile on their faces. "It's finally time to move on to my chain mission."

The simplest solution was to throw the two supercats into his extradimensional belly, but it would bring about many undesired effects.

Zhao Yao had carefully considered the situation in it. He realized that the extradimensional belly was currently too small and too plain. It was a torture for eight supercats to live in there. There were bound to be problems if he forced ten supercats into that confined space in the long run. Ares and gang would definitely cause trouble, stemming from their hatred towards Zhao Yao.

Furthermore, this was only the first of his chain mission to establish the cat kingdom. There would only be more and more cats inside his belly.

The concern remained on Zhao Yao's head as he ran around, taking care of business at Jiangmen University. Finally, he had some ideas to address the problem. He would combine the dugout with his extradimensional belly to establish a true cat base, or maybe even a hideout. It would truly become a Village of Dreams. The dugout would help compensate the shortcomings of the extradimensional belly.

The actual steps which he would take to realize this was dependent on the new skills his supercats received from upgrading. In the worst case scenario, he would solely rely on Elizabeth's illusion to address these problems.

"Tonight will be the night. I'll see what powers I get from upgrading Matcha and Elizabeth using the points from the monthly mission."

Chapter 222: Level Up!

At 11.59pm, Zhao Yao was already sitting on his couch with his eyes glued to his BOOK, eagerly anticipating the experience points from his monthly mission. Currently, his BOOK read:

Book: Lv4 (2088/5000)

Matcha: Lv4 (1090/2000)

Elizabeth: Lv4 (330/2000)

Dust Ball: Lv5 (220/5000)

Ares: Lv4 (70/2000)

The corner of his mouth curled up when the thought flashed across Zhao Yao's head, "With the 2X Exp Card, I should be able to upgrade both Matcha and Elizabeth with the experience points from the monthly mission."

Even though the points could be used to upgrade Ares instead, but Zhao Yao was already satisfied with the strength of the current deflective field. On the other hand, Zhao Yao required a strong illusion or some sort of time manipulation ability in order to juggle his commitments between Jiangmen University, his cat café and the refurbishment of his extradimensional belly.

The clock finally struck 12 which signified the end of the month and the completion of his monthly mission. It was time to calculate the experience points earned.

The green tick appeared next to his monthly mission, indicating its completion. A paragraph of words appeared beneath the heading of monthly mission: After deducting the utility bills, the cost of cat food, cat tidbits and all other miscellaneous fees, the net profit for the café was RMB 1,563,333, hence you had earned 300 experience points. Tap on the button to collect your reward and reset the monthly mission for the new month.

“Even though the café was only in operation for three weeks, I still managed to earn more money than the previous time, which means more experience points earned!”

With a wide grin on his face, Zhao Yao tapped on the button and collected his 300X2 experience points. Instantly, the book turned to lv4(2688/5000).

“Haha, this is just nice for the two of them.” Immediately, Zhao Yao began allocating the experience points to his two cats. He pumped 910 and 1670 experience points to Matcha and Elizabeth respectively. Both the cats had been upgraded to level five, while the book was at lv4 (108/5000).

Zhao Yao immediately tapped on Matcha’s ability branches to find out the new powers awaiting him. The two abilities were:

Time Multiplication: Double the duration of your abilities, increasing your time freeze to 12 seconds and its cooldown to 12 seconds as well.

Multiplication Explosion: After using your power of time freeze, there is a probability that the power would be triggered again at the end of the 6 seconds. This would not affect the ability’s cooldown time.

Zhao Yao’s forehead furrowed slightly when he read the description of the two ability branches. Time Multiplication was easy to understand but Multiplication Explosion would make it even harder for him to control Matcha’s ability. Firstly, Zhao Yao had no idea what the probability was. Secondly, the effects of the power might be activated at inappropriate times.

The variables and uncertainties surrounding the power could only be fully understood if Zhao Yao chose this ability. However, for safety’s sake, Zhao Yao tapped on Time Multiplication to increase Matcha’s time freeze to 12 seconds.

“Wow, 12 seconds is amazing but it would not be very useful for my upcoming missions.” Disappointment sagged through him as Zhao Yao flipped the BOOK to Elizabeth’s page to find out what was in store for him. The two ability branches were:

Split: You can control your target from afar for three hours. This is as good as having your consciousness implanted into another person.

Seal: Seal a fixed illusion on an object and the effects of the illusion would continue over the next 3 days. You can cast this power on at most three targets.

Elizabeth's power could always be classified into control and illusion. Zhao Yao had always pumped the points to enhance Elizabeth's power of illusion.

"The ability to control an individual is a very straightforward power that cannot be enhanced significantly. I can always use the power of illusion to supplement the control." Zhao Yao's eyes burned with excitement as he tapped on the power, Seal, and thought, "This is great! If the effects of this power are like what I imagined, I would be able to release Ares and his gang."

After tapping on the button, Zhao Yao ran to the kitchen and took out a cup. He then attempted casting an illusion and sealing it within the cup.

After more than half an hour of experimenting, Zhao Yao was already beaming from ear to ear.

The effects of the power far exceeded his expectations. Any kind of illusion could be perfectly sealed within the object. The illusion would then repeat for the next 72 hours. It was as good as having another Zhao Yao casting an unchanging illusion.

"Good! Good! With this, I'll be able to connect the extradimensional belly with the dugout. I can also consider releasing Ares and gang. I will not have to worry about Cat Kingdom's future anymore!"

With this thought at the back of his head, Zhao Yao immediately retrieved three items from his cabinet.

"With three items, I can use one for the dugout, one for the cat café and one more for Ares. This can be used for battle and can even be used to control the supercats. I only have to cast a new illusion on it after the three days expire."

Zhao Yao immediately put his words into action as he began casting an illusion on the three collars.

With one collar in his hand, Zhao Yao's brain started producing an elaborate illusion before sealing them into the collar.

Even though the sealing effects worked perfectly, the toil it took on Zhao Yao's brain was immense. Zhao Yao's entire body was beaded with sweat after just ten minutes.

"D*mn it. The illusion which I can seal within the collar can last for up to three days. This is as good as creating a 72 hours illusion within less than an hour." Zhao Yao glanced at the other two collars resting on the table and thought, "I guess I can only work on one collar today. I'll just start with the dugout."

Instantly, he picked up that collar and resumed the process.

The sealing process was finally completed after half an hour. Zhao Yao was so tired that he had difficulty keeping his eyes opened. He collapsed onto his bed and fell asleep instantly.

Zhao Yao suffered from a slight headache when he woke up the second morning. However, a smile crept up his face when he took a glance at the collar lying on the table.

"With this collar, I can cast a permanent illusion within the dugout. I'll be able to release Ares in there. However, this is not enough. My mission required me to establish a cat nation within the extradimensional belly. Hence, I need to create some sort of bridge to connect them."

The bridge would be none other than Dust Ball. By positioning Dust Ball inside the dugout, her mouth would act as the channel connecting the dugout to the extradimensional belly. Cats could then roam freely between them.

There were two benefits to this solution. Firstly, cats from the extradimensional belly could enter the dugout base whenever they wanted, establishing a connection between them. In turn, this would greatly increase the size of the cat nation's territory. If not, the current extradimensional belly was barely more than one hundred square meters and could never accommodate more than 10 supercats.

Secondly, this would allow Zhao Yao to enter the dugout instantly by using the extradimensional belly as the bridge. The dugout would become the perfect base.

This base was shrouded in the illusion sealed within the collar. With more and more supercats coming here in the future, this place would provide much-needed security.

On the other hand, the supercats inside the dugout could crawl out of Zhao Yao's mouth by using Dust Ball's extradimensional belly as the bridge. This meant that Zhao Yao would have a supercat army waiting as reinforcement 24/7.

"With the illusion sealed within the collar and the size of the dugout, I would not have to worry about the supercats causing a ruckus or getting into trouble. I also don't have to worry about them not having enough space to play. By installing more facilities and amenities within it, this place would become a perfect supercat haven."

"However, the roots of cat nation still trace back to the extradimensional belly. I can only complete my mission by increasing the population of supercats within the belly. Hence, I have to strengthen the connection between the dugout and the belly and also enhance their sense of belonging to the belly."

Zhao Yao had to find a solution that allowed the supercats to spend the majority of their time within the belly instead of the dugout to ensure the completion of his chain mission.

Zhao Yao already had a plan to turn the extradimensional belly into a home that the supercats would never want to leave.

Chapter 223: Mission or Game?

Supercats had existed for more than half a year. Since Matcha's transformation, Zhao Yao had been observing supercat's behavior for quite some time.

These intelligent lives, which recently appeared on the surface of Earth, were extremely curious about the history of human civilization.

In Zhao Yao's eyes, he believed that the rules and mechanisms governing this complex human civilization were something that supercats craved to understand since they had only just acquired human-like intelligence.

Hence, Zhao Yao understood that it was impossible to control them by simply resorting to violence. This was especially true for Zhao Yao since he intended to welcome more and more supercats into his cat nation. He needed these supercats to fall in love with the place and spend their time here willingly.

Zhao Yao's goal was to leverage the experiences and lessons learned throughout history and incorporate them into this place. He wanted to create a utopia within the extradimensional belly where supercats could enjoy with their friends the fruits of labor from our longstanding civilization, without humans' watchful eyes. This was to become a true playground for cats – Village of Dreams.

“There would be more than enough space by combining the extradimensional belly with the dugout. However, I have to encapsulate this place with an illusion and equip it with sufficient facilities. The illusion would prevent humans from entering and only allowed supercats to enter. Next, I have to use my power to maintain order in this place. I can start by using my money to improve their living conditions. This will become a secret utopia for supercats.”

