

Am I A God 491

Chapter 491: Architecture

A warm fuzzy feeling spread through Dust Ball as she lay comfortably atop a branch while her eyes gradually drawn shut. Moments later, her ears gave a slight shudder as she heard some noise from a distant.

“Hmph, no one shall take a pinch of catmint away from me!”

Immediately, Dust Ball’s tiny frame vanished into a vortex as she swallowed herself into her extradimensional belly.

Meanwhile, Cat Sage had already gathered his men and led them to their respective positions, assuming their security outposts.

As for Ares and Sphynx Cat, their first job was naturally to recruit their buddies.

Ares’s eyes swept across the remaining supercats before he ordered with a curl of his lips, “The five scumbags over here. We are moving out now. Let’s go.”

Ares and company had long regarded the extradimensional belly as their home. Hence, it was only natural for them to develop a certain animosity towards this foreign land.

Meanwhile, Elizabeth stood rooted to the ground. She noticed all those glances thrown at her by the surrounding supercats. Immediately, her lips curled into a wide smile, “A cat of my beauty can attract the attention of every single cat without me even trying. I guess the cat café shall continue to survive even if I’m the only one there.”

Suddenly, she stretched her mouth open and poked her tiny pink tongue out. She just wanted to lick the fur on her legs.

“This disgusting island. They don’t even have a proper pavement for me. This place is filled with sand and dirt! Look at this, my feet are all dirty because of it.”

Before Elizabeth even craned her neck forward, the surrounding male cats had already gathered around her.

“Let me help you!”

“Do you need me to lick your fur?”

“Move aside! I am the most talented cat in terms of fur licking! Let me through!”

“Is this place too dirty for your pristine feet? Come, step on my back instead!”

Elizabeth froze for a split second as she observed the troves of lustful cats. Finally, she swept her head sideways and retorted, “Stop bugging me.” With that, she continued to groom herself.

“So beautiful!” Groans and moans erupted amongst the male cats as they scrambled off in all directions. Some of them were hiding behind the tall grass, branches or even the heaps of soil as they secretly observed Elizabeth from the shadows.

Obviously, Elizabeth noticed their creepy behavior and responded with a scowl, “What a bunch of childish cats.” At this moment, two other beautiful ragdolls approached Elizabeth.

Catherine asked, “Elizabeth, I heard you had made quite some money over at the cat café?”

Diana chimed in, “Even though it’s a labor-intensive job but the money is definitely lucrative.”

Elizabeth slid her family a condescending glare and noticed the excitement glimmering in their eyes, “You guys do know that I’m exchanging my youth and energy for money. Hence, I suggest that you give up on the idea. You guys are not cut out for it.”

Diana intercepted Elizabeth’s words, “I’m not afraid of a little hardship! I want to earn money! I wanna recharge my credits in Love and Producer!”

Immediately, her absurd words were met with Elizabeth’s slap across her face, “Who told you to ever spend a dime on a game?”

With her brows tightly knitted together, Elizabeth reprimanded, “The cat café is a cruel world. You guys cannot even begin to imagine its brutality. Every day, tens of cats will go around acting all flirtatious with the customers, competing with one another.

On the surface, it might seem as if we are part of a big family. However, they will secretly splatter shit on your beautiful fur, shave your luscious fur, all in the name of stealing your customer.

Step by step, I finally ascended to the pinnacle of the cat café. However, it was not easy at all. What kind of treacherous methods have I not met already? You can never imagine the true magnitude of the viciousness capable by a cat until you set foot here.”

A tinge of hesitation flashed across Catherine’s eyes. However, Diana jumped to her feet and responded, “I’m not afraid! With my sister by my side, I am confident of reigning supreme in the café!”

Elizabeth was pleasantly surprised to see her determination. She nodded her head and pondered, “Indeed, it has been a long time since we’ve last welcomed a new cat to the café. It’s always nice to have some new blood.”

With that thought still lingering in her head, another idea suddenly sprang along, “Recently, Zhao Yao has not hugged and played with me as often. However, with my mum and sister around, I might be able to command a more favorable position in his heart.”

All those horny cats staring secretly at the family of ragdolls began to exclaim with excitement.

“This is stunning!”

“These three beautiful cats ...”

“They are adorable!”

Elizabeth’s eyes swept across the peeping toms as she ordered, “Alright if you’re interested in joining me, come out now.”

Bam! One by one, all the lustful cats sprang from their hiding spots and surrounded the beautiful family in an instant.

Currently, the initial framework for the six departments had been finalized with Matcha, Elizabeth and Roly Poly's cats commanding the greatest number.

The cat warriors and the security forces were made up of a select few outstanding fighters. Meanwhile, the plantation department only comprised Dust Ball.

Meanwhile, Zhao Yao had led his logistics team to reorganize the island. This was done in conjunction with the bulk purchase of cat food, cat litter, cat toilet and even the internet wire, electrical wires, and generators. This was to ensure the island's seamless internal connects with the extradimensional gates acting as gateways.

However, Zhao Yao was barely 10% done after spending the entire day toiling under the hot sun. However, he did manage to tidy his apartment and temporarily relocate the furniture to the island.

Because of Cheese's absolute destruction of the apartment, it was in dire need of a complete makeover and renovation. The island was simply a temporary storage unit before the house was ready for them to return.

"Currently, I have one door on the island, one in the café and one resting at home. If it's not too urgent, I guess I shall just refrain from using it during my battles."

The sofa was purposely perched on the highest point of the island. It provided the perfect spot for Zhao Yao to lie down and simply immerse himself in the starry sky.

"This is just like how the television had advertised it to be! The stars in the wilderness are truly brighter than your normal ones."

He was totally captivated by the sheer beauty of nature. Then, his eyes darted towards his mission panel as he awaited the dawn of the new month.

"Even though I can't use the extradimensional gates as freely as I want, I've managed to gather quite a lot of experience points the past weeks. Also, the cats have been eating the legendary cat food, worth 100 experience points, on a daily basis. Coupled with tonight's monthly mission, I

should be able to simultaneously upgrade a few cats. I might even be able to maintain my exceptional fighting skills even without the gate.”

Finally, the clock struck 12 and it was time to calculate the profits for the month.

After deducing the miscellaneous fees, tidbits, toiletries, the net profit totaled to RMB 995,495. This was equivalent to 1900 experience points which could be redeemed with a click as the new month’s mission kick-started.

With a wide grin stretched across his face, Zhao Yao tapped on the ‘X2 Exp Card’ and instantaneously earned 1900*2 experience points.

Once again, the mission panel reflected the changes in the experience point’s column.

BOOK: lv6 (49102/20000)

Matcha: lv7 (4700/20000)

Elizabeth: lv6 (4200/10000)

Dust Ball: lv8 (6355/50000)

Ares: lv6 (5400/10000)

Lucifer: lv6 (2900/10000)

Sphynx Cat: lv6 (300/10000)

Zhao Yao pondered as he analyzed the available experience points, “I guess I shall just put the BOOK’s upgrade on hold temporarily, buying more time for Sphynx Cat to train. In that case, I’ll have 29102 experience points! Yes! So many experience points!”

This was the first time Zhao Yao had accumulated such a massive amount of experience points. Just the sight of it was enough to send a warm fuzzy feeling running through him.

A delighted smile tugged at his lips, “In that case, which cat should I upgrade first?”

There were six supercats registered on his BOOK currently. All of them were carefully handpicked by Zhao Yao, each a talent in their very own field. He could no go wrong with any of them.

Chapter 492: More Points!

With his mind processing the information at warp speed, Zhao Yao commented, “Firstly, I can eliminate Dust Ball and Lucifer. Dust Ball’s upgrade at level 8 simply requires too much experience and I can’t meet it. Conversely, Lucifer’s super-regeneration skill has proved to be extremely effective and there’s no need for further upgrades.”

“As for the remaining cats ... there are still lots of potential for Matcha in terms of his time-distortion, time-freeze skills. Meanwhile, Ares’s power is also in an urgent need for an upgrade. I believe the ability branches will grant him an increase in attack range which would come in handy.”

Zhao Yao had already made his decision as he pumped the remaining points on both Ares and Matcha.

Even after upgrading both Matcha and Ares, Zhao Yao still had more than 29,000 worth of experience points to spare. Hence, he decided to allocate the remaining ones on Elizabeth.

Instantaneously, Matcha, Elizabeth, and Ares were all upgraded.

Matcha: lv8 (0/50000)

Elizabeth: lv7 (0/20000)

Ares: lv7 (0/20000)

“Haha, Matcha is finally level 8! Let’s see what cool skills lie in wait for us.” Zhao Yao had always been rather optimistic with regards to Matcha’s potential. As usual, he waited with an air of

expectancy. After all, his power was rooted in the foundation of time. Ultimately, Matcha had never disappointed Zhao Yao with all the upgrades.

By tapping on Matcha's profile, two new ability branches appeared beneath his name.

The first was the upgrade to Time Distortion, reducing its cooldown time from 6 hours to 3 hours.

The second one was a peculiar power called the Longevity of Time. When time freeze was activated, the user's body would be in a state of 'solidification' such that his lifespan will not be depleted.

