Reincarnated as an Energy with a System

Chapter 11: Thank You

Ning started looking to his right, it was dark. His left was dark, so was his front and back. The entire room had no openings from where light could enter.

Ning started to freak out for a moment. 'Am I going to be stuck in here forever?' his panic had left him unable to think properly. After a minute or so after the panic slowly went away, he finally started using his head.

'Hmm... no, people will definitely come here for the different weapons and armors, right? I will just have to wait until then.'

An hour passed, and nobody came. Another hour passed and nobody came. Three hours passed, and Ning was done waiting. During this time, he realized in the darkroom, he neither gained energy nor lost it.

Ning looked to the ground he was touching, 'can I switch bodies with that?' he wondered. 'Hey, system. Can I switch bodies with the ground to go outside?' he asked.

- <Negative>
- <You cannot switch bodies with the ground itself>
- <You can only switch bodies with a lump of dirt on the ground>

<The ground is not considered a single entity, so you will have to switch bodies multiple times to get out of this room>

The system wasn't stingy with answers when the question had nothing to do with the upcoming unlocks or something he could get from the shop. 'So the ground is a no-go, huh? What do I do then?' he thought for a brief second and came up with something.

'Hey, system. I'm going to sleep. Wake me up when that door opens, okay?' he said and fell unconscious.

Suddenly, he woke up once more to the sound of the half notifications from the system. He immediately looked towards the door and saw a small slit open, bringing in the much-needed light to the room.

The door then fully opened and 2 middle-aged men walked in. These men had a grayish-blue robe on them along with a black sash on their waist.

After they walked in, they made way for 3 teenagers to enter. They looked to be no older than 18 years old and wore the same clothes like the two men, except they had a white sash instead of a black one.

The two men spoke something that Ning couldn't understand, and the 3 teenagers nodded and walked towards the weapons along the wall.

Of the 3, 2 were young men and while the last one was a young lady. The young lady happened to walk towards him and started looking through the weapons just beside him. She picked a weapon, turned it around, felt its weight, and then put it down.

She did the same thing with the other weapons as well. When she reached him, she picked him up as well, when suddenly the two men said something that made the lady immediately gasp and put him down.

'No, NO! System, switch my body with whatever I am touching right now' he screamed internally.

Suddenly, he felt his whole consciousness shift bodies as he found a hard time adapting to the changed structure of himself. 'Where am I?' he wondered. He could never see the object he inhabited himself, so what he was currently in was a genuine question for him.

He suddenly started to feel something; something smooth all over him and also, he could feel two big lumps. 'Uhh...' if he had a face right now, one could visibly see his face shift from white to red. 'No way!!' he started to look in all directions, and finally realized, he was in the girl's robes right now.

Naughty thoughts started appearing in his head. 'Should I peek? NO! But, maybe a little. It won't do any harm right?' his curiosity took the better of him, and he slowly shifted his vision to take a peek. Unfortunately, or maybe, fortunately, the inside of the lady's robes was dark, so he couldn't see anything.

'Aww...' he was disappointed. 'Wait no!! Stop feeling like that. You are not a pervert' and also berated himself for feeling disappointed. His amplified emotions were quite hard to control right now.

The girl walked around the room looking for weapons, while Ning had a hard time focusing on the surrounding with everything he was physically feeling. Finally, the lady stopped across a thin rapier-like sword. The sword itself had a blue handle, and the sheath it was kept in was also a darker shade of blue.

The lady looked at it for a while, and nodded to herself, keeping it to herself. 'I can't do it anymore!!' Ning shouted to himself. 'System, switch body with the sheath.'

<Confirmed>

Once more, he felt his consciousness lurch forward and leave the robe only to enter the sheath. 'God that was so distracting.' He said to himself.

The girl and the other 2 young men walked outside, followed by the middle-aged two men. 'Ah, finally! I'm outside. I was scared for no reason earlier.' He thought to himself. He laughed a little remembering how panicked he was minutes ago.

'Oh, by the way, system, how long did I sleep this time?' he asked.

<You were unconscious for 6 months, 14 days, and 5 hours>

'What? I was unconscious for so long? Does that mean no one entered that room for half a year? What is that room exactly?' he wondered. He suddenly felt a chill on his body. He looked back towards the outside and was stunned by what he saw.

Snow was falling from the sky. The land was covered in snow, making everything white. The side of the buildings was frosted while their roof was also filled with snow. Black smoke rose out of the buildings.

'Snow...' he was surprised. This was his first time seeing snow. He had always lived in an area where it never snowed even during the winter, and he had only ever seen it on the TV.

Finally, seeing it in real life for the first time, he felt incredibly happy. He understood that the snow meant he would not get any heat energy from the sun, but he didn't care. Just seeing the snow was more than enough for him.

'Thank you system. If you hadn't brought me here, I would have probably never seen such a beautiful sight in my entire life.'

<The system acknowledges your thankfulness>

Chapter 12: Freya

Ning looked at the surrounding buildings as he was brought along by the young girl in her sword. Snowflakes fell all around him, yet they never actually touched him. It was almost like the girl had an umbrella with her, blocking away all the snow.

The scenery quickly shifted as they left tall buildings and moved on to places where there were nothing but small huts. Ning looked to the distance towards where he just came from and saw the gigantic wall that blocked them from the forest in the north.

'So the big buildings are near the wall, while the smaller ones are far away from it. Is it because stronger cultivators live there and would be readily available to fight in case an animal comes through?' he wondered.

Ning then turned his vision towards the tall trees scattered across this little... 'Is this a village?' he wondered. At first, he had thought it was a big city after seeing the large buildings, but moving away from the buildings there were nothing but small huts and cottages. He couldn't tell if it was a city or a village anymore.

Although what it was called didn't matter. He looked to the sky to tell the time, but couldn't since it was very cloudy and couldn't tell where the sun was.