“Oh yes, I think the renovation works for my café should be almost done by today.” Zhao Yao gave a call to Shi Yu and instructed her to inspect the ongoing renovation works. Then, he waved to Baiquan and told him to report to the café on his own.

He switched on his laptop and glanced at the contents of his wallpaper. His mouth curved into a smile as he whispered, “Hmm ... Let's start with this.” With that, he held the laptop in his hand and carried a portable electric generator into the belly.

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Currently, eight cat heads huddled towards a tiny phone screen. All their eyes were glued to it which was currently playing Downtown Abbey.

Female cats such as Diana and Catherine were especially attracted to the drama's plot. They did not even dare to blink their eyes as they did not want to miss a single moment of it.

On the other hand, the male cats grew increasingly restless as they continued watching the show. The Garfield, Gaia, scratched his swollen head and grumbled, “Boss, when can we finally watch Naruto?”

“Wait until I manage to f*ck Catherine, ... No ...” Ares immediately changed his words and said, “Wait until we finish watching Downtown Abbey.”

“Huh?” The Siamese cat, Fūjin, instantly turned his head around. Ares’s words felt like a knife to his heart. Fūjin tugged at Ares’s tail and pleaded, “But I really want to watch Naruto.”

Ares simply retorted, “Naruto, Naruto. What’s the most important lesson in Naruto? Patience! Can’t you just wait for a while more?”

“But I don’t think I can wait any longer.” The Garfield continued scratching the back of his head before he started stumbling across the place. He whispered, “Why do I feel that my head is getting even more swollen? Why is everything spinning in this place?”

“Hallucination.” Ares interrupted Gaia’s words and instructed him, “You have been staring at the phone screen for too long. You just need a good night’s rest.”

Gaia stretched his back and replied, “But the headache just worsens the moment I lay on the floor. Rakshasa, can you come over and help me take a look? Is the back of my head really swollen?”

The American Shorthair glanced at Gaia’s head and noticed the bruise that had swelled to the size of a bun. However, he remained expressionless as he shook his head and replied, “It’s not swollen. From the looks of it, you’re perfectly fine.”

Suddenly, the male ragdoll, Caesar, craned his neck forward and took a look at Gaia’s condition. He could not believe what Rakshasa had just said and exclaimed, “How is that not swollen ...”

Before Caesar could complete his statement, Ares had already interrupted him by saying, “This is not swollen. He’s just fat and has puffy fur.”

“Really?” Caesar started scratching his own head and said, “Speaking of a headache, I have also been suffering from a slight headache for quite some time. Also, it feels as if I’ve forgotten about something.”

Ares replied, “Your body is still not accustomed to the atmosphere in the Village of Dreams which explains your headache.”

“That’s right, Caesar. You should really spend some time training your body. Even Diana and I are fine. All you do is complain about your throbbing headache.” Catherine threw a condescending look

at Caesar before continuing, “We still have to thank Ares for taking care of us when you were unconscious.”

Tears welled up in Caesar’s eyes as he dashed forward to Ares and said, “Mr. Ares, thank you so much for taking care of my wife and daughter while I was unconscious. You will become my friend from today onwards.”

“I don’t think we are just friends.” Ares raised his paw and started slapping him on his back. With his eyes fixed on Catherine, Ares muttered, “We are brothers.”

While the two female cats were engrossed in the film, a beam of holy light poured down from the sky as a laptop slowly descended from the heavens. The laptop landed right in front of the group of male cats.

At the same time, Zhao Yao’s voice rang in their heads.

“Everyone, it is time for the new mission.”

“If you manage to complete this mission, you will stand a chance to enter the outside world.”

“What?”

“We can finally leave this place?”

All the supercats’ eyes sparkled with excitement when they heard the news of possibly leaving this place. Their eyes were glued to the holy light, the laptop and portable generator lying on the ground. This generator was something Zhao Yao had specially prepared for the extradimensional belly. It could provide up to 400W of electricity and was ideal for a place like the extradimensional belly with no source of energy.

A smile crept up Zhao Yao’s face as he took a look at the laptop and announced, “This mission is very simple. I need you to get past the first stage of this game within a day.”

As Zhao Yao’s voice continued to echo in their heads, the supercats had already tilted their heads towards the screen in unison. Suddenly, a word started to appear, letter by letter.

Ares read out, “Diablo 2? What’s the meaning of this word?”

The game that Zhao Yao wanted the cats to play was Diablo 2. The best way to lure these cats, which had only just received human-like intelligence, was to use a computer game.

This was the idea Zhao Yao had developed after seeing how addicted Matcha and Rice Cake grew after watching him play Mobile Legends and PlayerUnknown’s Battlegrounds.

“I’m going to turn the extradimensional belly into the best cat internet café. I will equip this place with the best facilities and turn it into a cat heaven.”

The reason why he chose this game was that it did not require internet for them to play. Also, the long story mode would attract the cats’ attention for a long time. The cats could even play together by using the Local Area Network.

At the same time, Ares, the leader amongst them had stepped forward to take on this challenge. With the mouse in his paw, he started playing his first computer game.

“Create your character?” Suddenly, seven characters appeared amidst the piles of fire, burning in the background. All the cats stared intently at the computer screen.

Ares randomly clicked on one of the characters and a muscular bloke with tattoos all over his body emerged from the shadows. He even had an ax in his hand.

“This guy is so muscular!” Excitement shot out of Ares’s eyes as he clicked on another character and a female wizard emerged from the shadows. Her magic staff was even illuminated with a captivating glow. Ares mumbled, “This woman seems stronger than that guy.”

Hence, Ares decided to go with the female wizard. After watching the introductory video, they had finally arrived at their first stop, Rogue Encampment.

Two hours later, Ares rapidly tapped against the mouse and shouted, “Press the skill! Press the skill!”

Fūjin had both paws pressing against the keyboard as he retorted, “You didn’t even specify the skill? How am I supposed to know which to press?”

Suddenly, a zombie appeared on the screen as it slowly made its way towards them. Ares’s chest tightened with fear as he shouted, “Use the fireball! The fireball!”

Bam!

The zombie collapsed under the intense flames of the fireball. Its body exploded and gave out a few coins and potions. Ares could not help but started beaming from ear to ear. He had no idea why but he felt an inexplicable satisfaction whenever he saw the zombie falling to the ground. It was even better than sniffing on catmint.

“The zombies are back!” Fūjin exclaimed, “Quick! Aim at them!”

Ares, which was responsible for the mouse, slid it across the floor and had a perfect aim on the zombie’s forehead. Immediately, a few fireballs were shot out and burnt the zombie to crisp.

“Hey, it’s some equipment! Pick it up and take a look!”

Ares immediately moved his mouse as their character stood over the armor. Suddenly, they started jumping up and down the place as they were overwhelmed with excitement, “Golden armor! It’s a golden armor!”

Chapter 224: The Beautiful Illusion

Six pairs of cat eyes were glued to the computer screen. The more exciting the gameplay, the harder they swung their tails.

In the blink of an eye, Ares and the 5 other supercats had been busy battling for more than 18 hours straight. Sparks of excitement continued shooting out of their bloodshot eyes. Despite their physical exhaustion, they remained brimming with determination and perseverance to complete their mission

“It’s coming! It’s time for us to fight Andariel!” Gaia raked his fingers through his fur and could not believe how far they had progressed.

The male ragdoll, Caesar, offered a word of caution, “Be careful. Let’s use a town portal scroll first.”

On the screen was a fully equipped female mage wandering about the dimly lit monastery. The character was surrounded by a sea of shadows that could turn into monsters at any moment. Other than that, blood trails, dead bodies, and skeleton also littered the monastery grounds. This sight alone sent shivers down the cats’ spine.

After 18 hours of non-stop fighting, Ares and gang had finally reached the first boss in Diablo 2.

Catherine and Diana were completely indifferent to Diablo 2’s gameplay. They grew sick of it from just watching the guys play for less than half an hour. In their eyes, Diablo 2 could not hold a candle to the thought-provoking plot of Downtown Abbey.

Amongst the six cats, only Ares and Fūjin had the privilege to enjoy the full gaming experience. The other 4 cats could only huddle around the screen and watched with envy.

Actually, Zhao Yao was also hiding in the dark, observing their behavior from afar.

“Hmph, I guess it’s natural for them to fall in love with these computer games after achieving human-like intelligence. They would never be able to resist the temptation from a classic like Diablo 2.”

Memories of his time playing Diablo 2 flooded Zhao Yao’s mind as he watched the cats played the game. He could not help but reminisce the good old times when he observed the cat destroying the monsters, collecting the equipment and preparing for the ultimate fight against the boss.

During its heydays, Diablo 2 had throngs of fans flooding to it the moment they had their free time. The inexplicable exhilaration you derived from killing a monster or from picking up an armor left the gamers hungry for more, feeding their desire and addiction for the game. It seemed like the six cats standing in front of him had also fallen for it.

“However ...” Zhao Yao corked his head and observed Catherine and Diana dying from boredom. He thought, “Maybe I need another kind of computer game to attract the female cat’s attention.”

Naturally, Zhao Yao realized that supercats had plenty of opportunities to play computer games in other places. However, he already had a plan to address this problem ...

Following an ear-splitting scream, the boss for the first stage, Andariel, finally collapsed to the ground. Dozens of shiny treasures were scattered all over his dead body. Ares excitedly clicked on the mouse to collect them all.

“Meowhahaha, there are so many golden armors!”

“Let’s pick them up and see what we got!”

“Yay! Leveled up! We can add some points to our abilities!”

At this moment, the holy light descended from the heavens and cast its holy glow on the laptop. Immediately, Ares and Fūjin had lost control over the laptop.

“Excellent. You have completed your mission. As promised, I will arrange for your departure from this world in an hour’s time. This would allow ...”