Zhao Yao let out a disappointing sigh as he glanced through the contents, "Indeed, during the period of time freeze, both Matcha and my lifespan is depleted for every second spent in it. Hence, we should always refrain from using it whenever possible. However, my current ability is only capped at 12 seconds. Hence, I don't have to worry about the problems of longevity as of now."

Hence, Zhao Yao resolutely tapped on the upgrade of Time Distortion, reducing the cooldown from six hours to three, rendering it far more effective.

With Matcha reaching level 8, his passive skill of Time Acceleration had received another boost. Now, his acceleration during time freeze had increased from a factor of seven to eight. This meant that he had a total of $12 * 8 = 96$ seconds to spare during a time freeze window.

This was a significant upgrade to Matcha's ability. Brimming with anticipation, Zhao Yao's eyes darted towards Ares's profile.

Over the past few months, Zhao Yao had witnessed all sorts of strange powers popping up all over the place. In return, it had somehow depleted Ares's original dominance in the field. Hence, Zhao Yao was excited to see what lay installed for this upgrade.

As usual, two ability branches appeared for Ares's level seven upgrade.

The power of rainbow: The color of the deflective field could turn into any color available on the color spectrum. Strength was temporary; attractiveness was permanent.

Field Strength: Double the current strength of the defective field

Zhao Yao thought, “The power of the stupid rainbow? What the hell? Which r*tard would actually pick that ability over Field Strength?” With his brows knitted together, Zhao Yao slammed his finger against the latter option.

With that, deflective field had doubled in strength. Its original capacity to withstand a weight of up to 100 tons had easily doubled to 200 tons.

Furthermore, his passive skill had also kicked in. The range of his usual deflective field had increased from $6 * 5$ to $7 * 5$, which equated to an effective distance of 35 meters. Zhao Yao dared not imagine its strength when ‘Power Up Card’ was activated.

Zhao Yao was pleased with Ares’s boost in strength and nodded his head with delight. Finally, his eyes rested on the final cat, Elizabeth.

The first ability branch available was the Sixth Sense. Currently, Elizabeth’s power had already encompassed all five ordinary senses. This power granted her the ability to control the sixth.

The other option was far simpler: increase the effective range of the illusion.

A hint of uncertainty flashed across his eyes as Zhao Yao’s eyes skimmed through the description of the sixth sense.

Both Matcha and Ares’s ability upgrades were far easier to comprehend. The former’s cooldown halved while the latter’s power doubled. Comparatively, Elizabeth’s ability was far hard to fathom, even after much thought.

In reality, the global scientific research focused on the sixth sense could only be described as elementary at best. The prospect of controlling it was beyond the minds of any humans, even amongst the brightest.

This made Zhao Yao extremely concerned.

Despite the uncertainty revolving around the matter, there was something which Zhao Yao had learned about the power of illusion.

“At first, there was only the sense of sight and hearing. Then, I managed to upgrade Elizabeth’s ability to all five senses. I thought that was the maximum that it could ever go. Now, I even have the opportunity to control the sixth?” Zhao Yao concluded, “Does this mean that a seventh, eighth, ninth sense is possible? Will she become Saint Seiya 1 ?”

Naturally, Zhao Yao knew that no such thing actually existed on our planet Earth. There was no way Elizabeth could turn into a Saint Seiya even with her sixth or seventh sense unlocked. However, this did not dampen his spirits in any sense. Instead, he was excited beyond words.

Zhao Yao immediately tapped his finger against the option, Sixth Sense, as the power activated on his own body.

Zhao Yao struggled to open his eyes against his leaden eyelids. Everything was a blur. This haziness finally dissipated after quite some time, allowing his eyes to regain its original clarity.

“This sixth sense ...” Zhao Yao pondered with a frown compressing his face, “This is fuzzier than I had expected. This is so complicated.”

Zhao Yao could feel its effect and yet could not pinpoint its power. It had something to do with instincts, hostility and even feelings. However, he just couldn’t put his finger to it.

“Oh my god, both Matcha’s and Ares’s powers are so much simpler as compared to Elizabeth’s. I guess I need to spend some time investigating and learning about her power.”

Hence, after relaying the information about their upgrades to the respective cats, Zhao Yao retreated to his bed for a well-deserved rest.

The subsequent days zoomed past him in the blink of an eye. Soon, it had already been two weeks. Zhao Yao spent the majority of his time experimenting with Elizabeth’s new found power and purchasing materials to reorganize the island.

Considering the safety of everyone living near him, Zhao Yao decided to buy the entire building which he resided in, every unit on all 18 floors.

After all, Zhao Yao was already an affluent man. He had earned USD 3,500,000 from that American and another USD 200,000,000 from Mao Gang. He had more than enough for the entire building.

Secondly, he had the help of the government on his side. With Inspector Ho looking out for him, he simply had to inform him about the purchase and they would disregard the quota imposed on the number of houses purchased.

Hence, all 18 floors now belonged to Zhao Yao. Currently, he had no plans for these first few floors. However, he had contacted an interior designer to combine the 16, 17 and 18 floors, turning it into a luxurious penthouse.

Currently, Zhao Yao was bringing the designer around the apartments on the 18th floor as he explained, “Do not be affected by the notion of money. I want this to be posh, lavish, and opulent! I want people to know that I’m rich from every single angle of this place!”

The designer nodded his head and replied, “I understand your concerns, do not worry.” After all, this designer was no stranger to such luxurious designs. However, it was his first time hearing such an outlandish request.

Immediately, Zhao Yao emptied a sack worth of cash against the ground to display his sincerity. Zhao Yao had instructed the designer to reject all current projects and focused all his attention on his apartment instead.

Chapter 493: Two Weeks

The designer followed closely behind Zhao Yao when he suddenly raised a question with a wide smile stretched across his face, “Why don’t you just buy a new house instead? I know of a few wonderful mansions. The interior design is superb! The same goes for the exterior. Everything is perfect for a man of your stature!”

The designer’s enthusiasm was met with Zhao Yao’s rejection, “I’m too used to this place. Also, I’m lazy to move.” Unknowingly, he had already spent more than a year here. Furthermore, it was Zhao Yao’s childhood dream to own an entire building to himself, with each floor devoted for a unique function. He had somehow accomplished this fortuitously.

The designer sprang to work, according to Zhao Yao’s every instruction. Zhao Yao had planned to wash his hands off the project once the plan was finalized. After all, if he dared to try anything funny, Zhao Yao would ensure that that was the last thing he ever did.

A few seconds later, Zhao Yao had teleported from his apartment to the extradimensional belly and finally the café, in a matter of three steps.

Back at his workstation, Zhao Yao slammed his palm against the back of his head and pondered, “Hmph, did I forget about something?” His eyes darted across the cats, running around the café, and thought, “Why do I feel like there’s some cat missing?”

However, he just could not wrap his head around it and decided to just focus on the work instead.

Currently, cat island was teeming with life.

For the past two weeks, Zhao Yao and Baiquan had painstakingly transported items to the island. For fear of trespassers learning about this place, they had to assemble everything with their own hands. Thanks to their superpower and the help of Matsuo and Faceless, the island began to take shape.

With the electrical cables extending from the café and the power supply provided by Inspector Ho in the form of generators, the entire island had been covered with industrial grade wifi.

The rows of cottages lining the vast fields were hand built by Zhao Yao. Inside were all sorts of cat beds, cat toys and any cat-related objects you could imagine.

Inside the belly, half of the space was dedicated to Dust Ball’s catmint plantation. Without having to accommodate the supercats, the remaining space was now reserved for the computers. Zhao Yao had just ordered 200 computers to supplement the original 10 computers.

After all, Zhao Yao had purposefully erected the gate as a portal on the island. Hence, the cats were free to travel between the island and the belly. In Zhao Yao’s masterplan, the island would be where they slept, played and worked. Conversely, the belly would become the internet café, primed for entertainment purpose.

With Baiquan helming the logistics team, Matsuo and Faceless had assisted him in cleaning the island and preparing meals for the cats.

Currently, Matcha had gathered his royal cat guards inside the extradimensional belly.

Set in the center of the circle was 10 supercats, with their eyes glued to the phone screen. They were completely engrossed in their game of Mobile Legends.

Matcha was using his Luban character to lead a charge in the bottom lane only to be harassed by an opponent's character. Immediately, his lips began to curl with disdain.

Quickly, Airplane, the pioneer batch of guards amongst the Royal Cat Guards, noticed Matcha's change of expression and started to scream in his head, "Who is that stupid one controlling the character?"

Timidly, a white cat raised his paws and spoke in his trembling voice, "Me."

Airplane continued screaming at him telepathically, "Who told you to interfere with Sir George's pushing? Retreat. No, do it discreetly. Act as if you're wounded by his attack and has no choice but to retreat to your tower. Put some effort into your acting! Understand?"

Hence, the opponent character started to falter as he hid behind the defense of the tower, allowing Matcha to push further down the lane.

A contented smile tugged at the corner of Matcha's lips. He nodded his head and commented, "This player's skill is not bad. However, he is too impatient. A young cat should learn to practice prudence."

Airplane sprang on the opportunity to flatter Matcha by saying, "This is all possible because of your superb skills. No ordinary player can actually play Luban to such a proficient level."