'Hey, system. Do you know what time it is?' he asked.

<It is currently 4 in the afternoon>

'Oh, then it must be getting dark soon.' The girl took him to an open spot with giant posts stuck on the ground across the field. She took out her new sword and smiled as she reveled in its brilliance. Ning could see the blue light reflected from her sword shine in her eyes.

She prepared herself and thrust the sword directly into the post.

DING

<You have gained 530 energy>

While the points he gained weren't a lot, by comparison, he was still surprised he managed to get so many points from a simple attack to the wood. The girl hit the wood a couple more times and even used an ability from the looks of it.

Satisfied with herself, she kept the sword back into its sheath. Ning could feel the heat coming off of the blade after striking the post with so much energy.

<You have gained 760 energy>

<You have gained 594 energy>

'Shut that off, system' he said knowing it would appear for a while.

<Confirmed>

The girl decided to return back toward the village. Along the way, people would see her and greet her. While Ning didn't really understand what they were saying, he did hear one word being repeated over and over. It was Freya.

'Is that her name?' he wondered. Seeing how she reacted to the word 'Freya', he was pretty confident it was indeed her name.

Freya walked back to a small hut, which admittedly looked better than most of the huts around her village. 'Does she have a special status in the village or something?' he couldn't help but wonder.

The inside was simple. There was a bed along a wall with a small carpet on the floor. There was only one window with pink curtains on it. And aside from a small closet, Ning couldn't see any other furniture in there.

'Do they not have a TV? Is this world primitive by any chance? Can't be right? They have flown people fighting monsters. They should be able to build TV and radio.' Ning couldn't imagine living in a world without TV. He remembered having so much fun watching the TV in the orphanage. If he couldn't have that once more, what was he going to do?

'Maybe I should get enough energy to return back to earth, huh.' He started making ideas but quickly forgot about it as he saw the young lady start to undress her robe.

'Wait! No. I'm still here.' He started freaking out a little but was immediately disappointed as he saw the lady just open her sash and sit on her bed with her two legs crossed and on top of each other.

'What is she doing? It looks so uncomfortable.' He watched as her breathing started getting slower and slower to a point where it was barely noticeable.

'Is she asleep?' just as he wondered that her clothes and hair started moving a little as if they were blown by air. He looked towards the door, but it was shut, and so was the window.

'Where is the air coming from?' he wondered. Suddenly, even light started shining from around her. It was in a very minute amount, but in the closed-off room, It was visible.

'Hey, system. What is she doing?' he asked. He was wondering if this was some sort of technique used by a cultivator.

<The girl is cultivating>

'Cultivating? Is she trying to become stronger than before? What are the lights around her?' he asked.

<The lights are Qi>

'Qi? The energy only available in Kumia and a few other planets right? Can I absorb Qi too?' he asked.

<Please unlock the shop>

'Oh, that means I can. Thanks for finally answering, system.' He watched as the girl steadily cultivate, whatever that was. After a while, he got bored.

He looked at his status.

[Status

Energy: 796,000

Task: Collect 204,000 more energy

Reward: You gain Parallel Thinking

Shop: LOCKED

1

'How do I gain so much energy in this climate? I guess I will have to stick with sound energy for now. Hopefully, the girl takes me out a lot.'

He waited for a bit longer but there was nothing happening. There wasn't even a single sound to give him a notification. 'Oh god, watching this is so boring. I wish she had a tv she could turn on right now. I want to watch some cartoons right now.'

'Hey, system. I'm going to sleep. Wake me up when the sun comes up in the sky again.' He said.

<Confirmed> he slowly felt himself getting drowsy and losing consciousness.

Chapter 13: Double the Trouble

Ning felt his drowsy head clear as his consciousness started returning back to him.

'Ugh... I feel like my head hurts quite a bit more than usual. Is this what hangover feels like?'

'I know, right? Arghh... it's killing me.'

'I know,' Ning started going back and forth with himself.

'Hmm... did I just talk to myself?' he was surprised.

'That is so weird,' he answered himself.

'What the F**K!! Am I going mad? Why do I hear myself?'

'No way. I hope I'm not going mad. That would suck.'

' 'SYSTEM, WHAT IS GOING ON WITH ME?' ' two voices simultaneously asked at once inside Ning's head. Somehow, he felt like he was two different consciousness, merged into one.

< You have unlocked Parallel Thinking>

'This is parallel thinking? I thought I was only supposed to think twice as fast. Not have a weirdo shouting in my head.'

'Hey, you are the weirdo!! Stop talking so much. You are giving me a headache.'

'I am the main mind, you are just a part of me.'

'Hey, if anyone is the main one, it's me. Stop calling yourself the main one when you are just a copy.'

'Hey, System! Tell this idiot who the main one here is!!'

'Yeah, tell this idiot his place.'

<You are both the main Ning Ruogong, yet neither of you is>

<You were both parts of the original Ning Ruogong with all of your original mental capability equally shared among yourself so you can process things faster>

'Oh, then I'm not the original?'

'Hmm... wanna call a truce?'

' I don't mind.'

'Alright'

'Btw, system. Wasn't Parallel thinking supposed to be super far away for me in terms of energy?'

'I was thinking the exact same thing? Why did it suddenly unlock, system?'

<You have completed the task>

The system didn't elaborate any further.

'Do you remember how much energy we needed to unlock Parallel thinking?'

'Should have been around 200,000 right?'

'Yeah, I thought so too.'

'How do you suppose we got so much energy over the course of the night?'

'Exactly my question. Did the hut burn down in flames by any chance?'

Both of them immediately started looking outside. Unfortunately, they had to share the same vision, so they once more struggled as to who got to be in charge of it.

'Alright, let's settle it this way. We control the body every 6 hours and change seats after that, agreed?' one of them said.