“Who wants to leave this place?” Ares roared with anger shooting out of his bloodshot eyes. He exclaimed, “Return us the laptop. We only just defeated the boss and have not even picked up the weapon and armor he left behind!”

Ares continued, “We can talk about leaving this place some other time! Just return us the laptop now!”

Likewise, Gaia collapsed to the floor and began kowtowing to Zhao Yao. Gaia pleaded, “God, please give us a few more laptops!”

With the curl of his lips, Zhao Yao acquiesced to their requests. Nine laptops and nine portable generators began to slowly descend from the sky with a mysterious glow emanating from them. These were the items Zhao Yao bought online while he was busy settling the stray cats’ home. Zhao Yao bought them to create his perfect supercat haven.

Excitement poured out of their eyes as they watched the nine laptops slowly descend from the sky. They instantly switched on their individual laptops and waited excitedly for Diablo 2 to load up.

Ares and Fūjin which had shared the original laptop glanced at each other with a creepy smile.

Ares sauntered to the laptop in front of him and remarked, “Fūjin, everyone now has a laptop to themselves. You no longer have to share with me and can finally play on your own.”

Fūjin pranced forward and pressed his paw against the cover of their original laptop and sniggered, “Boss, let me use this old laptop. You should be using the brand new one instead.”

Ares sensed something fishy and squinted his eyes into a line before asking, “Fūjin, are you trying to take this wizard account from me and claim it as your own?”

Fūjin instantly lowered his head in shame with his ears pressed against his face. He did not dare to defy his leader which he had served for such a long time. However, he began quivering with indignance when memories of that character swarmed into his head. He retorted, “Boss, I have put in my heart and soul into this account as well. I can’t just let you take it away from me!”

Moments later, Fūjin was seen using the brand new laptop with his head covered in bruises. A thought sprang into his head, “Hmph, he could have just told me politely. Why does he always have to resort to violence? I’ll just give you this account but I’ll create and train an even stronger character!” With this thought lingering in his head, he had already gotten to his battle position: his hind legs resting on the mouse pad and front paws handling the keyboard.

Zhao Yao burst into laughter and shook his head at this ridiculous scene. He secretly crept behind Ares and attached a collar to his neck.

He wasn’t just blindly watching the supercats play for the past 18 hours. Actually, he had been casting and sealing an illusion into a collar – the one Ares was currently wearing.,

The illusion sealed within it was very simple and straightforward. There were only two effects. Firstly, neither cats nor humans could detect the existence of the collar. Secondly, it would make Ares forget about the existence of his right hind leg.

Hence, when Ares cast his deflective field and tried to encapsulate his entire body within it, he would always forget about his right hind leg. This provided an opening for Zhao Yao’s illusion to penetrate even when Ares had used his power.

After settling all the issues within the extradimensional belly, Zhao Yao finally left the place with a satisfied smile plastered on his face.

Next, he cast an illusion on Matcha, Dust Ball and himself as they made their way towards the dugout. Once they were there, Zhao Yao carefully attached the collar to Dust Ball's neck.

Zhao Yao instructed Dust Ball, "Dust Ball, focus your thoughts into this collar and unleash the power to its full potential." Zhao Yao had given this much consideration before he decided to hand control over to Dust Ball. After all, Matcha had the tendency to get a little playful from time to time, leaving Dust Ball as the best option.

Another factor which Zhao Yao had considered was to preserve the mysterious aura shrouding Matcha's existence. This aura could be intensified by lessening the number of times Matcha visited the dugout.

It was a herculean task for Zhao Yao to create a mysterious and powerful image for Matcha. He did not want his efforts to go to waste if they found out Matcha's true nature from their daily encounters.

Dust Ball grew rather curious towards the collar and took a few sniffs at it. As the obedient cat, she complied with Zhao Yao's instructions and implanted her consciousness into it.

Immediately, the illusion within the collar was activated and an invisible sound wave swept across the dugout. With the dugout as the epicenter, a sphere of radius 100 meters was encapsulated within the illusion.

"The area that has been encapsulated within the illusion would be our base's core position."

Under the effects of the illusion, the appearance of the area surrounding the dugout had changed considerably. Whenever any cats or humans came near to the dugout, all they would see was layers upon layers of rocks and gravels. Even if they reached their hands out to touch it, they would only feel the jagged edges of the solid rocks and would never detect the presence of the dugout.

If the intruder decided to ignore his sense of sight and touch and continued down the path, he would enter the region that was engulfed by the illusion which would rob him of his five senses.

This layer of defense was enough to deter more than 99% of all intruders. It would also hide its existence from the eyes of all passersby.

If any supercats wished to leave this core location, they would have to seek Dust Ball's permission before she could deactivate the illusion and allowed them to leave.

Currently, Zhao Yao had no plans of allowing supercats and humans from the outside world to come into contact with the cat nation that he had established. Or maybe it had to wait until Zhao Yao grew stronger.

The final layer of defense was a beautiful place. It was a scenic forest accompanied by blue skies and a magnificent waterfall which looked like a scene taken directly from an art masterpiece.

Zhao Yao had even incorporated the theme of day and night within it, changing the scenery every 12 hours.

Other than that, the person trapped in the illusion could even see clusters of snow mountains and a borderless sea in the far horizons. However, they would never make it there as the illusion prevented them from doing so.

All in all, the area of illusion could be divided into three sectors: the outer rock area, the area where they are robbed of their 5 senses and the scenic central area. It was the most convoluted illusion Zhao Yao had ever created. Hence, he instantly fell asleep the moment he sealed the illusion within the collar.

Matcha and Dust Ball stared dumbfoundedly at the magnificent scene staring right at them. The beautiful mountain ranges and the spectacular surroundings left them in awe.

With a gleeful smile on his face, Zhao Yao explained, "Ordinary cats can only play outside the sphere of illusion. Only supercats could enter this place."

Meanwhile, Auntie Wang had been tasked to take care of the ordinary cats roaming along the boundary of the hideout, further adding a layer of defense.

Chapter 225: Jealousy and the Grand Assembly

Zhao Yao continued explaining when he noticed Dust Ball's puzzled expression, "Areas outside the dugout is free from the illusion's influence. It is a place I have specially reserved for the ordinary stray cats. The area within the illusion is put aside for you, supercats. It is a utopia that I have specially created for all of you.

From today onwards, you will be deployed inside the dugout. You will be the bridge connecting the extradimensional belly with this place. The collar in your hands would control the illusion encapsulating this entire area.

Of course, you can just leave the collar here if there's something that you have to attend to outside this dugout. The illusion would continue until the 72 hour expires."

"But there is still one more thing ..." Zhao Yao stared earnestly into Dust Ball's eyes and asked, "Are you willing to stay here? If you aren't, I will not force it upon you."

"Are you kidding me? Of course, I'm willing to come here." Dust Ball shut her eyes to fully immerse her body in this amazing place. She exclaimed, "This place is so much more interesting than your apartment."

Zhao Yao was left speechless by Dust Ball's words. Initially, he had considered leaving the collar here and come down every day to open up the conduit connecting these two places. However, it would be far more inconvenient than having Dust Ball here permanently. Things could not have turned out better since Dust Ball volunteered to stay here.

Dust Ball could somehow detect the power stored within the collar resting on her neck and mumbled, "Is this the power of Elizabeth's illusion? It's so cool."

Even though Dust Ball's control over the power was simply limited to turning it on and off, she was still able to detect the magnitude and strength of it. With the collar, she could picture the entire landscape in her head and it was more vivid than anything she had ever seen.

However, she started scratching the collar once the novelty wore off. She grew slightly impatient and complained, "Why did you seal it inside the collar? I don't want to wear a collar."

"Hmph, this is to make it easier for you to carry it around. Don't you find it extremely cool?"

“Only dogs wear a collar. How can a brilliant species like us stoop to the level of a dog?” Dust Ball’s forehead puckered together as she suggested, “How about I stash it somewhere within the dugout. I can go over and control it if need be. Also, the illusion would not disappear even if I enter the extradimensional belly.”

Zhao Yao pinched the bridge of his nose and replied, “Alright then.”

Hence, Zhao Yao carefully hid it underneath an ordinary-looking brick. Dust Ball could control the illusion by simply going towards the collar and implanting her consciousness into it.

Throughout the entire process, Matcha sat on the ground and folded his arms across his chest. Jealousy swept through him as he witnessed Dust Ball receiving this new power. He would instantly flick his head to another direction whenever Zhao Yao made eye contact with him.

“What’s the matter Matcha? Are you interested in maintaining your position as the leader of this place? Do you know how much responsibility this entails?”

With a curl of his lip, Matcha responded, “Who wants to be the leader here? There’s nothing for me to do since Dust Ball is here to manage things.”

A thought flashed across Zhao Yao’s mind, “Jealousy? I didn’t expect this kid to be so petty.” Despite how much Matcha struggled, Zhao Yao continued scooping him off the floor and into his arms. Zhao Yao said, “Matcha, you are still the big boss here. You are their cat king, King George!”

Matcha repeatedly used his snow-white paws to slap against Zhao Yao chest. He mumbled, “It’s only a matter of time before the cats expose my identity since the illusion isn’t even in my hands.”

Zhao Yao then began cuddling and playing with Matcha. With a finger underneath his chin, Zhao Yao started giving Matcha a soothing massage. Even though Matcha acted as if he was indifferent to Zhao Yao’s action, he still inched his chin towards Zhao Yao’s finger, craving for more.

“Stop touching me, go and touch Dust Ball instead.”

Zhao Yao burst out laughing as he started massaging the back of his tiny head and ears. Matcha enjoyed it so much that he shut his eyes. However, he still said, “Since I’m so useless and cannot even do anything here.”

Zhao Yao then started poking against his white belly and remarked, “But you have a special effect.”