Suddenly, another hostile force lurking within the forest sprang in front of Matcha, intercepting his advances. However, all his skills were added incorrectly and his attacks were all targeted at the creeps. Hence, he too was pushed back to his tower until a resounding 'double kill' echoed in their ears.

Immediately, the cats surrounding them broke out into cheers of excitement.

"Sick! Superb play! Beautiful!"

“Sir George, your double kill is truly unprecedented. With Sir George leading the charge, no one can possibly take the championship title away from us.”

“What nonsense!” Airplane intercepted his words, “How can you possibly ask Sir George to lead us in this competition? We will be bullying the rest of the competition! With Sir George’s technique, having him is as good as cheating!”

Matcha’s ego continued to inflate with every praise thrown at him. Meanwhile, Old Cat was observing this with a heavy heart.

Old Cat was staring viciously at Airplane, with anger pouring out of him, “Can’t Matcha see through his blatant bootlicking? He’s gotten him all conceited now!”

The rest of the match continued as expected. The Luban, under Matcha’s control, destroyed anything in its sight. Regardless of what was thrown at him, be it tanks, assassins, mages, warriors, nothing could stop him. None of the heroes even dared to lay a single spell on Matcha.

With 32 kills under his belt, the opponent’s base was finally destroyed with Matcha’s side claiming ultimate victory.

Airplane continued to shower him with praises, “Sir George, your skill is truly godlike. With your superb control over Luban, you should be named the World’s Strongest Luban! You’re stronger than any of the streamers I’ve seen on the internet.”

“That’s right! Sir George, could you share some tips with us?”

“Sir George, your phenomenal footwork has got my head all dizzy. If I were your opponent, I wouldn’t even be able to land a single attack on you.”

A smile stretched across his face as he gave a dismissive wave of his hand, “It all boils down to your fundamentals. Calm down.” Then, he began to survey the cats before him and asked, “Who were the ones who tried to launch a sneak attack on me?”

Two paws shot up in the air immediately. Matcha nodded his head contentedly and responded, “The two of you did well. You dare to fight and have exceptional observation skills. You are promoted to become my personal guards.”

“Thank you, Sir George.”

“Thank you Sir George for recognizing my humble worth.”

Old Cat could not help but shake his head as he witnessed this scene. He then crept up to Matcha and cautioned him, “Sir George, currently the royal cat guards prides itself on its superb Mobile Legend skills. Conversely, no one is doing the job of surveying the masses. In the long run, how will our legitimacy hold up?”

“Hmph,” Matcha shot Old Cat a menacing glare, “Are you trying to imply that I’ve confused my priorities?”

Old Cat immediately shook his head and clarified, “I dare not.” Deep down, he was thinking, “You haven’t just confused your priorities! You’ve lost your head!”

Matcha threw his paw in the air and reasoned, “Mobile Legend might seem like an innocent game on the surface. However, the devil is in the details. Its content is beyond your imagination. It provides the perfect platform for us to bond as a unit. It trains our teamwork and judgment skills, which is totally transferable to our job.

It might seem like I’m simply getting them to play an innocent game. In reality, I am training them to be the best at their jobs!”

Old Cat could not believe his ears and sighed in his head, “Stupid cat!”

Meanwhile, Airplane chimed in, “What wise words by Sir George! Not only do we derive pleasure out of it, we even get to train! Old Cat, you have misunderstood Sir George’s painstaking actions.”

Old Cat shot Airplane a vicious glare and muttered, “What a despicable cat?”

“Alright, alright, shut up already!” Matcha rallied the crowd and barked out his next instruction, “Another round! I’m in the zone right now!”

Airplane immediately alerted the cats to their next course of action, “All of you better die at least 10 times in the next game! Give Matcha the entire forest to farm! No one is to farm inside the forest!”

Chapter 494: Precarious Situation

While the royal cat guards were completely absorbed in their game, a maroon Dragon Li was secretly observing them from the shadows. Then, it discreetly left the belly and entered the island via the gate.

Every moment was executed furtively. Then, it entered the forest and made a deliberate attempt to shake off any potential pursuers. Finally, it took a giant leap as its body disappeared into a large hole residing within a tree.

Initially, the hole was blanketed in pitch darkness. However, it was soon illuminated by the tens of eyes shining brightly. This was the team which Roly Poly had formed. They were members of the royal cat police force which Roly Poly had absolute faith in.

The maroon Dragon Li responsible for collecting intel was none other than Baozi, the cat which joined Zhao Yao since the Jiangmen University incident. His master was none other than Lion Head, the cat which endowed Zhao Xue the ability to change her size.

Since Lion Head had already decided to join forces with Roly Poly, Baozi naturally joined the side of his original master.

Noticing the abrupt movement at the entrance to their base, Lion Head immediately rushed over and asked, “Baozi, how is it? How’s the situation over on Matcha’s side?”

Baozi reported everything which he witnessed.

“Alright,” Uncle Egg commented, “Matcha, you dumb cat. I knew that this would happen. Now, the royal cat guards are flooded with a group of sycophants addicted to Mobile Legends. It’s only a matter of time before he’s dethroned.”

Roly Poly stared blankly into space before a glimmer flashed across his eyes, “Everyone, Matcha is a lustful tyrant. Elizabeth only knows how to leverage on her good looks. Cat Sage is just leading a

group of barbarians. Ares only knows how to chase behind girls' skirt while Sphinx Cat only knows how to chase behind Ares. None of them deserves our attention. As for Dust Ball, she's just another gardener. How can they ever compete with us?"

As he spoke, he began to paste mugshots of the six other department heads against the wall.

He shot his paws in the mugshots' direction and exclaimed, "It is time for us, the royal cat police force, to rise from the ranks!"

Meow!

Every cat shot their paws in the air and meowed in unison.

Lion Head clarified, "What do we have to do to defeat them?"

A cool, calm voice echoed throughout the place, "Continue to survey from the shadows. By collecting more intel, we'll learn about their weaknesses. In time, we'll use this material to incinerate a conflict amongst them. We will just wait for them to commit a mistake."

A smile began to dance along his lips as Roly Poly continued, "At the same time, we shall train and accumulate our strength. Firstly, we have to rally the royal cat police force and unite them as one unit."

With that, Roly Poly's eyes glanced towards Baozi as he enquired, "Baozi, what's your age?"

"Erm, I'm three this year."

Roly Poly continued, "Would you like to be my god-son?"

A tinge of hesitation flashed across Baozi's face as his lips quivered with fear, "But ..."

Meanwhile, Uncle Egg had already intercepted his words, "This is the most prestigious praise you can ever expect! What are you waiting for? Hurry up and thank our boss!"

Succumbing to the pressure, Baozi fell to his knees and uttered, “Thank you, godfather.”

Roly Poly’s eyes had already squinted into a hard line as he ordered, “Good job, my son. From today onwards, you are responsible for the reconnaissance of the royal cat guards. You command absolute control over the cats infiltrating their forces.”

Meanwhile, Zhao Yao had collapsed onto a sofa. After all, he had spent the last two weeks toiling continuously under the blistering sun.

“Hmph, I guess we are done with the basics already. Now, we just have to wait for the computer to arrive before we can install them.”

Suddenly, his phone rang. It was a call from Inspector Ho.

Unwillingly, Zhao Yao reached his arm forward as he replied nonchalantly, “Hi, Inspector Ho. What’s the matter?”

Inspector Ho’s thunderous voice exploded in his ears, “Hey, was there an aerolite fragment found on the island?”

“Huh? What are you even talking about?” Zhao Yao mustered his most innocent tone and replied, “What is this aerolite you’re talking about? I have no idea!” Zhao Yao believed that Inspector Ho had extracted this information out of William’s mouth.

Inspector Ho was in complete despair as he reasoned, “I know that the aerolite has the power to elevate the cats’ strength. However, it is far too dangerous for your own good. Nothing good can come out of it if you continue holding on to it.”

Zhao Yao too was caught in a dilemma. He wasn’t too enticed by the aerolite’s ability to increase the cats’ power. However, the aerolite concerned the status of his main mission. He couldn’t bear to bid farewell to these enticing rewards.

Just the prospect of completing another main mission caused happiness to bloom inside him.

Furthermore, the aerolite had already been absorbed into his body. He couldn’t extract it even if he wished to.

However, Inspector Ho was not giving up. He continued to rationalize with him, “This aerolite is simply too attention-grabbing. We are not the only ones after it! Ivory, Talon, other state actors and their respective organizations are all desperate to include it into their arsenal!”

Zhao Yao continued to act dumb, “I really have no idea what you’re referring to. What I do know is that I have a lot of cat litter fragments. You want that?”

Inspector Ho was left speechless by Zhao Yao’s response. Hence, he could only warn him, “Hmph, I can’t do anything if you refuse to co-operate with me. However, I’m advising you to stay in Jiangmen City. The situation is not too stable in Southern China.”

“What do you mean by the situation is not too stable?” Inspector Ho’s vague words had successfully captured his attention. However, he had already hung up before Zhao Yao could even clarify anything.

“What the hell was that for? Is he baiting me?” Worry started to gnaw at him as Zhao Yao whipped out his phone to find out more on the cat web.

However, he was inundated with private messages the moment he logged onto his account. After all, he was the Jiangmen Cat King on the cat web. Naturally, many clueless folks would flood his inbox with all sorts of silly requests.