'I was thinking exactly the same thing.' The other answered.

'Alright, let's rock-paper-scissor it.'

''Rock-Paper-Scissor''

'Haha, I won!!'

'Dammit,'

'Alright, sit back and enjoy the view for 6 hours,'

'Hey system, remind us to change every 6 hours we are conscious, okay?'

<Affirmative>

'Alright, let's name ourselves too, I will be Ning A, okay?'

'Why do you get to be Ning A? I want to be Ning A.'

'Alright, let's Rock-Paper-Scissor it too.'

''Ready? Rock-Paper-Scissor.''

The Ning that was supposed to take a back seat, for now, won the battle and named himself Ning A, while the Ning that was supposed to be in control, for now, got named Ning B.

'Whatever, lemme see what's happening outside.'

He looked out of the sheath and saw that everything was normal. The girl named Freya was still cultivating and the windows were open with cool air blowing into the room.

'Hmm... did she change clothes overnight?'

'What? Did you want to watch it? Hehe

'No, I just— Shut up.'

Ning B looked outside the window and saw green trees a bit far away. He was shocked, 'Green trees? Not white? It's winter, isn't it?' As soon as he said that, he realized that the air coming through the window, while cool, was nowhere near as cold as it needed to be for it to be the winter.

'No way!'

'What does it mean?'

'System, how long were we asleep?' Ning B asked.

<You were unconscious for 3 months, 11 days, and 13 hours>

''What??!!!!''

Both of the Nings were shocked.

'Why would you do that system?'

'Yeah, you were supposed to wake us up in the morning, not 100 days later.'

<Host's direct commands were 'Wake me up when the sun comes out'>

<Today is the first day the sun has come out of the clouds since winter>

'But that wasn't what I meant with that.'

'Yeah, I meant for you to wake me up in the morning.'

<This fault is on the host for not being clear>

'Man, this system is stupid.'

'I know right. How dare it say it's our fault.'

'Yeah! How dare it.'

'So, what's the next unlock?'

'I don't know. Lemme check it. Status.'

[Status

Energy: 1,128,000

Task: Collect 872,000 more energy

Reward: You gain Omni-Directional Vision

Shop: LOCKED

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'Wait, it's still on vision?'

'What about the shop then?'

<Please gather more energy to unlock shop>

'You just keep telling that.'

'At least say something different, goddammit.'

The two of them were surprisingly like-minded when it came to things they loved or hate. Though, it shouldn't be that surprising since they were both the same person after all.

Ning B started looking at the outside once more. He started feeling a little sad that he missed an entire 3 months of winter and snow, especially after he was so excited to see it. But, he consoled himself by saying he could see as many winters as he wanted later on.

Finally, after some time, Freya stood up from her cross-legged position and fixed her dress. After that, she walked up to her swords and carried both of the Nings outside of the door.

Sun shined brightly in the sky, giving off warm heat to everything it touched.

<You have gained 100 Energy>

<You have gained 100 Energy>

Ning started getting notifications as soon as the sun rays fell upon the sheath he inhabited.

'Hmm... Maybe it isn't such a bad thing that we missed a hundred days after all.'

'We are finally inching closer and closer to unlocking shop. Hopefully, it is within the next 3 unlocks.'

Chapter 14: I want to see snow again

The girl called Freya did nothing but go to the place with the wooden posts to train all day. There were a lot of people watching her train in the field.

'She must be really popular,' Ning A said.

'Yeah, look at all of her fans, cheering from the side,' Ning B said while looking at the different people rooting for her during her normal training.

During the training, the system notified them that it was time for them to change their control.

'Alright, you take the reign for a while,' Ning B said.

'Ah, finally I get to see whatever I want,' Ning A said.

Around late afternoon, Freya left her training to visit a building with a lot of books, where she spent nearly an hour looking through the books. In the end, she managed to find a book that she liked and got out of the building.

She returned back to her room and started reading it. Ning A was the one in charge right now, and he was curious as to what she was doing.

'You think she is reading a story?' he asked the other Ning.

'Maybe. If I was in such a boring place with nothing to do, then I would too.' Ning B replied.

The girl suddenly stood up and closed her eyes as she brought her right hand in front of her. She moved her hands a little and snowflakes started dropping from them.

'Woah! Magic.' Ning B said in shock.

'Yeah. Wait, no. Isn't this a cultivator's ability?' Ning A questioned.

'Right, has to be.' Ning B replied.

They both watched as Freya slowly started to create an ice sculpture out of the fallen snowflakes. As more and more snowflakes dropped, they gathered to form a humanoid form with a large sword.

She moved her hands a little and the ice sculpture moved out of nowhere and started swinging its blades around. This shocked both of them.

'' A puppet?'' they both shouted at once.

Freya walked up to her sword, easily dodging the ice puppet that was swinging its sword around without rhyme or reason. She took the sword and took it out from its sheath and started walking back towards the ice puppet, leaving the sheath behind.

She started fighting the ice puppet in what looked like an intense battle. She dodged the puppet's attacks in what looked like impossible to them.

'Wow, she is amazing,' Ning A said.

Ning B just kept quiet and watched the fight.

After about half an hour of continuous battle, Freya lit up her sword, dealing massive damage to the ice sculpture and shattering it into countless pieces.

<You have gained 3400 energy>

The sound alone gave Ning a massive amount of energy. The training during the day had also provided a lot of energy, but never this big.

'She has gotten a lot stronger in the 3 months I was asleep, hasn't she?' Ning A said.

'I think so too. By the way, that magic right there

'You think we can just use her to gather energies? That should be alright, right?' Ning B said.

'Maybe. What if we went asleep once more and woke up a year later? Maybe we will have another unlock by then. That would be a much better idea, right?' Ning A said.