“Special effect? What special effect?” Matcha instantly opened his eyes and stared curiously at Zhao Yao.

Zhao Yao picked up the collar resting underneath the brick and sealed a new illusion within it before activating it.

After Zhao Yao’s modification, a golden halo glowed brilliantly behind Matcha’s head.

Matcha noticed the halo above his head and beamed from ear to ear. He exclaimed, “Meowhaha, look at my halo!”

Zhao Yao explained, “King George, whenever you come over here and grace the cats with your presence, they would be in awe of your amazing halo. Is that enough?”

“Definitely, definitely.” Matcha instantly leaped out of Zhao Yao’s arms and started prancing around the dugout with his new halo. Suddenly, he returned to Zhao Yao and jumped onto his calf, “Can you also give me a pair of wings?”

Zhao Yao picked him up by the back of his neck and retorted, “You are getting too greedy.”

After setting up the dugout, Zhao Yao gathered all the supercats staying within it.

By using his deflective field, Zhao Yao brought Lion Head, Baozi, Airplane, Sausage and Uncle Egg through the layers of defense and into the central area. In their heads, their visions suddenly turned dark before they opened their eyes to this amazing place.

They could not believe their eyes as all they saw was a breath-taking scenery comprising of mountain ranges and water bodies.

Lion Head raised her head and even noticed the sun, shining brilliantly atop the mountain peaks.

The orange Persian cat, Airplane, pressed his paws against the grass and felt the tingling sensation as the grass brushed across his paws.

Baozi bolted towards the pond at the side and reached his paws into the water.

A look of amazement crossed his face as Baozi exclaimed, "What happened?"

Excitement seized Uncle Egg as he started swinging his tail around non-stop. He asked, "Where are we?"

Airplane opened his eyes wide as he tried to take in this stunning place. With a look of confusion, he asked, "Isn't this the dugout?"

The next moment, a shadow appeared from within the forest and instantly captured the attention of all five supercats.

As the figure walked towards them, they noticed the brilliant halo floating above his head. They finally realized it was Matcha prancing proudly towards them.

With the genial smile on his face, Matcha declared, "This is still the dugout. However, I've used my power to improve the living conditions here."

Matcha cocked his head towards the maroon Dragon Li, Baozi, and commented, "Even though everything here seems real and authentic, they would not be able to quench your thirst nor satiate your hunger."

Baozi immediately retracted his paw and looked in Matcha's direction.

Against this amazing backdrop, Matcha had turned stronger and more mysterious than ever in their eyes. They had never thought that it was possible to create such a realistic Nirvana from a forsaken dugout.

The supercats spoke in unison when they noticed Matcha with his golden halo approaching them, "King Gero, what is your reason for sending us here today?"

The halo above his head continued to rotate and radiated a warm glow. The five cats did not even dare to stare directly into it.

The halo had made Matcha seem so powerful and formidable.

Matcha cleared his throat and announced, "The outside world is too dangerous. Humans have always been a threat to our survival. Hence, I decided to build this beautiful place as a haven for us, supercats. From today onwards, you will be living here."

"Is he trying to lock us up here?" Lion Head thought as a frown appeared on her face.

Airplane throbbed with anger and thought, "Bastard, is this guy trying to keep me here as a pet? No, I must find a way to escape."

The three remaining supercats shared similar thoughts. After spending their entire life roaming the streets as stray cats, it would take some time for them to accept this kind of lifestyle which domestic cats were accustomed to.

Somehow, Zhao Yao had already predicted this response from them. Under his instructions, Matcha continued, "Of course, I am not forcing you to stay here. You can spend the next one month here. If you like it, you can stay for as long as you want. If not, you are free to leave as well."

Airplane's eyes sparked with excitement and went on his feet and exclaimed, "Are you serious?"

"Of course!" Matcha announced with his gleeful smile, "I, King George, am a cat of his word. When have I ever lied to you."

All five cats turned their heads towards one another and understood what they were all thinking, "Hmph, we just have to endure for one month. Once the time is up, we will be gone!"

Matcha took this time to introduce Dust Ball who stood beside him. He declared, "This is my brother, Dark Knight. During my period of absence, he will be in charge of this place. Oh, to standardize some terminologies, I'll be naming this place the Village of Dreams.

The place which you originally inhabited with the ordinary cats would be known as the outskirts of the Village of Dreams. You are currently in the central location of Village of Dreams. My brother, Dark Knight, holds the key to the Heart of the Village of Dreams.”

“Heart of the Village of Dreams?” Lion Head was bewildered by Matcha’s words.

“Yes, I’m sure you will enjoy your time there.”

Chapter 226: True Love

Lion Head and the other supercats were unconcerned with Matcha’s claims. In their heads, they were just coming up with ways to speed up the impending time here.

As usual, Zhao Yao was hiding in a corner and observing the situation. Naturally, he detected the nonchalance the cats felt towards Matcha’s words.

However, he had a trump card in his hand – Diablo 2.

This game was the classic of its generation, the forefather of many games to come. It was the pioneer who invented the notions of ability upgrades, hp, mp, and an entire assortment of potions and weapons. It had provided the perfect blueprint for new LAN games to emulate. The exhilaration of killing monsters filled up the void in that generation’s games.

It’s not far-fetched to claim that Diablo 2 had revolutionized the world of computer gaming.

Zhao Yao fondly remembered the uproar it created when it first landed in stores. Thousands of teenagers stormed to internet cafés for a taste of the game. At that time, not every household had a computer. They spent hundreds of hours perfecting their skill and immersing themselves in this fantasy world.

Many players never grew bored of the game. Some of them had spent 10 and even 20 years absorbed in the gameplay, with its numerous modifications.

Diablo 2 had the fourth best sales record amongst all computer games for the year that it was produced. Even though countless pundits decried Diablo 3 for not continuing the spirit and essence of the franchise, it still managed to sell more than 30 million copies. It was among the top 10 most sold computer games for that year, entrenching its position as one of the most popular computer games.

To gamers who had spent many years playing the game, they would still consider Diablo 2 as one of the best, let alone a supercat which had never played a single game.

Even if Diablo 2 failed to entice them into the world of gaming, there were millions of games waiting to satisfy the supercats.

Zhao Yao also had other plans up his sleeve if computer games failed to attract them.

Matcha continued introducing Dust Ball to them by exclaiming, “Dark Knight, open your mouth.”

Dust Ball shot a furious glare at Matcha and only opened her mouth after Zhao Yao pacified her. Dust Ball revealed the alternate space-time dimension inside her mouth.

Zhao Yao pointed to Dust Ball’s mouth and explained, “This is the entrance to the Heart of the Village of Dreams. You can enter through Dust Ball’s mouth.”

The supercats broke into chatters and could not believe that a cat’s mouth was actually the door to this place called the Heart of the Village of Dreams.

Meanwhile, the supercats inside the belly which were either playing Diablo 2 or watching Downtown Abbey noticed the heavenly glow which descended from the skies. Zhao Yao who had disguised himself as Matcha slowly descended to their world.

All the supercats grew somewhat flustered when they noticed this cat’s abrupt arrival and the golden halo hanging above his head.

Only Gaia remained immersed in the world of Diablo 2, totally oblivious to the situation. He slammed his paws against the keyboard and roared, “Meowhaha, it’s another golden armor. I’m really too lucky! Boss, Boss, tell me which is the better glove between the two.”

“Tsk.” Ares shot a look of disdain at Gaia and was on the verge of asking him to stop. However, they were interrupted by a coughing sound.

“I’ve told you that I’ll be sending all of you out in an hour’s time. Now is the time for your departure ...”

“You are God?” Ares’s eyes were glued to this cat with a golden halo shining above him. Ares pressed his lips together and could not believe his eyes.

Catherine and Diana, which were in the far corner of the belly, glanced at each other. Similarly, they had difficulty believing Zhao Yao’s words.

They had heard many things about the extradimensional belly from Ares. However, the most integral figure in this place would be God.

During their time here, they had witnessed the power and miracles that he could perform. The God was truly omnipotent and omniscient.

They had never expected God to appear right in front of their eyes.

“It’s actually just an ordinary orange cat?” Catherine’s right eyebrow shot up as she whispered into Diana’s ears, “I thought the God would be a ragdoll.”

Diana whispered in reply, “Me too. I never expected God to be such a lame looking cat.”

Meanwhile, the silence was shattered by the male ragdoll’s, Caesar, voice, “Wait a minute, can I bring my laptop along? My Diablo 2 account is still inside it and I’ve already gotten so far.”

Naturally, Zhao Yao shook his head and explained, “No. All laptops and phones must be kept within the Heart of the Village of Dreams. If you want to use your laptop or phone, you must be inside this place.”

Disappointment clouded his features as Caesar replied, “How can you do this to me?”

Gaia started jumping up and down and asked, “Can we return to this place after leaving?”

“Of course, you can come back whenever you want. You just have to shout your intention and I’ll be able to send you out of this place. As for returning, you will have to inform the cat standing guard outside to allow you to return.”

Ares did not know why but he heaved a sigh of relief when he heard that it was possible to return to the belly.

The Garfield, Gaia, started crying and complaining, “But I don’t want to leave this place! I just want to stay here!”

Zhao Yao mustered his most solemn voice and replied, “You have already spent the past 24 hours playing the game. It’s bad for you to stare at your screen for such a long time. It’s time for you to go out there and get some fresh air into your body.”

Gaia interrupted Zhao Yao and retorted, “But I’m still so energetic, just look at my face! I really don’t need to leave this place!” Gaia stretched open his eyes to the best of his ability.

“No.” Zhao Yao instantly rejected Gaia’s suggestion. He continued, “You have spent too much time playing. Go out and have a good rest. You can play after enjoying a good night’s sleep.”