Some were asking for loans while others expressed their love for him. Some messages were far less polite while others were filled with praises and compliments. His phone was lagging from the sheer number of messages. Zhao Yao had been too busy the past few weeks and had not accessed the cat web until today.

Suddenly, something caught his eye. There were some threads talking about the situation in the South and information about Talon.

“Wouldn’t a war breakout if this continues?”

“I saw a Talon representative blatantly fighting in a train station!”

“What is the government doing? Are they ignoring all these?”

“What can they do? At this rate, they don’t even know who’s their ally or their enemy.”

Zhao Yao’s eyes hovered over the unnerving news as his forehead furrowed slightly, “Talon? What exactly happened to them?”

Zhao Yao knew their leader, God of Death. He wielded an ability which allowed him to control ordinary humans. By activating his power, this ability would spread like a virus. More and more innocent civilians would fall to it and turn into his personal ‘puppets’.

To make things worse, God of Death had abused his power on the elites of the society, controlling them from the shadows. Unbeknownst to the public, Talon’s influence had already seeped into all domains, becoming a hegemon of its own kind.

Currently, no one recognized the winds of change blowing on the ground. An intense war was about to break out.

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Inspector Ho let out a disappointing sigh as he slammed his phone against the table.

Lin Chen craned his neck forward and asked, “What happened? Did he refuse to co-operate?”

“That kid tried to act dumb with me. However, we have no time to be bothered about this. The situation in the South is far more precarious. Are you ready to move out first thing tomorrow morning?”

Lin Chen nodded his head and clarified, “Has the situation over at the South deteriorated to this extent? Do we really need to transfer all the apostles over there?”

Inspector Ho’s face plunged into his hands as he explained, “It’s a mess and everyone knows it. If we didn’t discover about their power serendipitously, we would never have realized the severity of the situation. We can no longer trust our informants in the South. You have to take down the entire organization this time around. Make it quick and clean.”

Chapter 495: The South

“Don’t worry,” Lin Chen retrieved the illusion-enhanced collar which he had received from Zhao Yao and continued assuredly, “This is rather useful. Coupled with my current strength, I can take down Talon on my own.”

However, Lin Chen’s unbridled optimism was met with Inspector Ho’s sigh, “Do not immediately use this the moment you touch down over there.”

Lin Chen froze momentarily before finally reacting to Inspector Ho’s words, “You don’t trust them?”

Inspector Ho answered, “Under such circumstances, we cannot afford to trust anyone. Hence, do not tell them about the power of this collar. Do not use it unless the situation absolutely calls for it.”

Inspector Ho’s worries started gnawing at Lin Chen as a line etched between his brows, “Is the situation really so bad?”

“It’s just my prediction.” Inspector Ho explained, “I’m not too concerned about the apostles over there. The thing that worries me is that Talon has already seeped into the military and even ...” As he spoke, he had already looked far into the distance.

Lin Chen forced an awkward laughter before replying, “I’m sure it’s not that bad. I heard Talon is only capable of controlling normal humans. I don’t think they can do it to apostles.”

“I hope I’m the one over worrying.” Inspector Ho let out another depressing sigh, “However, just think about it. An apostle is but a human. He might be immune to the power but can we say the same for his family? If his family is controlled, isn’t it as good as controlling the apostle himself?”

Perspiration began to shine on his brows as he continued, “To me, the problem with Talon is huge! The threat they present is minimally 10 to 100 times worse than Zhao Yao. They will shake the very foundation of our society. Our higher-ups have made it clear. They can close one eye to Zhao Yao, but not Talon.

This is especially so since it's only the tip of the iceberg. We have no idea just how many people are under their influence. I believe it has already transcended what our imagination is capable of. Hence, you must be extremely cautious this time. Trust no one."

Lin Chen took in a deep breath and answered, "I understand."

...

Zhao Yao was fuming with anger after sieving through all the forum threads regarding the South, "Talon, this group of b*stards! Why can't they just enjoy their lives instead of wreaking havoc?"

Immediately, Zhao Yao commented on a random thread, "Talon, you b*stard! Just be a law-abiding citizen and mind your own business! If you dare do anything stupid, I promise you that I'll obliterate you!"

A deluge of response poured in the moment Zhao Yao posted his comment.

"Hey, quickly edit your comment if not Talon will come knocking at your door!"

"Hey, are you stupid? This guy here is the Jiangmen City Cat King! Do you think he is afraid of that puny Talon?"

"Haha, the previous Huadu Cat King shared similar sentiments as you. Hmph, I think the grass above his grave is already a few inches tall."

While Zhao Yao was busy typing his response, his mission panel had already reflected the new changes.

Mission: Number one!

Objective: As the strongest apostle in history, it is your responsibility to encourage discussion in your thread.

Reward: One experience point would be rewarded for every 10 posts under your thread. The maximum experience points were capped at 100.

Punishment: Nil

Zhao Yao was pleased to see the mission. Continuing from where he left off, Zhao Yao typed out his response with anger roaring through him, “How dare you compare me to that scum, King Huadu? I am advising Talon to hide inside their stupid cave. If they ever dare to set foot on Jiangmen City, I’ll make sure that’s the last thing they ever do!”

Another user replied, “Take a look at yourself! How dare you spew such nonsense on the web? If you have the guts, go directly to the South and confront Talon!”

“D*mn it,” It had been a long time since someone last dared to refute Zhao Yao in real life. Yet, there was nothing he could do about it. He could feel the pulse slamming in his neck as rage swept over him. Immediately, his eyes were locked on the person’s id – ferocious chick.

Immediately, he responded to his inflammatory words with a battle invitation, “Do you dare to post your address here? Give me six hours and I’ll make sure you beg for me to spare your life.”

The ferocious chick replied, “Oh, I’m so scared that I just peed on my pants! By the way, I live in the headquarters of Talon. Come if you dare.”

Zhao Yao replied, “I guess someone is too scared to tell me his actual address. You just wait. Wait till I finish settling my business on my end. I’ll simply drop by and live stream my annihilation of Talon.”

He continued to incinerate the discussion by renaming the title of the thread to ‘I’ve always been unhappy with that stupid Talon. Since my brothers in the South have had enough of their nonsense, I shall offer a resolution. I am but a humble apostle. However, I promised to eliminate 10 members of Talon for every comment in this thread. This will be calculated when 10,000 comments were tabulated.’

Zhao Yao knew that his mission only required 1,000 replies. By setting the target at 10,000, he could complete the mission and at the same time not have to live up to his promise.

This thread ignited the entire forum. In the first place, any news regarding the South the past few days were easily the talk of the town. Secondly, this thread was created by no ordinary man. He posted in the capacity of Jiangmen City Cat King, hence legitimizing everything which he claimed.

It was now the battle between Talon and Jiangmen City Cat King, a clash of the Titans.

Many people flocked to the thread and left their comments. Some supported Zhao Yao while others sneered at him for his reckless arrogance. Some even thought that he was simply trying to hype the entire matter.

Soon, the thread had exceeded thousands of comments with Zhao Yao contributing 400 of it. While he was relishing in the opportunity to bicker with his detractors, he was suddenly distracted by a phone call from Inspector Ho.

“Hey, Inspector Ho. What’s the matter? I’m kinda busy right now.”

“Are you the one responsible for the thread created on the cat web?”

“Oh? You already know about that?” Suddenly a glimmer flashed across his eyes as Zhao Yao continued, “Since you’ve already broached the topic, why not you help me ban the person with the id of ferocious chick?”

“I can’t just ban anyone whom you disagree with!” Inspector Ho’s voice was trembling with anger as he retorted, “No, that’s not why I called you up this evening. I want you to edit your thread immediately. Stop creating any more unnecessary trouble.”

Zhao Yao did not respond to those words well as he retorted, “Are you trying to imply that I created that thread on a whim? I am trying to rally support for you using this platform. Just take a look at the number of traitors on the cat web! All of them had flocked to the side of Talon! This is especially true for Ferocious Chick! Hence, I need you to ban him now! Immediately!”

“Brother Zhao, for goodness sake, take it as if I’m begging you. Please stop creating any more trouble for us.” Inspector Ho was at a loss of words, “The situation in the South is already bad enough. Do you actually want them to come over here and make matters worse?”

“So what?” Zhao Yao replied arrogantly, “If they dare to set foot in my home, I will destroy them. Every one of them.”

Inspector Ho continued to reason with Zhao Yao, “Boss, I’m begging you to not blow up this entire matter! We shall take care of the problems created by Talon! However, I do not need your help to anger them and create more troubles for us! Talon is no ordinary apostle organization. Their influence is far more pervasive than you can ever imagine! Please stop adding fuel to the fire!”

Zhao Yao was in a fix and reluctantly acquiesced to his instructions, “Alright, alright. I understand. I shall not reply to any of the comments anymore.”

Zhao Yao hung up his phone and focused his attention back on the mission panel. Finally, the mission was completed with 1000 comments captured. This was another easy 100*2 experience points earned as his BOOK reached lv6 (23902/20000).

“Not bad, not bad.” Zhao Yao exclaimed with a wide grin stretched across his face.