'Hmm... True, True. Let's do that. But, I have a question about the system first. Hey, system. Can we ever go back to being a single person again?' Ning B asked.

'That is a good question. Not being able to do what you want for 6 hours is too hard.' Ning A said.

<You can use the shop for that>

'The shop again?' Ning A said.

'How much further is that?' Ning B complained as well.

<Please gather more energy to unlock the shop>

The system gave an almost automated response to that question. Both of the Nings were used to it by now, so they didn't react to it much.

'Alright then, let's just go to sleep. It's kind of boring now.' Ning B said

'Yeah, system. Put us to sleep until we... uhh... until for 1 year?' Ning A asked.

'Hmm... no, what about 9 months. So we get to see the snow again?' Ning B said.

'Ooh, that's not a bad idea. I would love to see the snow again. Hey, system. Put us to sleep for 9 months.' Ning A said.

<Confirmed>

Slowly, both Ning started to wake up. 9 months had passed by, so they were expecting to have unlocked the next perk. The system had explained to them that the Omni-Directional vision meant that they had a constant vision over everything around them.

So, they were expecting to see the room they were just in around them. But what they actually saw was something totally different. It was something that could only be described as horrifying.

Numerous cries and screaming, bodies torn apart everywhere, red blood dying most of the snow in the ground.

'What is this?' Ning A said in a trembling voice.

'What the hell is this?' Ning B was also scared.

They also saw a bloodied Freya, who was now a bit older than 9 months ago. She was wearing a black sash around her robe, so she must've become someone important during their time asleep.

Thankfully, she was alive. At least for now.

Numerous notifications started ringing in their ears as the incoherent booms and clashes filled the battlefield. They quickly shut down the notifications and started focusing on the surrounding.

The first thing they noticed after that was that they were in the forests. The second thing was that there were a lot of people that were all fighting the monster-like animals in the jungle. The third thing they noticed was that the wall had been torn down by something and the hoard of monsters were entering there.

BOOM

A massive sound rang out in the sky. Both of the Nings immediately focused in the sky and saw a group of men fighting what looked like a flying tiger.

Freya moved her hand in front of her and 5 well-crafted ice puppets appeared in front of her, that started attacking the various monsters around them.

Freya on the other hand took her bloody self and little further and started fighting another animal.

Chapter 15: Freya's fight

The giant tiger in the sky roared so loudly that it shook the very ground. The booms that rang out from the fight between the many men flying in the sky and the tiger were amazing to look at with the various colored abilities getting thrown about.

On the ground, 2 of the 5 ice puppets that Freya had made had already been destroyed by the monsters they had been fighting. However, they had also managed to kill a lot of monsters as well

HUFF HUFF

Freya could barely catch a breath after she killed a monster as another one would pop up out of nowhere and she had to fight once more. Her blue clothes were dyed red with blood and it was impossible to tell which blood belonged to her and which got on her from killing a monster.

However, no matter how bloody she was, the sheath and the sword never had any blood stick to them. Blood would slip off of the sword and sheath, like it was oil on water.

Freya killed another monster. This time it was a monster that looked like a boar but with giant tusks. Another ice puppet had fallen, taking with it another dozen or so of the monsters.

She looked around and saw that there wasn't another monster coming for her, so she took a rest to get her breath back. He took a long and large breath each time she took in the air and sent it out.

Both of the Nings were both horrified and surprised at the current situation. They were horrified at how big of a disaster it was. With bodies were thrown everywhere, blood everywhere making one doubt if it even was winter any more, and the sheer sounds of cries and explosions. These were all things that Ning had never seen before, so both minds of Ning were currently horrified at this.

However, they were also surprised at how strong the girl they had stayed with for over a year was. She was singlehandedly killing dozens of monsters with herself and the ice puppets.

They were also surprised at how much Energy they were gaining from all the general chaos around them. Although the heat energy wasn't that high, the sound energy was a lot and they were happily absorbing it.

BOOM

Both Nings suddenly focused above them and saw the fight between the men and the flying tiger.

'Hmm... isn't there 1 less man up there?' Ning A asked.

'I think so, where is that guy?' Ning B asked.

They looked around the fight up above and didn't see another guy anywhere. From that, they could surmise what had happened to him. The person had either died or been critically injured and had to escape the fight.

There was also another possibility of the person either betraying the group and running away or just being a general coward and burring away. But seeing the entire village of similarly dressed people fight so bravely, giving away their lives to stop the hoard of monsters from entering the village, they let go of any thought that looked at these men in a negative light.

They didn't feel it was right to underplaying their glory by doubting them. Suddenly, another boom came from above them and they saw the tiger hit a man directly in the chest.

Although their vision wasn't the best, they clearly saw the man explode into a bunch of different pieces. He was without a doubt dead.

This was a horrifying scene that they hadn't expected to see. If they were in a human body right now, even if all the death and destruction didn't do it, that scene would definitely make them vomit.

Suddenly, they saw something moving near a tree. A monster directly came out of there. Its footsteps were hidden under the constant sound of the remaining 2 ice puppets fighting.

'Oh, no. It's behind her. We need to help her.' Ning A said.

'What do we do?' Ning B said.

'Let me in control for a bit.' Ning A said, which Ning B didn't deny.

Ning A didn't know the language of the land, but he still shouted in his own language, "Behind You". Freya was surprised at the foreign-sounding voice with a foreign language. She didn't know where it came from and immediately turned around as she got apprehensive.

The monster that was coming out stopped as it saw the girl turning around and meeting its eyes. The monster was a deer-like creature, however, instead of antlers, it was a goat horn. And instead of normal teeth, it had large sharp teeth with exceptionally large fangs.

The fur in its body was very brown and was camouflaged perfectly with the tree around it. Had it not been for Ning's shout, Freya would've most definitely fallen victim to the sneak attack of this chimera-like monster.