Zhao Yao turned a deaf ear to the cats incessant complaining and took his leave. He also instructed Dust Ball to expel them out of her stomach.

Lion Head and the five supercats noticed Dust Ball opening her mouth and streams of black lines poured out of her mouth before materializing into eight cats.

Matcha’s eyes instantly gravitated towards two particular cats when they arrived. His eyes were glued to Catherine and Diana.

With an affectionate stare, he looked towards them and dashed in their direction. He exclaimed, “Princess Qian, you are really inside Dust Ball’s stomach. Do you know how much I miss you?”

Zhao Yao could only facepalm himself at this sight. Luckily, he had cast an illusion on Matcha and replaced him with a fake Matcha which continued talking to the cats.

The Matcha which was created by Zhao Yao's illusion explained, "Do not worry. These are the eight supercats that previously resided in the Heart of the Village of Dreams. From today onwards, they will be your neighbors."

At the same time, Zhao Yao had already grabbed hold of the lustful Matcha and threw him a death glare before asking, "What are you trying to do?"

Sadness clouded his features as Matcha replied Zhao Yao, "Zhao Yao, can I just hug Princess Qian one time? Just once will be enough."

Zhao Yao rolled his eyes and replied, "Her name is Diana and she doesn't even know you."

"Cats just have to lick the other cat's ass to get to know each other." Matcha began struggling violently in mid-air and protested, "Zhao Yao, let go of me! Diana is waiting for me! How can you bear to separate a pair of love-birds?"

"You are just in love with her pretty face. You are not truly in love."

"I do not care about her face. I can't even distinguish someone ugly from someone pretty. To tell you the truth, I fell in love with her not because of her appearance but because of her personality. I will continue to love her even if she's a dog."

Zhao Yao lifted his shoulder in a half shrug and replied, "I will only allow it if you are crowned the star cat for the following month."

Matcha immediately started bawling, "Cat torture! Zhao Yao is torturing me!"

Left with no options, Zhao Yao released Matcha onto the grass and sighed, "Alright, since you are bent on going for her, I shall not stop you as well."

Matcha bolted towards Diana the moment his paws touched the ground. However, he noticed that Diana had turned into a Shar Pei after taking just a few steps. He thought, "What the hell is this?"

Zhao Yao glanced at Diana that was coated with illusion and started giggling. He thought, "Since you are so madly in love with who she really is, I guess you will just make do with it."

MAtcha stood beside the Shar Pei and was about to open his mouth to lick her ass. However, he started retching the moment he opened his mouth, “She is too ugly, it’s impossible for me to see who she really is.”

Zhao Yao ran his fingers through the fur on his back and commented, “It’s alright, you’ll be used to it after a few licks.”

Matcha’s ears and tail instantly drooped down. He explained, “Zhao Yao, I don’t think I’m capable of loving anyone anymore.”

Meanwhile, Zhao Yao used the fake Matcha to explain to Ares and friends, “These are the stray supercats which I have adopted. You will be neighbors from now on.”

Ares slid a guarded look at the five supercats and the mountains and greeneries surrounding him. His eyes were full of suspicion and fear.

It was natural that domestic cats like Ares would develop these fears when they were taken out of their original habitat and forced into a foreign environment.

Chapter 227: The Hunt

Lion Head and Airplane’s eyes were similarly filled with suspicion and wariness as they stared at their future companions. Their expressions emanated a strong wave of hostility when they made eye contact with these domestic cats.

However, Zhao Yao paid no attention to their behaviors. He just continued explaining the structure behind the Village of Dreams, the outskirt, core area and the heart of it.

Lucifer ran his fingers through the vast grass patch and a thought sprang in his head, “Are all of these really fake?”

Gaia grew more impatient by the second and started stamping his foot against the grass. He stared at Matcha and exclaimed, “Alright, I think we’ve spent enough time here. Can we go back now?”

Zhao Yao could not help but roll his eyes when he realized just how addicted these supercats were to computer games. However, he could empathize with what they were experiencing since he was once in their shoes.

Memories of his young self constantly pestering his parents for the game crossed his mind.

However, he still shook his head and mumbled, “Just a simple game like Diablo 2 can get you so addicted already? What will happen if I give them World of Warcraft, Dota, Pokémon, and the Witcher in the future?”

Even though Diablo 2 would always be remembered as a classic, many games had already surpassed it in terms of graphics, gameplay and even artistry style.

He propped his head on his chin and thought, “Furthermore, I have even prepared that game ...”

Zhao Yao (disguised as Matcha) tilted his head towards Gaia and explained, “No, you will die if you continue spending 24 hours staring at that screen. I’ll only allow you to return after three hours of rest.

Zhao Yao’s words felt like a knife to Gaia’s chest as he collapsed to the grass and laid there motionlessly.

With the smile on his face, Zhao Yao turned to face the remaining cats and continued, “Alright, I think I have informed you about the most important things in this world. The rest is up to you to explore and find out.”

With a snap of his fingers, Zhao Yao had disappeared from their sights.

Actually, Zhao Yao had simply turned himself invisible and was about to bring Matcha away. However, something tugged at his heartstrings as he turned around and spoke to Dust Ball telepathically, “Dust Ball, if anything happens, just return to your belly and inform me. I’ll be entering your belly from time to time. Do you need me to bring along a phone or a laptop to relieve you of boredom?”

Dust Ball simply shook her head in response. She had lived all her life as a stray cat and was indifferent to the dramas and games that had captivated Matcha and Elizabeth. To her, these were just too childish.

On the other hand, the forest and nature in front of her brought her back to the good old days where she could just roam around freely.

With a few leaps, Dust Ball had masterfully reached a tree branch perched on the top of a tree. A gentle female voice rang in Zhao Yao's head, "This is so much more interesting than your house. Oh yes, can you bring Mango here as well?" Her favorite companion at home was Mango and this vast grass patch was the best place for them to chase one another around. Without a companion, it would certainly get rather boring ...

Zhao Yao gave a bitter laugh and replied, "Not now." Zhao Yao did not want Mango littering the place with all his shit.

Zhao Yao noticed Dust Ball lowering her head in sadness as she began wandering around the place aimlessly. He immediately shouted, "How about another cat?"

"Another cat?" In her head, the images of all the cats in Zhao Yao's apartment began racing through her head as she tried to select her ideal hunting partner. Suddenly, her eyes glittered with excitement as she exclaimed, "Can you send Roly Poly over instead? Also, remember to bring along some catmint!"

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One hour later, Roly Poly had been robbed of his 5 senses as Zhao Yao cradled him in his arms and made his way into Dust Ball's belly.

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"Roly Poly, you will stay here and accompany Dust Ball." Zhao Yao instructed him as he carefully placed him on the ground.

Roly Poly still had no idea what was going on. He looked at his surroundings in confusion and asked, "What are we playing?"

“Hunting game!” Dust Ball exclaimed as she began jumping up and down. She continued, “Look at this place! It’s perfect for a hunting game!”

“Hunting game?” Roly Poly had an inkling as to what was going on and clarified, “Is it the game that you play with Mango back at home?”

“Yes!”

“Oh,” Roly Poly just shrugged his shoulders and seemed rather indifferent with what Dust Ball said. Instead, he whipped out the phone from his bag and asked, “I think I’ll spend some time playing my phone games first. What’s the wifi at this place?”

Dust Ball tilted his head 90 degrees and replied, “There is no wifi here.”

“Huh?” Terror overtook his face as Roly Poly began trembling in fear. He tried to compose himself as he mumbled, “It’s alright. I still have some data left. Why is there no signal in this place?”

Dust Ball’s forehead puckered together and replied, “This is a dugout, I think the signal reception here is quite bad.”

A look of desperation crept up Roly Poly’s face as he stared blankly at Dust Ball, “No wifi, no data connection? Dust Ball sister, why did you even ask me to come here?”

“Obviously to play a hunting game!” Dust Ball began encircling Roly Poly at top speed. She exclaimed, “You will be the catcher for the first round!”

Dust Ball instantly disappeared into the forests, leaving behind a trail of smoke. Roly Poly stretched open his mouth as he collapsed to the floor, “Who is even interested in such a stupid game?” He began roaring at the top of his voice, “Zhao Yao! Zhao Yao! Get me out of here!”

Dust Ball craned her neck out of the bushes and revealed her tiny head. She explained, “Zhao Yao had already left this place 10 minutes ago. However, there is still one way to get out if you’re really so bent on leaving.”

Dust Ball mustered her most serious expression and said, "I'll let you go back if you manage to catch me. You can do so by using my belly as a bridge. You'll be back in a matter of seconds." Immediately, her head disappeared from the bushes and was nowhere to be seen.

Roly Poly let out his most menacing roar as he rolled around the grass patch in anger. He shouted, "Every single one of you never respected me, Roly Poly! All you know is to bully me! Are there still rules in this place? Do you really take me as a retard that you can just push around and toy with?" Following the roar, Roly Poly leaped into the bushes and disappeared from sight.

After running less than 30 meters, Roly Poly was already out of breath as he fell to the ground. He muttered, "No, no, I cannot take it. This lady is too strong, too healthy. My strength lies in my burst speed, not my stamina. I need to take a break now."

Just when he was lying on the ground and trying his best to catch his breath, he noticed a slight movement within the bushes. A glint of excitement flashed across his eyes as he pounced in that direction, "I've got you!"

Just when he was getting all excited from catching Dust Ball, he lowered his head and realized that it wasn't Dust Ball in his paw. It was another tri-colored female cat that was about the same size as him. She was none other than Lion Head.

Since their arrival more than an hour ago, the five supercats had scattered and started exploring the place on their own.

Lion Head had come all the way to the border of the Village of Dreams. She wanted to find out just how big this place was.