Suddenly, Zhao Yao was alerted to a series of meows by his feet. Looking downwards, they were none other than Catherine and Diana. They looked eagerly towards him with their sapphire-liked eyes.

“Hmph, Diana and Catherine, both of you look just so adorable!” Zhao Yao cried out. Like an old man resting in his chair, Zhao Yao slapped against his thighs, gesturing them to jump towards him, “Come, and let me hug the both of you!”

Obediently, the two ragdolls leaped onto his laps as they buried their heads in his chest. Zhao Yao’s tender eyes looked towards them as he asked, “How is it? Are you used to life in the café?”

Chapter 496: Oh No! I Forgot About It!

Southern China, Huadu City.

God of Death stared at his computer screen as his body quivered with indignation, “Jianghai City Cat King? Is he so naïve as to assume that everything stayed the same since a year ago when everyone just awakened?”

His mouse hovered across the browser as he continued to retaliate under the alias of Ferocious Chick.

One year ago, God of Death attempted to infiltrate Jiangmen City with his puppet and the help of Sun Meng and Nessie. However, Zhao Yao thwarted his plan completely.

Since then, God of Death had temporarily given up his plan to attack Jiangmen City, focusing all his attention on his Southern territory.

One year had passed and Talon was not the same organization it used to be in terms of its influence and power. The elusive city of Jiangmen City had once again appeared on the radar of their leader's mind.

One of his subordinate cautioned him, "Based on our intel, Jiangmen City Cat King might just be the Headless Horseman. I don't think it's a good time for us to find new enemies."

God of Death sniggered, "Hmph, he is but one apostle. If I can't take him down with 10 apostles, I'll send 100. If 100 fail, I'll send 1000. It's as simple as that. Aren't his best record just tens of apostles? I'll simply flood him with bodies."

Another person commented, "Isn't the headless horseman based in Jiangmen City? I'm afraid he might have subordinates working under him. Our main battle is on the southern front. Hence, it's not advisable for us to infuriate a strong apostle like him and distract ourselves from what's important."

God of Death nodded his head thoughtfully before responding, "I understand your concerns, but I'm not trying to wage another war. However, that does not stop me from creating some troubles for him. I just want him to wake up to reality. Isn't that so, Mike?"

With that said, everyone's attention had diverted towards the only Caucasian in the room.

The Caucasian simply reacted with a shrug of his shoulders, "Your Holiness, are you sure you want to waste such a precious gift on the Cat King of Jiangmen City?"

God of Death responded by pinning him down with his cold glare. Mike was an apostle from the American organization, Star Cats. Not only did he offer his service to God of Death, he even gave him an aerolite fragment as a gesture of goodwill.

However, God of Death would never squander this valuable asset on just any random supercats. After all, the aerolite promised the power of enhancing an individual's strength.

Sadly, God of Death's supercat did not possess an ability which entailed any sorts of combat powers. Its only power was to control and influence ordinary men. Through doing so, he can spread his network of influence like a virus spreading its poison in its host body, turning everyone into his puppet.

Hence, this cat had never appeared before anyone. No one even knew where it was or how it looked like. It was a mystery and God of Death's biggest trump card.

But if he were to use the aerolite on his supercat, it would run the risk of exposing its identity and location.

God of Death's vicious eyes remained fixed on the American as he pondered, "Americans are no idiots. Is he trying to bait me with this aerolite?" A weight settled on his heart as he observed the subordinates surrounding him.

All of them were looking at Mike with a face of desperation. All of them were dying to have the aerolite enhance their own strength.

God of Death thought, "This is getting tricky. On one hand, I can use it to strengthen myself. But in doing so, I would risk exposing my cat's identity which would be disastrous."

God of Death understood one point. If his cat's identity remained a mystery, he would be close to invincible. Hence, he was not about to go for this bait. Even if he wanted to, he was going to do it in his own terms.

"All the other apostles can't wait to have their hands on the aerolite. If I continue to hesitate, one of them is bound to succumb to the temptation."

He fully understood what the American was plotting against him. Thus, he continued to pin him down with his glare and explained, "Obviously I'm not going to hand the aerolite over just like this." Laughing, he continued, "After all, there is more than one Cat King in Jiangmen City. Have you heard of the four Cat Kings of Jiangmen City?"

...

Meow!

Diana and Catherine were lying comfortably in the arms of Zhao Yao as they purred in satisfaction.

“Zhao Yao, Zhao Yao! When are we receiving our pay?”

“Zhao Yao! Zhao Yao! I just got another customer! What’s my reward?”

“Thanks for your hard work,” Zhao Yao replied as he ran his fingers through their beautiful fur, “I’ll reward you with a massage.” With that said he grabbed their paws in his hand and started to rub gently against it.

While massaging the cats, Zhao Yao began to observe the situation in the cat café. Immediately, he was alerted to the huge gender imbalance. The café basically comprised female students from the neighboring middle school, high school, and college. Each of them held their beloved cat in their arms.

Despite the effects of Celestial Beats, the vast majority of his customer was still females.

Zhao Yao couldn’t help but laughed when he watched the girls played with his cats, “Opening a cat café definitely has its perks.”

However, he suddenly noticed something observing him from the shadows. It was none other than Elizabeth.

Elizabeth observed Zhao Yao cradling her mother and sister and thought, “Hmph, Zhao Yao, I didn’t expect you to be seduced by their novelty. Is it because I, Elizabeth, am not cute enough for you? Is it because I cannot satisfy you? Why choose them out of everyone?”

With that, Elizabeth had escaped from her customer’s clutches and leaped gracefully to the ground, making her way towards Zhao Yao.

“Oh, isn’t Elizabeth a good girl today?” Zhao Yao bent down and extended his arms towards her. All these time, Elizabeth had basked in the effects of Celestial Beats 24/7 while enjoying the

sumptuous food prepared with the freshest ingredients picked from the extradimensional belly. It was no surprise that she looked as stunning as she was today.

Her light pink nose and lips coupled with that furry neck made her the number one sought after cat in the café.

Currently, Elizabeth was rubbing her head against Zhao Yao's chest as she explained, "Zhao Yao, my family has been working extremely hard the past few days."

"That's great!" Zhao Yao replied as he ran his fingers through her fur. In response, Elizabeth shut her eyes and acted as if she was enjoying it. Actually, she hated it, "Everyone just wants to touch my chin. Do you think I actually enjoy it? Never mind, I shall just continue my act."

Suddenly, Elizabeth began to reach her adorable paws towards Zhao Yao's chest and started pressing against it. It seemed like she was hungry for some milk.

Elizabeth thought, "You guys love it when I act all needy and stupid, right? With this move, Zhao Yao will definitely give in to whatever I ask for."

The surrounding girls had already huddled behind Zhao Yao, with excitement shooting out of their eyes, "Hey, Elizabeth is doing it again!"

"She's so adorable! Just look at her paws!"

"This action means that she just recalled how it was like when she suckled as a baby. This means that she's happy!"

A girl shouted in Zhao Yao's direction, "Boss, you're taking three cats all to yourself!"

"Hey! That's unfair! Share them with us!"

Zhao Yao relented, "Alright, you guys can take Catherine and Diana away but Elizabeth is staying with me."

The girls hurried over with a wide grin across their face and cradled the cats in their chests. Meanwhile, Elizabeth continued her world-class act and pleaded, “Zhao Yao, can you buy me the self-beauty camera for my streams?”

“Streams?” Zhao Yao thought about it for a while before agreeing, “Alright but don’t do anything stupid.”

Suddenly, before Elizabeth even responded, Zhao Yao was alerted to his phone’s vibration, “Hmph? A message from Hanako? Oh, I guess she’s doing quite well in Tokyo. Hmph, she even sent me a few videos of Lightning.”

Then, it occurred to him as shivers ran down his spine. He finally recalled which cat he had forgotten about.

Chapter 497: The Search

“D*mn it!” Zhao Yao exclaimed as Hanako’s text flashed in his head. Immediately, he threw his hands over his face, suppressing a gasp, “This is bad. I’ve completely forgotten about Lightning and left him there in the plains! I even removed the extradimensional gate which I had erected there.”

“Calm down ... where did I leave Lightning at?”

Zhao Yao’s hands tightened its grip on his head. Perspiration continued to run down his spine as he remarked, “Hmph ... Pallas’s cat king was the one who brought me to the plains but I’ve completely forgotten where it is!”

Before Zhao Yao could even summon any memory of Lightning’s location, his phone began to vibrate again. It was another message from Hanako, “How’s Lightning doing? Has he gotten fatter? How heavy is he? Is he sick of your food already? Remember to reward him with some canned food.”

“Hmph ...” Zhao Yao’s fingers trembled as it ran across the screen, “Lightning is doing really well. He’s at least two pounds heavier than before. I’ve never seen that silly smile of his disappeared from his face.”

“Oh, is that so? I’m excited to hear that. By the way, is he near you? Can we do a video chat?”

Zhao Yao’s nails began to sink into his own skin as his chest tightened with fear, “D*mn it, how am I supposed to do a video chat without him? I need to get him back ASAP, but how am I supposed to do it without his address? Maybe it’s possible to navigate my way there with Amaps 1 ?”

Just when he thought that the situation couldn’t get any worse, a video chat request by Hanako had lit up his screen.