Freya was still out of breath, but she still got up with her sword at the ready. The ice puppets were thinning out the monsters, but there were still some and it would take a bit more time to be done with them.

Freya knew for sure that they would not be able to help her. But what worried her more was the fact that this monster was without a single doubt, the strongest monster she had fought today. Or perhaps in her entire lifetime.

She slowly brought up her sword as it started glowing slowly. Her chest heaved up and down with every single breath as she waited for the monster to make the first move.

The monster also seemed a little intelligent so it didn't directly attack and instead tested waters first. A weird-sounding growl came out of its mouth that quickly turned into a tempest of blades that shot her.

With a single wave of her sword, she turned the multitude of blades coming her way into a bunch of snowflakes. As the snowflakes fell down, she readied another of her attack and got ready to take the offensive.

However, the monster had vanished from her side. Suddenly, she felt a chill towards her right as massive fangs tried to bite her off from the side.

Chapter 16: Parasite

Freya immediately reacted and put her sword in between herself and the monster's fangs. Blocking it, she was sent back a few steps. The monster once more ran back. Freya didn't let it do that this time.

She used a weird technique to speed up herself and followed the monster. Suddenly, she brought two of her fingers together and they started to light up with yellow light. She then swiped along the shaft of her sword and turned the whole sword yellow.

She then targeted the monster and simply thrust her sword forward. A massive yellow energy shot out of her sword and flew at the monster. The monster however was quick to react and managed to dodge most of the attacks. The energy ended up hitting a clump of snow in the back and sending them flying in the air.

The monster took this opportunity to disappear once more. Freya got nervous and apprehensive. She started turning around, looking over her shoulders to see if she could spot the monster. She was further into the forest and the many trees helped camouflage the deer-like monster.

Suddenly, she spotted it moving through the corner of her eyes. She swung her sword right as it was coming and managed to cut open a large wound on its neck down to its chest. The monster, however, didn't stop and swung its paws right at the hand that was holding the sword.

Freya ended up losing her sword as it flew away from her hand.

Both of the Nings who were currently watching were shocked.

'No! She is going to die at this rate. She is already so wounded.' Ning A said with a bit of tremble in his voice.

Ning B just stayed guiet but he was also very worried about her at the moment.

'Isn't there anything else we can do?' Ning A started shouting.

'No. The most we can do is make another sound. But I don't think that is going to help anymore.' Ning B said with a saddened voice.

Neither of the Nings wanted to see the girl they were with for so long, dead. Maybe it was their amplified emotions that made them feel that way, or they were just being normal human beings that didn't want another human being to die. Either way, they wanted Freya to come out of this battle alive.

However, the prospects of that were looking grimmer by the moment. Fortunately, the monster was also wounded heavily now, so it was also taking really heavy breaths and its blood was dripping all over the snow, making the already red color darken by another shade.

The monster went for a final lunge at Freya who no longer had a weapon with her. In a moment of desperation, Freya took the sheath she had with her and used it as a sword. She used it to pierce right through the open wound on its neck right into the monster's wound.

The monster made a loud painful noise. Its right lungs were heavily damaged and it was huffing like a dog that was very hot. The ice puppets also happened to be done with the other monsters and were coming this way.

The monster, with its limited intelligence, saw that it was outnumbered and would die now, so it immediately turned around and ran away. It ran away with both of the Nings stuck to its chest.

'No, Where are you going you bastard? Just die.' Ning A shouted.

'Thank god she is safe,' Ning B said with a massive sigh of relief.

The monster ran a kilometer or two away and finally stopped as all the blood and oxygen loss caught up to its head. It slowly started getting drowsy and lost its consciousness, leaving its body to slowly die in the cold snow.

The Nings had turned off their notifications already, but they could still tell that they were receiving a lot of heat energy just by the hot blood around them. However, it was slowly getting colder and colder by the moment.

BOOM

Suddenly, a sonic boom appeared from above them as they saw the flying tiger running away at a very fast speed. A group of men appeared near but didn't follow any more. They seemed to have lost one more person even after that one man that had exploded into bits.

'Did that tiger lose? Did those cultivators win?' Ning A wondered.

'Has to be right. I don't see why else it would leave if it did not lose.' Ning B answered.

'Why were these monsters even here to attack? Did that tiger organize all of this? Are all of these animals intelligent by some chance?' Ning A wondered.

Suddenly, the sound of footsteps started appearing from nearby. Both Nings immediately looked in the direction of the sound and saw that a pack of wolves had appeared.

And they were greedily eying the dead monster in front of them.

'Wait, if they eat the monster and leave us here, we will never be able to leave.' Ning A said.

'Oh no, can we switch bodies with anything here?' Ning B said.

' I don't think so. It's only snow around here. Nothing else to switch our body with.' Ning A said.

The pack of wolves looked really hungry and came forward to eat at the monster. At first, they slowly nudged the monster to see if it was moving at all. After realizing that it was indeed dead by now, they started munching at it.

Bite after bite, they slowly tore away at the flesh of the monster and within minutes nothing but bones was left. Both of the Nings started to panic as to what they would do now that they no longer had someone to carry the sheath around, or any other object to switch bodies with.

After the hearty meal, one of the wolves started to howl in a loud voice. The rest of the wolves followed its lead and also howled loudly. The sound was loud enough to make both of the Nings dizzy. But, even through such a loud sound, they clearly heard the notification that popped up next.

<Congratulation. You have unlocked Parasite ability>

Chapter 17: Next Unlock...

<Congratulation. You have unlocked Parasite ability>

' 'Huh ' 'Both of the Nings were suddenly surprised at the sudden and unexpected notification.

'Another unlock? ' Ning A said.

'Were we close to one already?' Ning B didn't hide his confusion either.

'Hey, system, What does this Parasite ability mean? Explain!!' Ning A shouted.