She never expected a male cat to pounce on her.

She opened her eyes and saw Roly Poly lying on top of her. Lion Head's brain exploded with fury as she roared, "F*cking cat! You're so fat and ugly! I'll never let you lay your stupid paw on my body!" Lion Head then threw Roly Poly onto the ground with a shake of her body.

Roly Poly was extremely embarrassed and apologetic for his action. He lowered his head and whispered, "You're mistaken, I wasn't trying to pounce on you. I've mistaken you for someone else."

“Mistake me for someone else? You don’t even dare to own up to your actions?” Lion Head raised her fat and thick paws in the air and sent a barrage of slaps across Roly Poly’s face. She exclaimed, “Never let me see you again!”

Roly Poly cupped his face with his paw as anger seared through his body. He thought, “You stupid fat bitch, how dare you lay a finger on me?” However, upon realizing Lion Head’s size, Roly Poly could only whisper, “You are really mistaken.”

“Hmph, mistaken my ass. Do you think I have no idea what you horny male cats are thinking about? You are just after my beauty.” Lion Head turned around before sauntering away.

Seeing Lion Head’s body disappearing into the horizons, Roly Poly held down his left paw using his right paw. “Clam down, Roly Poly. Do not kill another cat. Have you forgotten how strong you are? If you let your anger get the better of you, it will just end up in a bloodbath, a catastrophe that the world has never witnessed.

So you have to control and control. Do not let this spotted female cat infuriate you. You have a more important mission to attend to!”

Seeing that Lion Head had completely disappeared from his sight, Roly Poly finally roared in her direction, “Hmph, I’m letting you go this time around!” He then turned towards another direction and began his search for Dust Ball.

Chapter 228: Prince Charming

With his meaty paws pressing against the grass patch, Roly Poly began his search for Dust Ball. He took his time exploring the place and was taken aback by its massiveness. Mountains extended into more mountains before as they extended infinitely into the horizon. Roly Poly sighed and mumbled, “Just how big is this god da*n place?”

Roly Poly whipped out his phone in desperation but there was still no signal. His feet gave way as his body collapsed against the soft grass. He stared at the clear blue sky but a look of despair was plastered on his face. He thought, “I can’t continue. Let’s not talk about finding Dust Ball, I might even die here.”

At this moment, a gentle and faint meow rang in his ears, jolting him from his rest.

“This is the meow of a female cat. From the sound of it, it is ...” Excitement poured out from his eyes as he continued, “It is a beautiful female cat!” Roly Poly jumped to his feet before stashing his phone back into the bag. He then set off in the direction of the meow.

Soon, he found himself at the foot of a gorgeous garden. Standing inside it were two beautiful ragdolls chasing after a butterfly. The two cats inside the garden were none other than Catherine and Diana.

Roly Poly’s heartbeat grew faster and faster and was swept off his feet by this beautiful scene. Excitement fluttered inside him as he mumbled, “She’s Princess Qian ... No, I remember Elizabeth mentioning their real names. Are they Catherine and Diana?”

Roly Poly began licking his fur from head to toe in his best effort to groom himself. Happiness flooded through him as all sorts of thoughts flooded his head. He thought, “I never expect to meet them here. D*mn it, I’m so nervous. What am I supposed to talk about when I meet them?”

Just when Roly Poly was busy licking the fur on his stomach, he was distracted by an ear-splitting shriek which came in the ragdolls’ direction.

Roly Poly instantly lifted his head and noticed two obnoxious cats surrounding the beautiful Ragdolls. The two cats began closing in on Catherine and Diana.

With a lustful smile plastered on his face, Airplane asked, “Hehehe, lady are you interested in playing with me?”

Airplane’s subordinate, Sausage, followed up by saying, “Can you hear us? My boss here is interested in playing with you. Let’s just cut to the chase and just lie down and point your ass towards us.”

“Hey!” Airplane gave a dismissive wave of his paw and exclaimed, “Sausage! How many times have I mentioned to you to watch your language when speaking to ladies?” Airplane did not wipe the lustful smile off of his face as he continued, “My two fair ladies, are you interested in mating with me?”

Catherine took a step forward and blocked her daughter, Diana, with her own body. Her chest tightened with fear as she exclaimed, “What do you want from us?”

Diana craned her neck forward and exclaimed, “My dad is just around the corner. He will not forgive you if you try to do anything funny to us!”

“Oh, are you talking about the other ragdoll?” Airplane started rotating his ears as he spoke.

Diana slid Airplane a curious look and asked, “You’ve seen my father?”

Catherine looked equally surprised to hear Airplane’s words and asked, “What have you done to my husband?”

Instantly, Airplane revealed a psychopathic smile which sent shivers down their spines. He sniggered, “Oh, I thought he was a female cat. Your species have such beautiful and puffy fur which makes it hard to distinguish males from females. Anyway, let’s not talk about him since he’s definitely not coming to your rescue.”

As he spoke, Airplane stretched open his mouth and stuck his tongue out. With his lecherous gaze fixed on both Diana and Catherine, he began sauntering towards them. He asked with a cheeky smile, “Hey lady, let’s play a simple game.”

Anger seared through Catherine as she stared at this despicable cat trying to take advantage of her. She exclaimed, “You bloody scumbag!” Just when she was about to activate her power, she heard a menacing grunt and saw a fat cat with a white belly dashing out of the bushes.

Roly Poly swooped down into the scene like a hero about to save the damsel in distress. He roared, “Stop it! Who dares to bully Diana?” All the supercats were taken aback by his abrupt appearance.

However, he began to slow down after running less than 20 meters. His breathing grew rapid and his sprint slowed down to a brisk walk. He continued walking in the direction as he struggled to complete his sentence, “As ... as long as I am here ... none none of you ... can dream dream of bullying ... bullying Diana.”

Airplane threw a condescending glare at Roly Poly before fixing his eyes back on Catherine. However, Catherine had already activated her power.

Instantly, a rumbling sound erupted in the air as Roly Poly, Airplane and Sausage simultaneously collapsed to the floor, deep in sleep.

Diana who had kept her eyes shut finally opened her eyes and stared curiously at Roly Poly which was lying in the far corner. She asked, “Mum, who is this cat? I think he was trying to help us just now.”

“Who knows? But from the looks of it, he’s a rather weak cat.”

At this moment, Lion Head appeared from one of the bushes and rushed towards the two victims. She noticed the three male cats lying unconsciously on the ground and exclaimed, “Catherine, Diana, are you okay? Did Airplane try to hurt you?”

Catherina shook her head and replied, “They did try to bully us but I managed to subdue them.”

“Meowhaha, good job!” Joy welled up in her heart as Lion Head heard those words. However, there was an unfamiliar body lying on the floor. Upon closer inspection, Lion Head realized who he was and mumbled, “Huh? It’s this guy?”

“What happened? Lion sister, do you know him?”

“Hmph,” Lion Head lowered her head in embarrassment as she struggled to get the words out of her mouth, “This fat cat tried to take advantage of me. He emerged from the shadows and pounced on my body. He did not want to let go regardless of how much I struggled.”

The two ragdolls’ impression of Roly Poly changed instantly. They threw a condescending look at Roly Poly as they listened to the vivid story painted by Lion Head.

Finally, the three cats took their leave from that horrid place. Suddenly, Diana’s voice rang in Catherine’s head as she asked, “Mother, why are we walking beside Lion Head?”

The corner of her lips curled up as Catherine replied telepathically, “Don’t you feel so much skinnier and more elegant by just walking next to her?”

“Really?” Diana was elated by her mother’s response and quickened her pace to catch up with Lion Head. With happiness spelled all over her face, Diana asked, “Mum, do I look skinnier?”

“Meowhaha, Diana, you look so cute!” Catherine followed suit by literally plastering her body onto Lion Head and asked, “My precious daughter, does my neck look thinner than before?”

“Oh mum, you look as if you’re just as young as me.”

...

At the same time, a pair of teenager and middle-aged man sauntered towards the entrance of Jiangmen University.

The teenager took a glance at the campus’s building before heaving a long sigh, “I haven’t been back here for a long time.”

The middle-aged man who had tattoos all over his arms sniggered, “So this is your alma mater?”

“Hmph, I remember this school but I’m sure they have already forgotten about me.” The teenager shook his head before continuing, “Let’s go and locate the cat king for this school.”

The middle-aged man replied, “I heard from Ah Huang that there are two cat kings on this campus. However, both cats have gone missing recently.”

“Oh? Don’t tell me it’s related to the sudden disappearance of that old cat from Xiang Yang district?” A frown crept up the teenager’s face as he continued, “Even though this has reduced our competitors for the competition, we have similarly lost the power of two supercats.”

The tattooed middle-aged man bellowed in laughter and said, “It doesn’t matter. Most of these supercats are so stupid and their powers do not have much potential for growth.”

“That is true,” The teenager nodded his head in agreement, “The government is definitely behind this cat king competition. I’m afraid they’re using this as an opportunity to unite all supercats and allow them to understand the existing superpowers. However, this has also provided an opportunity for us.”

As he spoke, the teenager noticed a stray cat leaping over the school fence. His eyes squinted into a line as he exclaimed, "Catch up. Let's find out if the two cat kings are still alive!"

Chapter 229: Blood Brothers

The pair of teenager and middle-aged man quickly followed behind the stray cat which disappeared into the forest. Upon reaching a secluded fence by the corner of the road, the pair simply scrunched their back and produced an enormous explosive force which propelled them over it. Their movements were as quick and agile as a monkey as they continued stalking the cat.

The pair had far surpassed any ordinary human beings in terms of their speed, mobility, and agility. Even the stray cat failed to detect their presence.

Finally, they noticed the stray cat stopping by the eaves of a building as it laid there to rest. A frown appeared on their faces as they groaned, "D*mn it, it seems like that cat is not leading us to the cat king."