Immediately, Zhao Yao slammed his finger against the reject button. However, Hanako was relentless as another video chat requested popped up. Once again, Zhao Yao slammed against that same button.

Finally, Hanako gave up and followed up with a text message, “Zhao Yao, what’s happening? Why aren’t you answering my video call? Did something happen to Lightning?”

“I’m dead.” Zhao Yao mumbled as he watched the deluge of message flooding his phone. Drops of sweat accumulated on his forehead began to drip against the table.

After three whole minutes of pointless waiting, Hanako finally received the video chat request from Zhao Yao and thought, “What the hell is that guy up to?” She tapped on the answer button and was immediately brought to a beautiful grass field. She could even see a Pallas’s cat hiding within the cracks of a gravel. The cat was staring suspiciously at its surroundings.

Hanako was taken aback by this scene, “Zhao Yao, you guys went to the grassland?”

“Yup, that’s right.” Zhao Yao continued to clarify, “You do know that it has been Lightning’s dream to run freely on the grasslands since he was a baby. Hence, I decided to make his dream come true.”

Hanako continued to observe the Pallas’s cat in the video and was shocked beyond words, “Huh, is Lightning trying to catch that rat? When did he suddenly turn so ‘wild’?”

With a few quick strides, the Pallas’s cat had captured the rat in its mouth, with its blood dripping down its lips. Hanako hesitated for a split second before asking, “Lightning knows how to hunt? I mean he didn’t even like to eat raw food in the past.”

Zhao Yao immediately explained, “The grasslands are the most conducive learning environment for a cat. They learn to grow in a safe yet realistic place. Since you left us, Lightning had turned into a potent hunting machine.”

Hanako was not completely convinced, “But why does Lightning look so skinny from the video? I feel like he has become significantly skinnier since he turned into a hunting machine.”

“He’s not skinny. He has simply replaced his fats with lean muscle.” Zhao Yao continued, “That explains his increase in weight! He’s no longer that domesticated cat which only knows how to open his mouth for food. He is now the king of the grasslands, running freely beneath the beautiful blue sky. He even has his own empire now.”

Hanako’s mouth finally curved into a smile as she nodded her head with delight, “Thank you, Zhao Yao. Originally, Lightning was a useless fool. I thought he would spend his entire life lazing at home. Every day, he only knows to turn on that stupid computer and sniff that disgusting catmint. I thought that he was bound to die on the sofa.

I cannot imagine just how much he has grown since he left me. He has already turned into an independent cat that can survive on his own. I am truly touched.”

Zhao Yao answered, “Yes, Hanako. It’s only natural for cats to grow and mature; Lightning is no exception. It’s time to let him go and allow him to roam freely in his natural habitat.”

Just when Zhao Yao thought that the debacle was over, a few shadows zoomed past their screen. A few wolves had appeared out of nowhere and pounced straight on top of that defenseless Pallas’s cat. The cat was shredded to pieces and left to die in his own pool of blood, right before Hanako’s eyes.

“Ah!”

Hanako’s haunting scream reverberated in Zhao Yao’s ears as he immediately stopped the video on his computer.

Hanako was barely able to breathe as she asked, “What just happened Zhao Yao? Was Lightning eaten by those disgusting wolves? Wait... Zhao Yao!”

Before Hanako could even finish her statement Zhao Yao had already ended the video call. This was proceeded by Hanako's non-stop message which turned his phone all hot. It had been a long time since Zhao Yao last felt so nervous.

"D*mn it." Zhao Yao began to scratch frantically against the back of his head, "Why does it have to be this particular species? If not, I could have just bought it off any pet store's shelf and gave it to Hanako."

Meanwhile, a new mission had appeared on his mission panel.

Mission: Find the Super Pallas's cat

Objective: Find the Super Pallas's cat, Lightning

Reward: 100 experience points

Punishment: Nil

"What? Just 100 experience points? I guess it's better than nothing."

Left with no options, Zhao Yao brought Roly Poly along and boarded the next available flight to that mysterious grassland. Once there, he opened his mouth and realized Sphynx Cat for this search and rescue mission.

Currently, Sphynx Cat was executing a one finger handstand push up. In order to make this already difficult exercise even more strenuous, Sphynx Cat even attached a 600kg dumbbell to his tail. If he had activated the 10X gravitation force of the belly, the weight would have increased to 6000kg!

Suddenly, the concrete floor lying beneath his head had turned into grass and soil. Sphynx Cat's jaw went slack when he noticed it before complaining, "What happened? Can't you see that I'm in the midst of an important training?"

Roly Poly, which was perched on top of Zhao Yao's shoulder, couldn't believe his eyes when he saw the monstrous dumbbell attached to Sphynx Cat's tails. It looked more like tank gun than a dumbbell! Roly Poly barely managed to bit back a scream as he thought, "I can't believe that Sphynx Cat has evolved to this stage. Can he even be considered a cat?"

On the other hand, Zhao Yao was completely indifferent to his actions. After all, he had been observing his training progress day in, day out. Zhao Yao explained, "Lightning is lost. Hence, I would like to trouble you to help find him."

"Tsk," Sphinx Cat scoffed as he leaped into the air with a graceful somersault. Because of the 600kg dumbbell still attached to his tail, the mere impact created to execute this move was enough to leave two mini pits on the ground.

Zhao Yao stared at Sphinx Cat's 'masterpiece' and asked, "Do you need me to help you return the dumbbells to the belly?"

"No! I haven't even met my 20,000 weighted handstand push up target for the day!" Suddenly, he went on all fours and started taking a few deep breaths, "There is nothing here. Don't tell me that you expect me to comb the entire grasslands for him?"

"Nothing? But I remember that I left him somewhere here." Zhao Yao began to scratch his head in despair, "Can you help me search the surrounding area?"

"What a drag. Just wait here for me." Sphinx Cat instructed before resuming his handstand position, with the dumbbell attached to his tail. In that peculiar position, he began to sprint at a speed which was even faster than Zhao Yao with 'five is better than four' activated.

Zhao Yao could not help but sigh as he watched Sphinx Cat disappeared off into the horizons, "Roly Poly, just look at that."

Just when Zhao Yao thought that Sphinx Cat would be gone for some time, he had already returned with an exciting piece of news, "I've found him."

"So fast?" Zhao Yao couldn't believe his ears.

Sphinx Cat hesitated for a moment and struggled to piece his reply, "You'll understand when you see it."

Tagging behind Sphynx Cat, Zhao Yao ran for a few kilometers before arriving at a humongous statue of a cat-man hybrid. The head looked exactly like a Pallas's cat. Beside this magnificent statue stood an even larger pyramid.

“What the hell?” Zhao Yao shook his head in disbelief, “What has that stupid cat been up to?”

Chapter 498: The Empire of the Pallas's Cat

Zhao Yao, Sphynx Cat, and Roly Poly could only see the entire structure in its entirety after taking a few steps forward. The palace extended in neat lines from the sides of the pyramid. A plot of land was still in the midst of construction with big chunks of soil emerging from the ground and turning into blocks of rocks. The structure was built on its own!

“The power to manipulate sand, soil, and rocks? No wonder, he could create such a brilliant building.”

Before Zhao Yao could even take a step towards the palace, the three of them had already been surrounded by a group of angry Pallas's cat snarling at them, “Who are you!”

“How dare you intrude on our nation's territory?”

“They must be spies! We must execute them immediately!”

Zhao Yao was caught in a moment of disbelief and explained, “I'm not a spy. Is Lightning here? I'm looking for him.”

Terror overtook the surrounding Pallas's cats' faces for they never expected him to understand their language.

“Who is this Lightning that he is talking about?”

“Maybe he's referring to the Lightning?”

Amongst the pack emerged a slightly larger cat. It approached Zhao Yao calmly and asked, “The Lightning that you are searching for, is he the great one?”

“The great one?” Zhao Yao’s brows instantly snapped together. Suddenly, a bad premonition dawned on him, “What are you guys talking about?”

“That one!” The Pallas’s cat raised its voice and explained, “Our great furless leader! He is the legendary Super Pallas’s cat! He has never tasted defeat in the hands of our furred nemesis. He has the unbelievable power of destroying all furry organisms. Nothing could take him down. Until now, no one has survived a battle against him. He is the Goshawk of our plains, Genghis Khan Lightning. Are you looking for him?”

Zhao Yao forced a fake smile and thought, “How did this guy come up with so many titles for himself? And what’s his deal with fur? Why did he have to resort to all these stupid behavior?”

Even though Zhao Yao was still struggling to accept Lightning’s new title, he still nodded his head and replied, “Yes, I’m looking for him. Is he here?”

“Not everyone has the privilege to meet our furless leader.” The cat scoffed. Then, he directed his gaze towards the furless Sphynx Cat before continuing, “However, if you’re referring to this brave warrior, he may meet our leader in his residence.”

“What?” A muscle in Zhao Yao’s jaw twitched when those words rang in his head. Just when he was about to barge in for Lightning, a bugle began to sound from afar.

The larger Pallas’s cat then barked out its instructions, “Is it an invasion from the lynx empire? The two of you stay here. The rest, come with me!”

With that, it led the remaining cats to battle.

Seeing their bodies disappear into the horizon, Zhao Yao was tempted to follow behind only to be stopped by another Pallas’s cat, “Human, do not move!”