<Parasite: Allows one to choose a living being as a host and siphon off energy from them>

'Siphon off energy? Like stealing energy from the living being?' Ning A was surprised.

'No, No, before that. By host, do you mean we will be staying in the living animals?' Ning B asked.

'Oh, is parasite the body switch equivalent for living being?' Ning A thought.

<Yes. You will change the body and live in a living being>

<However, you will not be able to control them or impact their decision making skill>

'Did you hear it? We can leave now.' Ning A shouted.

'Yes! The system, does the animal has to be touching us to do this switch?' Ning B asked.

<No, as long as the distance between Host and the living being is 10 meters, Host can use Parasite>

'Alright, System. Use parasite on one of the wolves.' Ning A asked.

'No, use it on the leader, the one that shouted first.' Ning A immediately made another change to the order.

'Oh yeah, that would be better.' Ning A realized.

<It will cost you 100,000 energy to use parasite, continue?>

The cost of the transfer was so high that the cost made both of the Nings surprised and hesitant at first. But as soon as they thought about their situations for more than a few seconds, they realized that they had no choice. They could either hope for someone to come and pick up this sheath or go with the wolves.

The answer was obvious.

'Do it,' Ning A said.

'Yeah, do it fast,' Ning B chimed in as well.

<Confirmed>

<Energy reached below threshold>

<Parasite ability locked until Hosts gather energy back up to the required threshold>

The familiar feeling of body change washed over them as their consciousness vanished from the sword sheath and appeared in the wolf. Now that they were in the wolf, they couldn't see the wolf itself, but they could see the other wolves in the pact with their bloody faces.

'God, that looks nauseating.' Ning B said.

'Yeah, tell me about it.' Ning A shook his head in disgust. The pack of wolves started walking away, going deeper into the forest.

'Where are we going to end up this time?' Ning A questioned.

'Shouldn't we be in the same area? I remember reading that wolves usually have hunting areas that they don't change unless they are threatened by some stronger monster.' Ning B said.

'Well, looking at the monsters Freya had to fight, I would say they have pretty good reason to leave this area.' Ning A looked around and finally sighed. 'So we just move, once again. With no proper destination in mind, just going around where the wind takes us?'

'Makes me even question why I had to die in the first place. If they wanted me depressed, my previous life was doing that just fine.' Ning B said.

They stayed silent for a while. Ning B finally spoke once again, 'How do you think we unlocked so fast?'

'Maybe we were already near the unlock? Maybe the one that came before — uh, what's its name, maybe that 360 seeing unlock was unlocked ages ago, and we were just unconscious and didn't know about it. ' Ning A said.

'Did we unlock anything else aside from that?' Ning B wondered.

'Let's just check. Hey system, show us the unlocks.' Ning A ordered the system.

<Understood>

[Unlock Lists

Energy: Unlock

10: Auditory Senses

25: Directional Hearing

50: Rotational Movement

100: Auditory Spatial Sense

200: Thermoception

500: Movement Senses

1000: Directional Senses

2000: Gravitational Senses

5000: Texture Senses

10000: Pressure Senses

20000: Proprioception

50000: Unidirectional Vision

100000: Emotion

200000: Change Body

500000: Sounds

1000000: Parallel Thinking

2000000: Omni-directional Vision

5000000: Parasite Ability

1

'Woah, have we unlocked so many unlocks already? Feels like not long ago that this list only had a few words on it. Look at it now, so big.' Ning B said in surprise and satisfaction

'Hmm... doesn't seem like we unlocked anything aside from the Omni-Directional vision when we were asleep.' Ning A said.

'It's surprising that we somehow got nearly double of what we had gotten previously, in just one blink of an eye,' Ning B said.

'I mean, that one blink lasted 9 months, but you're right.' Ning A said.

'Parasite ability... didn't system say we would siphon off the Host's energy?' Ning B asked.

'Doesn't the system call us Hosts as well? Do you think it's siphoning off our energy as well?' Ning A said.

Immediately both of them started laughing. They had the same sense of humor, so when one said something funny, the other one would always end up laughing.

'Seriously system, where is that energy you promised us?' Ning A said.

<Energy notifications are off right now>

'Well, turn it back on then. Let us see.' Ning A said.

<Affirmative>

<You have gained 450 energy>

<You have gained 450 energy>

<You have gained 450 energy>

A continuous stream of notifications started ringing in their head. 'Alright, stop it.' Both of them said as they winced a little at that continuous sound.

'God, at this rate, we might actually end up unlocking the next skill as well,' Ning A said.

'That reminds me. What is the next skill? Hey system, show our status.'

Suddenly, a bunch of information appeared in their mind as they saw the status.

'No... No way, right? Am I dreaming?' Ning A was surprised.

'If you are dreaming, then I am dreaming too. Although I think that is correct. Oh my god. I can't wait for it.' Ning B said excitedly.

[Status

Energy: 4,932,154

Task: Collect 5,067,846 more energy

Reward: You unlock Shop

Shop: LOCKED

The unlock next in line was the long-awaited, Shop.

Chapter 18: Parasitic Relationship

It had been a few days since the Nings had latched onto the wolf and went along with them. When they had learned that the next unlock would be the Shop, they had been very excited. But, soon their excitement went down the drain as they realized that they had a massive problem on their hand.

The world was still filled with snow, the only thing of color in the surroundings was the brown barks of the trees or the occasional green leaves. And those were all the Nings could see as well.

Nothing else. They could not see anything else.

'What are we gonna do now?' Ning A was troubled. The problem had started small and they hadn't seen the urgency at first. But as things escalated, the problem escalated as well.

'A tree? Or maybe we wait for something to pass by?' said Ning B. He was trying his best to come up with a solution as well.