However, the tattooed man remained unfazed and responded, "Be patient. These ordinary cats have no method of communication within themselves. But it would eventually lead us to the cat king if it still exists."

A smile crept up the teenager's face as he sniggered, "I guess it's the cat king's unlucky day. Today, he will finally meet the true monster."

For the next hour, the pair wandered around like spirits as they continued stalking the cat, which was oblivious to their existence, in search of the cat king.

...

Within the Village of Dreams, Roly Poly was wandering around the forest with his head buried in his chest. The perfect illusion had created the ideal natural environment for the supercats to enjoy. The effects were not limited to what he saw but extended to what he heard, smelt, touched and even tasted.

This meant that he could make out the earthy smell stemming from the scent of the ponderosa pine forest. His paws could detect the texture of the grass and even the branches and twigs scattered across the ground. He could even discern the uniquely bitter taste tingling on his tongue as he stuffed a handful of grass into his mouth.

However, Roly Poly was not accustomed to life spent in the outdoors. He had spent his entire life as a domestic cat. The difference between a stray and domestic cat's lives was worlds apart. After spending so much time within the comforts of the four walls, these domestic cats no longer yearned nor appreciated the freedom of the outdoors.

It was not just the environment affecting Roly Poly; the previous incident continued lingering at the back of his head.

"D*mn it. Of all people, why did I have to faint in front of Diana? How did this happen? In her eyes, I am definitely the most stupid and retarded male cat."

Sham spiraled through Roly Poly and he could not even walk with his head up high. He just wanted to curl up in shame. Suddenly, he noticed a unique scent permeating the air. Immediately, he raised his head and noticed a furry object lying in the corner of his eyes. That body shook from time to time and it seemed like it was crying.

That long and puffy white fur adorned with dark-colored patterns and the tail that was as thick as a faux fur shawl ...

"Diana!" Excitement overwhelmed Roly Poly as he started sprinting in that direction. He exclaimed, "Diana, I accidentally tripped just now. I didn't faint. I wasn't scared of them!"

Diana's ears quivered when she heard Roly Poly's exclamations. Suddenly, she turned her head around and what Roly Poly saw made the pit of his stomach fall.

Roly Poly started rubbing his eyes vigorously in an attempt to see clearly. He mumbled, "You ... you are not Diana?"

What Roly Poly saw was actually Caesar. With his forehead puckered together, Caesar heaved a long sigh of despair, "Are you looking for my daughter? She is not here. She had left for a walk with her mother."

“You are Diana’s dad, Caesar?” In Roly Poly’s eyes, everyone belonging to Elizabeth’s family was a precious treasure.

“Technically, I am. However, I’m just a father that had failed miserably. My wife disdains me while my daughter treats me like shit. Even the hooligan along the streets tried to bully me.” Sadness clouded his features as he continued, “What’s the point in me living?”

Roly Poly could empathize with his emotions as he nodded his head in agreement, “Indeed, there are too many evil cats in this world. All of them are bullies or assholes. They only know how to build their happiness upon someone else’s suffering.”

Suddenly, Caesar’s eyes sparkled with happiness as he finally found someone who understood him, “Your words really struck a chord with me. These assholes only know how to bully the defenseless cats with their stupid abilities. A truly strong individual would never use its power for such immoral acts.”

Roly Poly continued, “However, female cats are attracted to such nasty behavior. All they see in their eyes are their flashy moves and cool behavior. How can they be so superficial?”

“Yes, yes!” Caesar nodded his head violently and replied, “Female cats are growing increasingly superficial! One day, when I finally unleash my true power, no male cat would be able to hold a candle to me.”

Roly Poly and Caesar regarded each other as their long-lost brother and hit it off instantly. Caesar slapped Roly Poly on his back and announced, “Good brother, you are the second most loyal brother I’ve ever met in my life. We might not have the fortune to be blood brother but from today onwards, we will be sworn brothers. Till death do us apart!”

“Caesar brother!” Happiness bloomed inside Roly Poly as his face radiated with a bright smile. He thought, “Yes! I have one more opportunity to get closer to Diana!” He did not care about the possible implications for dating your brother’s daughter.

Roly Poly could not help but ask, “Caesar brother, what do you plan to do for the rest of the day?” Roly Poly prayed that he could tag along and meet his family. He had long forgotten about Dust Ball and his previous attempts to return to the apartment.

“I intend to look for my other loyal brother, Ares. This cat, Ares, has a righteous spirit which is seldom seen in today’s world. There are too many cats within the Village of Dreams. We must form

a strong and united front, consisting of virtuous people like you and me. Why not you join me in meeting him?"

"Of course, Caesar's brother will naturally be my brother as well."

"My loyal brother!" Caesar beamed with excitement as he patted Roly Poly on his back. Next, the pair of sworn brothers made their way towards Ares as they disappeared into the horizons.

"Roly Poly, this stupid fellow!" Dust Ball craned her neck out of the bushes and gave a menacing snarl. She thought, "This guy's movement is too slow and he is too undependable. I think I should be the catcher instead. It would take eons before he manages to catch me. Or maybe ... I can find another cat to play with."

Dust Ball immediately translated her thoughts into actions. Her wild nature unleashed as Dust Ball leaped onto a tree branch before disappearing into the shadows.

The perfect illusion had flawlessly altered the cats' five senses. In reality, Dust Ball might have been running on the spot. However, she could clearly feel the adrenaline rushing through her as she charged against the wind blowing across her face. She felt the grass brushing across her paws and the fragrance of the newly-bloomed flowers flooding her nose. Everything was real to her. There was nothing fake about it.

Joy warmed her from within as she finally experienced the freedom which she had long yearned for.

Dust Ball was extremely different as compared to Roly Poly, who had been raised as a domestic cat since young. The most salient difference between them was that stray cats had already grown accustomed to the freedom which they enjoyed in the wilderness.

Domestic cats loved to spend time at home and hate to leave it. Stray cats which were used to the outdoors hated being cooped at home and would grab on to any opportunity which allowed them to leave.

Dust Ball only chose to remain inside the apartment because of the influence of Celestial Beats. However, after months of rehabilitation, her body had almost fully recovered from ramifications of dwarfism. She had regained the spring in her steps and felt an unprecedented euphoria at this moment.

With a few strides, she had almost reached the borders. She was like an elegant Cheetah as she hid under the undergrowth and slowly crept towards her target.

As compared to domestic cats such as Roly Poly, Elizabeth, and Matcha, Dust Ball possessed superb hunting skills which were unparalleled among them.

She could feel her blood pulsating through the body, and the adrenaline rushing through her as she began to hide, sprint and hunt.

She could not help but licked her razor-sharp claws and mumbled, "This is the true game."

Dust Ball loved real life hunting games compared to the computer games which Matcha reveled in. Actually, most cats preferred hunting games. On the surface, it might seem like a simple game of chase. However, it involved complex elements of reconnaissance, spying, and hunting. This was why Dust Ball had fallen in love with it.

She had no choice but to resort to playing with Mango back at the apartment.

Dust Ball's yellow eyes peered through the cracks between the leaves as she observed the situation ahead of her. Ares and five other cats were at the borders and were in the midst of an intense discussion.

Ares glanced at the signboard in front of him and mumbled, "Danger, do not exceed." He tilted his head from left to right as a glimmer of brilliance flashed across his eyes. He commented, "I believe this is the border of the Village of Dreams."

Beside the words was an awful drawing of a skull.

Lucifer nodded his head in agreement and commented, "I'm not sure what kind of magic or power lies ahead of us which will stop us from leaving this place."

Fūjin scrutinize their surroundings and saw the infinite mountains stretching into the horizon and commented, "Aren't there just gonna be more mountains as we proceed forward?"

"King George has mentioned before that everything here is not real. They just seem real." The American Shorthair commented.

Gaia just stared at his paws and was totally indifferent to their discussion. He commented, “How long are we going to discuss for? Let’s go back and play Diablo 2!”

“Aren’t you curious what lies ahead of this?” Ares threw a disdainful glare at Gaia. Then, he fixed his eyes on the horizon as all sorts of thoughts rushed through his head. He commented, “How dangerous is it going to be? What will happen if we really leave? A cat without curiosity is as good as a cat without a soul.”

Lucifer nodded his head and was similarly brimming with curiosity, “We need a brave cat to volunteer. This cat would cross the border and find out what lies ahead.”

Fūjin added on, “This cat must be both brave and quick-witted. The cat of all cats.”

Rakshasa turned his head towards Gaia and continued, “Also, this cat must be someone who we can depend on, preferably our brother in arms.”

A few seconds later, the silence was punctured by a deafening scream as Gaia was thrown across the signboard and landed on the grass patch beyond the borders.

Chapter 230: Hide and Seek

With their eyes staring intently at Gaia, they saw him fall to the ground and lay motionlessly on the ground.

Fūjin buried his head in his paws as fear snaked through him. He exclaimed, “D*mn it, don’t tell me Gaia is dead! That’s impossible!”

“How is that even possible?” Lucifer grew flustered as he noticed Fūjin’s reaction and commented, “It’s impossible. King George would never set up a barrier that would instantly kill any cats that cross it.”

Initially, none of them expected anything too catastrophic from happening. That was why they agreed on throwing Gaia into no man’s land.

Meanwhile, Ares retained his composure even though his companions were shaking like a leaf. He shook his ears as he carefully analyzed the situation. Finally, he remarked, "There are still breathing sounds coming from Gaia. From the looks of it, he's also not injured."

With a wave of his small paw, his invisible deflective field had morphed into a giant hand and swooped towards Gaia. Ares scooped the unconscious Gaia off the floor and back to their original location.