Zhao Yao could only let out a sigh of despair with a shrug of his shoulders. Then, with a snap of his fingers, five senses illusion descended on the cats, immediately knocking them out. Zhao Yao stretched his arm towards Roly Poly and instructed, “Invisible.”

Moments later, the trio was hot on the warriors' heels while remaining completely invisible.

They followed them all the way to this vast grass plain. Hundreds of cats had gathered together in two distinct halves.

The northern end comprised troops from the lynx family. Their bloodthirsty glares would send chills running down any man's spine. Their menacing look coupled with that blood-curdling growls were a sight to behold. Leading the pack was a large cat, easily twice the size of its companions. Its eyes glinted with pure anger and wrath.

"It really is the lynx! Have they been awakened as well?" Zhao Yao was pleasantly surprised by this scene. A lynx was easily twice to thrice the size of an ordinary cat, giving the impression of a tiny leopard. The fur from the side of their cheeks was extremely prominent, making them easily distinguishable.

The Pallas's cat on the southern end had gathered in a precise formation. Eight cats stood on the last row with a wooden chariot resting above their shoulders. A furless cat set in it with a nonchalant expression spread across his face. It was definitely Lightning.

Even though there were supercats on both ends of the battlefield, not every cat there had been awakened. In fact, the majority of them were ordinary cats, waiting for their leaders' instructions.

Suddenly, the silence was broken by the large lynx, "Pallas's cat! How dare you invade my land? You are seeking an early death, aren't you?"

Lightning sniggered but remained silent. He simply clapped his hands as the Pallas's cat in front of him shouted, "You stupid lynx king! The entire grasslands are bound to end up in our furless leader's hand! Only in surrender can you protect your life."

Ahh! Evidently, both sides were not about to give in. With that loud roar, the lynx king spearheaded the onslaught of his team. You could even see the cold winds spiraling on the surface of its skin. A path of frozen ground followed wherever it passed.

The Pallas's cats were significantly smaller than their lynx counterparts. Hence, a tiny commotion broke out only to be quelled by their charismatic leader. Then, they began to spread and revealed their core team.

At least 10 shaved Pallas's cats gathered in their battle formation. They simply stood there with their puffed-up chest and their eyes glued to the oncoming adversaries.

Finally, Lightning descended from his chariot and came to his elite army. His paw grazed past the top of their heads as he sauntered across the battlefield. Every time his paw made contact with their heads a faint glow would emanate from them.

While he was transferring his super static power to his warriors, he began to yell, "All of you are the most elite warriors of our nation!"

"All of you have been through the 10 toughest training when you got your fur shaved!"

"All the scars that were etched onto your skin during the shaving are the best medals a soldier can ever ask for!"

"Even the shortest of fur was not spared. One by one, they were plucked from your tender skin!"

"In order to prevent the growth of new fur, you experienced pains that no one ever thought was even possible!"

"What is there to fear after having gone through all these cruel tests?"

Ahh! The Pallas's cat screamed in unison.

In his invisible form, Zhao Yao was eavesdropping on Lightning's pep talk. He couldn't help but suppress his laughter as he whispered, "So the bravest of them are all furless now? I guess you can say that it's quite a brave thing to do considering all the fur on a Pallas's cat's body."

After endowing his elite warriors the static force, Lightning called out his last instruction, "Go forth, my warriors! I, the furless leader, the fur assassin, the nation's number one warrior, order you to annihilate our enemy! Let others tremble in fear when they hear the word of our destruction!"

The ten furless cats sprang forward towards the enemy's onslaught. It was like a tiger entering a sheep's pack. Any lynx which even touched grazed or brushed past them would collapse to the ground. Their fur had turned into steel rods and punctured their own bodies.

Even the lynx king was no exception to that. He tried to attack them, only to let out that same shrilling shriek as a pool of blood formed at his feet.

Chapter 499: The Capture and the Situation

The lynx's' cries for blood ended as abruptly as it started. Once again, the Pallas's cat army returned to great fanfare while their opponents remained stranded in the brutal battleground.

Zhao Yao continued to stalk them with that same annoyed expression hanging on his face. The celebration continued back in the palace. However Lightning was the only cat which ran towards the largest hall in the palace with a wicked smile on his face.

"Where the hell is he going off to?" Zhao Yao continued to stalk from the shadows. Lightning pushed open the huge doors to a giant hall filled with furless female Pallas's cats.

"Hmph? Why did this stupid cat shave all the female cats?"

While Zhao Yao was still caught up in that thought, his ears gave a slight shudder as he heard a conversation between two female cats. One of them had been shaved while the other was still your usual furry Pallas's cat.

The furry one yelled with tears streaming down her cheeks, "I don't want to shave! It feels so cold after shaving!"

The shaved one screamed in response, "Silly child! Our king only likes cats without fur! How can you earn his affection without shaving?"

At this moment, Lightning had already appeared inside the hall. He leaped next to the anxious young cat and explained, "Be a good girl and shave. As the Super Pallas's cat, my power is simply too strong. If you do not shave, I'm afraid you might not be able to handle it when we copulate in the future."

“Huh? Why?”

A crimson flush stained Lightning’s cheeks as he answered, “A cat is in its most relaxed state during the period of sexual intercourse. Even I, the king, am no exception to that. That makes me vulnerable in accidentally discharging my static charges. Hence, shaving is for the safety of everyone. As long as you are shaved, we can do whatever we want without any of the possible dangers.”

Zhao Yao could no longer handle all these nonsense being spouted from his mouth. Hence, he sprinted forward and dragged Lightning by his neck before slamming it against the floor.

“Lightning, I have no choice but to bring you back home. You are the worst possible scum in the entire grasslands!”

Instinctively, Lightning let out a deafening shriek when he caught sight of his ex-master. An outburst of electric charges then exploded from his furry skin.

Because of the attack, Zhao Yao’s hair began to stand on its ends like an afro. However, that same calm expression remained fixed to his face.

“Haha, Lightning, it’s futile. I’ve gone for some Brazilian waxing since my last time here. It’s useless regardless of how much static you produced!” However, Lightning continued to struggle relentlessly in his hands. Hence, Zhao Yao sniggered, “Don’t you understand? The same trick cannot work twice on the headless horseman!”

However, a frown did cross Zhao Yao’s face when he noticed his companion, Roly Poly, falling to the ground writhing in pain. His screams echoed through the halls, “Why am I affected?” In the process of his fall, he even accidentally cut Zhao Yao’s shoulders.

As a furless cat, Sphynx Cat was completely indifferent to this attack. He could not empathize with Roly Poly’s predicament and even shot him a look of disdain. In order to stop that annoying scream, he still went up to help remove the steel fur.

The screaming continued for around one minute before Roly Poly even had the strength to talk, “Thank you, Sphynx Cat. I feel much better now.”

Seeing that Zhao Yao was unaffected, Lightning resorted to his next move by crying aloud, “Zhao Yao, I don’t want to go back to your apartment! I have my own empire here!”

“How can you even call this an empire? If I continue allowing you to wreak havoc, all the cats here will freeze to death!”

However, Lightning’s yells did not end, “What about my wife and children? What will happen to them if you take me away?”

Zhao Yao had not expected this reply, “What do you mean wife and children?”

Moments later, a few female cats appeared with dozens of kittens crying in their arms.

“Hey, do not bully my father!”

“Return us our father!”

“Boohoo, Mummy, what is going to happen to daddy?”

A weight settled on his heart as this scene unfolded before Zhao Yao’s eyes, “Are all these kittens your children?”

“Yes!” Lightning answered as he furiously nodded his head, “They are all my children shared with Big Beautiful, Second Beautiful and Third Beautiful!” Lightning pointed his paw in a female cat’s direction and cried, “On the second day spent on these grasslands, I met Big Beautiful! It was love at first sight as both of us fell deeply in love with each other! Maybe God had planned for me to finally settle down after all these time. On the next day, I was alerted to the wonderful news that she is pregnant ...”

Zhao Yao slapped a hand over his mouth before carefully placing Lightning on the ground. He began to look at him with somewhat pitiful eyes. He then squatted beside him and patted him on his shoulders.

“What are you doing?” Lightning couldn’t comprehend the sudden change in attitude, “Why are you looking at me like this?”

Roly Poly staggered towards him and did the exact same patting on his shoulders. Roly Poly then inched forward and whispered into his ears, “It takes a few months for a Pallas’s cat to get pregnant.”

Lightning froze for a split second before his jaws slammed against the ground. He was petrified.

Meanwhile, following the commotion, the original Pallas’s cat king had run in with his daughter by his side. He was overwhelmed with joy when he recognized Zhao Yao, “You’ve finally returned!”

Zhao Yao gave a shrug of his shoulders and asked, “What’s so special about that?”

The Pallas’s cat king began to scream telepathically, “Quick, bring this guy away right now! If you delay any longer, all the females in my clan will be lost to him!”

At this moment, Lightning cocked his head 45° skywards and let out a desperate laugh, “Isn’t this better? Buy one get one free?”

Sphinx Cat mumbled, “Scum.”

Meanwhile, Roly Poly’s eyes began to shine with excitement as he thought, “Is this what it means to be a blessing in disguise? If we can actively adopt a different perspective, we can see the merits even in the darkest of times!”