Once more they looked out into the surrounding. While they all looked the same, the Nings knew that they had come dozens if not hundreds of kilometers away from where that village with the giant wall lied.

They weren't looking at the surroundings to see what there was. They were looking at the surroundings to see what wasn't there anymore.

The wolf pack.

When they had first hopped onto the wolf leader's body, they were overjoyed seeing the constant 450 energy they were getting from it. So, they had turned off the notification and lived freely, waiting for the shop to unlock within half a day. But when the shop didn't unlock, they were confused.

They had the system reopen the notifications and found out that they were getting barely 5 energy. At first, they were really surprised and shocked as to what could have caused this. But when the system explained what was happening, they finally settled down, simply shaking their head at what was happening.

According to the system, because they used the parasite ability, they were now in a parasitic relationship with the wolf. This meant, they were the only ones gaining anything from the relationship, and the wolf, which was the host, was slowly getting weaker and weaker and even possibly dying.

And it did die. According to their calculations, the wolf had given them around 3 hundred thousand energy before dying. Since they no longer had a host, the Nings had to use the parasite ability once more to get another host. And as such, they were in the body of another wolf.

However, they soon realized that these wolves only gave 300 energy. Maybe it was because they hadn't eaten in half a day and were lacking in energy, or maybe it was because the rest of the wolves weren't as good as the pack leader who gave them 400 energy. So, when, inevitably, the wolves started dying, they only got 2 Hundred Thousand before they had to use the parasite ability that cost them a hundred thousand energy.

In the end, each wolf only net them a hundred thousand energy in increment. While that was a lot of energy, looking at the zero wolves around them, they knew they had exhausted all of their sources of energy, and even the one they were on right now would die in few minutes.

'We need to think of something fast,' said Ning B with a voice full of frustration.

'Hmm... wait for a second,' Ning A said as he thought of something. 'Hey system, do we lose energy if this wolf dies?' they asked. Until now, they had kept on changing their hosts every time one was close to dying and hadn't needed to ask the question. Now that they did, the system finally answered.

<You will not disappear or lose any energy>

<You will stay in the corpse of the animal until you switch bodies or snatch onto another body like a parasite>

<However, staying long term on a corpse is not recommended as the corpse can rot and you can lose energy that way>

'Oh, that's good. That means we won't have to immediately look for another body.' Ning A said with a sigh of relief.

'Yeah. And since it's the winter season, I don't think we will have to worry about the wolf rotting for quite a while,' said Ning B as he added more relief to the levity.

The wolf finally died and the Nings stopped there as well. They didn't want to waste a hundred thousand energy on a tree that couldn't move, so they instead just decided to

wait for another animal to walk by. They went unconscious, asking the system to wake them up when an animal or monster came by.

They woke up immediately to the cries of dozens of birds around them. There were at least 20 birds of the same species. They had a moderately small body but seemed bloodthirsty as they flew down to the dead wolf corpse and started to bite on it.

'Oh no! We are going to lose energy.' Ning B screamed.

'System, Parasite the closest bird,' Ning A shouted.

They immediately switch consciousness from the wolf to the bird. Within minutes, they devoured the wolf, leaving only bones intact. After they were done, they started flying away.

The birds flew in a batch, and Ning knew, the same fate that took place on the wolves would take place on these birds too. As they flew along with the birds, the Nings realized that the birds were dying once a day, instead of twice a day like the wolves.

'I think it's cause they keep eating food,' said Ning A.

'Yeah, the wolves never ate anything after the first day, did they?' Ning B chimed in as well.

However, that didn't matter to them. They were just here for the energy, and these carnivorous birds could go and die for all they cared.

Suddenly, the birds flew above a span of trees, and they were shown the scenic sights of the ocean once more. Both of them sighed once more and they said at the same time.

'' Not again. ''

Chapter 19: The Big Red Spot

It had been about 8 days since the Nings had been leeching off of the birds' bodies. The only problem was that the birds were very small compared to the wolves and couldn't give them as much energy before dying.

Each bird provided about 50 thousand extra energy before they died off. But, they also lasted for a day so the Nings were actually gathering energy far slower than when they were in the wolves.

The birds routinely flew over the shore of the ocean looking for dead carcases of aquatic creatures. Only when they didn't find them would they fly off to find dead carcases of creatures in the forest.

They never got closer to any living animals, so the Nings never got the chance to switch bodies with something better. By now they had already resigned to their fate and were waiting for all the birds to die and fall somewhere where they could switch to another creature.

However, for them to do that, they would have to wait until the last bird died off. These birds were not only carnivorous, but they were also cannibals. Whenever a bird died off, they would feast on their own kind. The Nings felt like throwing up every time they saw. But, slowly and surely, they were getting used to deaths and corpses.

Together with the attack at the village, their time with the wolves and now with the birds, they had seen enough death that they were slowly getting calloused towards it. Soon, they knew that they would see something die before them and at that time, even with the amplified emotions, they would feel absolutely nothing about it.

Time passed once more. Now, there were only half a dozen birds or so left. The Nings were getting pretty bored now.

'Hey, can't we just switch to the trees? I hate these birds,' said Ning B as he looked at the 5 birds that were flying around him.

'Just wait. After all 6 of them die, we will have 3 hundred thousand more energy. We can easily change bodies after that. It's just better objectively,' said Ning A. Although, he was incredibly bored as well.

'Oh yeah? And what if the final bird dies somewhere, where there is no tree around? Do we switch bodies with the dirt?' said Ning B. He was a little angry at Ning A.

Ning A ignored the anger in Ning B. He could empathize with him on this matter. He too was afraid that this would happen and they would forever be stuck there, waiting as the corpse of the bird rots and they lose all of their energy.

'We will just have to wait and see,' said Ning A.

Once more, the birds did their round trip and arrived at the ocean shore. They searched around the beach looking for any washed-up carcases. The beach was very long, and it took them nearly 3 days just to go from one end to the other.