The supercats huddled over Gaia's unconscious body as they hurriedly checked for all his vitals. After a series of inspection, they realized that the cat which lay in front of them was ... simply sleeping.

Moments later, Gaia finally woke up from his sleep and Ares rushed over to question him, "What happened? Was there any special sensation when you cross the border?"

Gaia was still in a daze and struggled to reply, "I ... I don't know. Suddenly, my ... my vision just turned dark."

Ares seemed deep in thought and nodded his head to Gaia's words. Then, he raised his paw in the air and Gaia was once again elevated into the air by the invisible field.

Gaia finally reacted to the situation and exclaimed, "What are you trying to do?"

"I'm trying it again."

"Wait, wait, wait, wait!" Gaia struggled with all his might as he exclaimed at the top of his voice, "Shouldn't Lucifer be the one doing things like this?"

"Hmph," Ares turned his head towards Lucifer and shot him a curious glance.

A brilliant idea sprang into his head as he explained, "Lucifer has the power of extraordinary regeneration. Shouldn't we use this ability to test out uncharted waters?"

“That is true.” Ares propped his chin on his paw and stared in Lucifer’s direction. All the other supercats did the exact same thing.

Moments later, the four remaining supercat grabbed Lucifer by his limbs and raised him in the air.

Lucifer struggled and exclaimed, “Let me down now! If not, I’ll pee all over your faces!”

Bam!

Ares stroked his chin thoughtfully as he carefully observed Lucifer’s body lying motionlessly on the ground. He whispered, “It seems like Lucifer is also unconscious.”

This process repeated many times. It would start with Lucifer’s incessant screaming but the screaming would stop the moment his body crossed the boundary as he entered the illusion which stripped him of his five senses. They tried throwing him at various trajectories, but the result remained the same.

Suddenly, Dust Ball’s voice rang from behind as they were in the midst of experimenting a new method.

“The five of you can stop trying already. It’s impossible to leave this place.”

Lucifer who had only just regained consciousness also turned his head towards Dust Ball. The five cats turned their heads in unison and noticed a tiny head peeking out from the gaps between the leaves. Dust Ball stared intently at them.

“You are the dark knight! You are King George’s brother?” Ares recognized her the moment he noticed this black cat. He whispered, “Why does this cat sound so girly and feminine?”

Dust Ball simmered with rage when he heard those ill-mannered comments and thought, “Because I’m a god da*mn female cat.” However, she was too lazy to explain everything to them and decided to cut to the chase, “You cannot leave this place. However, if you manage to catch me, I’ll let you return to the Heart of the Village of Dreams and play your computer game.”

Gaia fell to the ground and complained, “Didn’t King George say that we can return by simply informing you?”

“That’s Zhao ...” Dust Ball instantly corrected her choice of words before continuing, “That’s what the silly King George said. His words have no power to me. There is only one way for you to return – catch me.”

Ares sniggered, “Who do you think you are? I am ...”

“The Fist of the North Star!”

Bam! Invisible ripples erupted from his body and swept across the entire grass plains. Ares thrust his paw into the air which morphed into a giant hand racing towards Dust Ball.

Dust Ball guffawed at this sight before she disappeared into the bushes.

“Catch it!” Ares roared, “Since we can’t get out, we must capture the gate into the Heart of the Village of Dreams.”

The five cats instantly gave chase like a pack of hunting dogs. However, Dust Ball was already long gone.

“Separate and find it. It should not have gone too far.”

A few minutes later, a swirl of gas appeared at Dust Ball’s original position. She pranced out of her extradimensional belly with a cheeky smile on her face. She whispered, “Heehee, none of you would be able to catch me.”

....

After sending Roly Poly into his belly, Zhao Yao had returned to his cat café.

It was already the second day since the café reopened for business. Zhao Yao had not even taken a single step into the café but had already noticed the crowd. The café flooded with customers. The first floor alone had close to 50 customers.

It seemed like the customers could not wait to return after seven days of hiatus.

Zhao Yao had just reached the corridor leading to his café when he noticed two girls rushing towards his café with his superb visual skills.

One of the girls wore an oversized jean, coupled with a baggy t-shirt. She sported a black-rimmed spectacle but her hair was a mess. From the looks of it, she had not showered for the past few days.

The other girl wore a black and white uniform. She was extremely petite and looked just like a middle-school student.

“Hmph, is this ... Yan Xiao Qing and An Xin?” Zhao Yao squinted his eyes into a line and instantly recognized the both of them. Maybe it’s because they were regulars of the café.

He remembered that Yan Xiao Qing was an average student that never excelled in her studies. On the other hand, An Xin was an all As student who spent all her time in the café with her face buried in her books.

Yan Xiao Qing and An Xin were currently making their way towards the café.

Yan Xiao Qing’s mood plummeted the moment she started recollecting her experience the past week.

Originally, her body had benefited immensely from the powers of Celestial Beats. She even improved in the game, PlayerUnknown’s Battlegrounds.

However, her health plummeted and reverted to the original state after the past week of hiatus. This was what happened when Celestial Beats was taken away from their lives.

Not only did her dark circles returned to haunt her, pimples started popping up all over her face from the midnight oil that she burnt. Her face had instantly deteriorated to an unimaginable state. Yan Xiao Qing could not tolerate it any longer.

“D*mn it, I think I have aged by at least five years over the past week.”

Every day, she would come over to the café, brimming with anticipation. However, the workers inside had no idea when the café would resume business and she would leave with disappointment. Her resentment towards the cafe grew with every passing day.

She had just learned that the café had finally reopened for business and instantly dragged her friend, An Xin, back there.

Yan Xiao Qing's eyes beamed with excitement when she noticed the crowd inside. She exclaimed, "It's finally open." She held An Xin's hands and literally dragged her into the café.

A smile crept up Zhao Yao's face as he approached the both of them with a friendly wave, "Hey, it's been so long ..."

However, the two girls seemed oblivious to him and just entered the café, ignoring his wave.

Zhao Yao curled his lips in disgust and mumbled, "Kids these days are really so ill-mannered."

Once they entered the café, their bodies were once again bathed in the soothing effects of Celestial Beats. Her expression was a combination of happiness, relief, and excitement. Xiao Qing pressed her palms against her cheeks and exclaimed, "My pretty face is finally returning!"

An Xin, who stood beside Xiao Qing, started to relax as her body was relieved of all the pressures and tensions. She heaved a sigh of relief and commented, "Finally, no more menstrual cramps. I'm just gonna camp at this place during that time of the month. No one is ever going to kick me out of here."

Zhao Yao followed behind them and rolled his eyes when he heard their comments, "Do you really take this place as a gynecological clinic.

Suddenly, a sweet voice erupted in the café as Xiao Qing exclaimed, "Boss!" It seemed like she had only just noticed Zhao Yao's existence.

An Xin's face flushed with embarrassment as she retorted, "Why did you eavesdrop on our conversation?"

“You were the one who announced it to everyone.” Zhao Yao carefully put on his shoe covers and continued, “Do not feel embarrassed. This is just a natural biological process and menstrual pains are just a part of it. We are all mature adults and there’s nothing for you to worry about.”

An Xin pouted her lips and began screaming in her head, “Mature my ass! You are just a cat café owner. You do not have to worry about my menstrual pains!”

Zhao Yao continued putting on the other shoe cover and commented, “Young girls like you have no idea how to take care of your body. During that time of the month, you still continue eating ice-cream and drinking milk tea. In the middle of the bloody winter, you are still wearing that stupid mini-skirt. Obviously, you’ll suffer from menstrual cramps. Spend more time in my café and rehabilitate. Just order some warm water when the pain kicks in.”

An Xin curled her lips and responded, “Boss, I’m sure you don’t have a girlfriend.”

“That’s bullshit. I’m just not interested in looking for one. For a man of my caliber, I cannot just randomly pick any girl from the streets.”

An Xin cursed him in her head, “You are doomed to spend the rest of your life alone.”

Meanwhile, Xiao Qing whipped her phone out of her pocket and exclaimed, “Boss, add me on WeChat.”

Zhao Yao threw her a disdainful glare and replied, “What are you doing? Don’t just fall for me because of my good looks. How can you be so superficial?”

Yan Xiao Qing retorted, “I’m afraid you might suddenly close the café and run off for a holiday. At least, I’ll be able to contact you and find out the day that you return.”

“Oh, that’s why. You gave me a scare.” Zhao Yap whipped out his phone and tapped on WeChat, “Just scan my code.”

Xiao Qing successfully added him on WeChat and noticed his id ‘Too handsome for a name’ and could not help but rolled her eyes in disbelief. She thought, “How narcissistic is he?” She secretly tapped on his contact and changed his name on her phone to ‘Elizabeth’s personal janitor’.

After bantering with his regulars, Zhao Yao returned to the café to face Shi Yu's barrage of scolding, "Zhao Yao, you have finally returned? Have you enjoyed yourself from your adventures outside?"

Zhao Yao broke into laughter and replied, "Shi Yu, do you know what the most important thing of the 21st century is?"

Shi Yu was stunned by his question and replied, "Talent?"

"Nope," Zhao Yao acted as if he was drowning in disappointment before continuing, "As an insider, I expected more from you. Obviously, it's cats. I have spent this time in search of more cats for our café."

Shi Yu stared at Zhao Yao blankly and asked, "So where are they?"

Zhao Yao heaved a long sigh and answered, "All the cats are addicted to computer games. It's so hard to find a hardworking and competent worker."

Shi Yu continued, "How about a human helper? When you weren't around, we couldn't manage with so many things happening inside the café. At least, hire another person to help out."

"No, I have to keep the costs low. I will be in charge of the waste disposal." The net profit directly affected his experience points earned. Hence, Zhao Yao would stop at nothing to maximize his earnings.