“Trash.” Zhao Yao then grabbed Lightning by his neck and started waving goodbye to the Pallas’s cat king, “In that case, I’ll be bringing him home. Bye!”

Zhao Yao then stretched open his mouth for both Roly Poly and Sphinx Cat to enter. However, Lightning continued to struggle mightily in his hands, “I don’t want to leave! My empire needs me! My children are still here waiting for me!”

However, he was immediately blanketed by Zhao Yao’s vicious aura. With his death glare staring straight at him, Zhao Yao explained, “If you refuse to co-operate, I’ll have no choice but to cut you up and send you home.”

Finally, Lightning cupped his ears and disappeared into Zhao Yao's mouth. Zhao Yao bid the Pallas's cat king his final farewell before disappearing as well.

Now that Zhao Yao and Lightning were finally gone, the Pallas's cat king could finally breathe a sigh of relief, "They're finally gone!"

Lightning was all sullen for the next one month. Luckily for Zhao Yao, he bagged another 100*2 experience points. However, Hanako wasn't exactly pleased when she saw Lightning's new appearance the following video chat.

However, during Zhao Yao's period of rest, the situation in the South continued to worsen. One particular story started to spread like wildfire on the national level.

Including the 20 odd cat kings in the South, all the official government divisions in the South had refused to participate in the exercise against Talon, rendering the situation a complete chaos.

At the same time, God of Death had deployed some of his men over to the rural area of Jiangmen City. They were currently situated inside a massive building, overlooking a giant block which resembled both a school and a dormitory.

The American, Mike, looked through the information in his hand and muttered, "So this supposed Cat King of the West is located here? I hope that it can last long enough for me to have some fun."

Chapter 500: The Sixth Sense

On this very day, Zhao Yao was simply relaxing on a couch in the café, with the furless Lightning cradled in his arms.

Now that he was completely furless, he could easily disguise himself as a Sphynx Cat. In order to prevent Lightning from embroiling himself in all these sexual tensions and further destabilizing the community, Zhao Yao decided to bring him to the café.

Currently, he was lying restlessly in Zhao Yao's arms with both paws gripped onto his bicep. He stared blankly in front of him to the scene of the other cats chasing each other around.

He then tapped Zhao Yao lightly against his chest and whispered, “Zhao Yao, Zhao Yao, I would like to pay a visit to the cat island.”

“No.” Zhao Ya shot him down, without even raising his head or opening his eyes, “Be an obedient boy and stay here.”

Lightning tried to invoke some of Zhao Yao’s sympathy with his puppy eyes and reasoned, “Zhao Yao, I am no longer a kid. I just want to go there, just one time. I’m almost bored to death in the café.”

“Hmph, I have to agree that you’re not a kid.” Zhao Yao sniggered, “By just walking to the opposite street to empty the rubbish, I can at least meet 12 cats which you have had sex with. The only reason I’ve not sterilized you is because of Hanako.”

Lightning’s head plunged in despair with the word ‘bored’ written across his face.

However, Zhao Yao continued to smile at him, “Are you really that bored? How about we play a game?” With that, he pressed his hand against Lightning’s head and asked, “What is one plus one?”

Immediately, the answer two flashed across Lightning’s head. However, for some unknown reason, he was seized by a strong impulse to change his answer to three instead.

Hence, Lightning exclaimed, “Three!” His brows instantly snapped together as his answer rang in his ear, “What happened? Why did I shout three as the answer?”

A radiant smile danced on Zhao Yao’s lips as he watched this event happened right before him. This was the effect of his new power, Sixth Sense.

It was hard to pinpoint exactly what it could achieve but it had something to do with intuition. Lately, Zhao Yao had spent a considerable amount of time tinkering with the power and had an inkling as to how to utilize it.

Hence, Lightning’s absurd reaction was an example of his power in play.

From there, Zhao Yao attempted to continue experimenting with Lightning but it was to no avail. The trick no longer worked now that Lightning was more alert. After all, it was just a hunch which

was in complete contradiction with Lightning's logical judgment. Thus, Lightning could easily overcome it with his rationality.

Hence, the power of Sixth Sense was not optimized when you used it alone. Only when combined with the other five senses could it truly elevate Elizabeth's illusion to the next level.

However, Zhao Yao was still in the midst of mastering the actual workings behind it. Ultimately, this was his first time operating it on a living target. There were many intricacies to it which he had yet to fully understand.

At the same time, he shot a glance at Elizabeth who was lying quietly on the kitty tower. Her snow white body had attracted the attention of tens of college girls who were frantically shoving the canned food in her face.

"Elizabeth, come and have a bite! This is the freshest salmon in the market!"

"Move away. Elizabeth is more interested in the sardine in my hands!"

"You two dumb fools! How dare you bring out such cheap goods for our beloved Elizabeth. Come here, I've bought your favorite frozen cat food!"

Elizabeth shot all these obnoxious school girls a look of contempt before resuming her grooming activities. She was completely indifferent towards the food they offered.

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Zhao Yao's lip began to curl with disdain as he observed her action, "I didn't expect Elizabeth to be so proficient with the Sixth Sense. Maybe, this is her innate ability? Hmph, I guess she has always been rather narcissistic. Hence, it was extremely easy for her to imbue the idea that they loved Elizabeth in the girls' minds."

Zhao Yao knew that this result was a combination of both the instinct implanted in their heads and Elizabeth's natural good looks. Hence, their affection for her intensified to the extent that they actually believed that this feeling was genuine.

With this thought in his head, a glimmer of brilliance flashed across Zhao Yao's eyes, "I've gotten it!" He then looked at his palms.

"I need someone with an exceptionally attractive appearance." He then whipped out his phone and looked at himself through the reflection, "It is evident that I am such a person. Does this mean that I can make others crazy over me?"

A devious smile stretched across Zhao Yao's face as a wicked idea bloomed in his head. His eyes scanned his café, looking for potential customers to experiment on.

"Anyway, it's just a test. That's all. The effects will be gone the moment I lift the illusion. It's not like I'm going to get anyone pregnant."

His eyes were immediately locked on to a girl dressed in a sailor dress. With his eyes squinted into a line, he began his operation by slowly implanting the Sixth Sense in her.

Initially, the girl just wanted to feed Elizabeth with the can in her hands. However, her vision was clouded by a momentary haziness before she recovered, staring blankly at the can in her palms.

Zhao Yao's heart skipped a beat as he thought, "Did it work?"

Instead, the girl started prancing towards him with her brows tightly knitted together. She then exclaimed in Zhao Yao's face, "Boss, your price here is as good as daylight robbery! I can buy this RMB 100 food for just RMB 20 anywhere else! This is as good as cheating!"

Zhao Yao quickly wiped off the sweat accumulated on his forehead and explained, "Actually, you have to see it from another angle. You are not just paying for the food but the opportunity to play with the cats. I mean where else can you play with so many beautiful cats when buying this canned food?"

However, the girl continued to be blinded with rage, "You want me to feed your cats and pay you for the food used? No, this is a scam. I want my money back."

Seeing that she was not going to budge, Zhao Yao chose to cancel the illusion before he could even begin to pacify her.

“What’s wrong?” Zhao Yao was drowning in despair, “Why did she suddenly turn so miserly?”

However, it was not like Zhao Yao to give up so easily. He then switched his target to another high school girl. Once again, he had struck her with the Sixth Sense illusion.

However, a mysterious thing occurred. The girl originally held Mango in her hands but her eyes suddenly turned all watery as beads of tears rolled down her rosy cheeks.

Zhao Yao was completely caught by surprise as he rushed over to comfort her, “Hey, what’s the matter? Why are you crying?”

The high school girl who was overwhelmed with sorrow explained, “I suddenly recalled just how much I spent to come here ... then ... I just got all sad and depressed.”

Zhao Yao was left speechless.

Somehow, Elizabeth had noticed this anomalous behavior and bellowed in laughter, “Zhao Yao, what are you trying to do?”

Zhao Yao retracted his illusion and returned to his seat. He simply curled his lips when he heard Elizabeth’s words but chose to ignore it. He had a rough idea as to what had happened.

The Sixth Sense illusion allowed the user to adjust other’s instincts. It was similar to the normal illusion where the user altered the target’s state of mind with his feelings.

However, the sense of sight, smell, hearing, touch, and taste were far more specific than the Sixth Sense. Zhao Yao could easily recall all the senses which he had experienced.

However, instinct was far more abstract than the aforementioned. Other than straightforward notions such as ‘one plus one’, instincts which affected our decisions in determining who we liked, hated, despised were far more complicated. It was linked to our fears, interests and other emotions.

Furthermore, a human’s state of mind was in a constant flux. It ebbed and flowed like the tides in the sea. We comprised of a complete mishmash of feelings.

It was easier to implant a specific memory and answer in a person's mind but the same could not be said when it came to abstract emotions. It was difficult to compartmentalize our feelings and implant it in others without accidentally mixing in something which we held dearly to.

Elizabeth was the most narcissistic cat Zhao Yao had ever met. Hence, it was easy for her to implant the notion that she was a cute cat in others' minds. After all, that's what she thought of every second of her life.

The thought which constantly occupied Zhao Yao's mind was the importance of money.