Suddenly, Ning A noticed something in the ocean. A second later Ning B noticed it as well. And it didn't take the birds long after to notice it as well. The birds were good at noticing stuff, but what was happening in the ocean didn't require amazing eyesight or anything. Even the Nings with their terrible vision could see what was happening.

To be fair, who wouldn't notice a large patch of red in the middle of the blue ocean.

'Is that blood?' Ning A said as he waited for the birds to go closer so that he could see what it was.

'I think so. But, isn't that a bit too red?' Ning B asked.

'That does kind of looks like the blood we saw on the snow though. Just a little bit diluted due to the water, I believe.' Ning A said.

'Hmm... that makes sense. Just what could've died there for it to produce such a large pool of blood?' Ning B wondered.

The birds flew closer to see if they could pick off any dead fishes or creatures in the ocean. They flew over the red patch of water and the Nings watched the furious splashes of water underneath them due to the many fishes that too had gathered to find themselves some food.

'I don't see anything dead, do you?' asked Ning A.

Ning B looked around a little and answered, 'No. I don't see anything either.'

'Just what was dead then? Or are we mistaken about something dying?' Ning A wondered.

'Something has to have died. Why would so much red be here then? Even the fishes are here for the food.' Ning B said.

Ning A suddenly realized something. 'If there is so much red, yet there is no corpse here. That could only mean that this is—'

A gigantic mouth jumped out of the ocean, devouring the entire school of fishes that were near the red spot, including the birds up in the sky.

'— a trap.' Before he could even finish his sentence fully, the Nings had been swallowed by a gigantic fish. The Nings felt hot, acid-like substance burning the bodies of the bird they were in as they were both corroding and drowning in the stomach of the monster.

'System, quick!! Use parasite on the giant monster, or we will lose all of our energy before we know it.' Ning A shouted with urgency in his voice.

<It will cost you 100,000 energy. Are you sure?>

'Just f**king do it!!' Ning A shouted angrily at the system which was taking time following his orders with stupid questions. Suddenly, they felt their consciousness lurch as they

shifted from the dying bird to the giant fish. Immediately, their sense of touch went from burning and corroding to the deep coldness of the ocean.

The Nings took a sigh of relief realizing they didn't end up getting torn apart in the fish's body. They looked outside at the cold nothingness of the ocean as Ning A said.

'We walked along the forest. Then we flew high, up above.'

Ning B followed, 'I guess it's time we go dive in the ocean as well.'

Chapter 20: The True System

'Oh, I see lights again,' said Ning A as he looked in the waters outside.

'Hmm... oh, is it time again?' wondered Ning B as he saw the light start to shine brighter high above them.

'It's going to do it again,' said Ning A.

The fish they were leeching off of suddenly pumped out a massive sprout of blood-like red liquid from above its head. The red liquid flowed out to the water above and completely painted the surface red.

Although the liquid wasn't blood, it still smelled like one and attracted multiple fishes and birds towards it. The giant fish would wait for a while so that more fishes would gather and when there were a lot of them, it would immediately jump out of the water, devouring the lives in the entire area.

The Nings felt the many different fishes splashing about in the giant fish's stomach. However, they weren't sad at all. In fact, they were quite happy about it. A full stomach of fishes for the giant fish meant a lot of energy for them.

The giant fish's body didn't produce as much energy as they would've hoped for its size, but it still produced about a hundred thousand energy every single day.

By now, they had been in the giant fish for over a month and had been roaming the depths of the ocean, watching the giant fish kill anything in its track and eat it.

The Nings were amazed at how diverse the creatures on the seafloor were. Also, they were incredibly high in number. Even after all the deaths and preying they had seen, they were surprised at the number of fish and other aquatic animals they would see every single hour.

'How much longer?' Ning B asked in an impatient voice.

'Should be any time now,' said Ning A calmly.

'Argh... I can't wait, Status,' Ning B shouted.

[Status

Energy: 9,986,148

Task: Collect 13,852 more energy

Reward: You unlock Shop

Shop: LOCKED

1

After being a month in the giant fish, they were nearly done with unlocking the shop. Just a little longer and they would unlock it.

'Oh god, it's still nearly 14 thousand energy away,' Ning B said dejectedly.

'Yeah, but the fish also just ate. He will get more energy now, just wait,' said Ning A.

As time progressed forward, they felt more and more anxious about everything. The longer it went on, the slower they felt it was moving.

'How much longer??' Ning B was getting really anxious now.

'Just a little—' before Ning A could even reply anything, a notification went off in their head.

- <Congratulation>
- <The Energy System is undergoing a change>
- <Current status set as checkpoint >
- <Using 10,000,000 Energy to unlock Shop>
- <Please Wait>
- <Please Wait>
- <Please Wait>
- <Unlock Successful>

<Shop has been permanently unlocked>

The Nings were speechless for a second. They didn't know what to say about anything. As soon as he could speak once more, Ning A said.

'Uhh... status.'

[Status

Name: Ning Ruogong

Energy: 0

Skills: None

1

'...what?' the Nings were very surprised and confused. Different pieces of information were sent towards them at once and that was too much for them to handle.

'What is going on?' they tried to understand what had just happened but were failing without a single answer. 0 energy? System change? Skills? Permanent Unlocks? Checkpoint? Their speed of comprehension wasn't keeping up with how fast the questions were flying through their head.

They calmed down a little and took the problems head-on, one at a time. Ning A proceeded to question the systems about the various different things.

'System, why do I have no energy?' he asked.

- <All the gathered Energy has been spent to unlock SHOP>
- <Please gather the Energies once more>
- 'So, if I have no energies, how can I still feel, touch, smell, and sense the various different things?' he asked.
- <The you just before spending all the energy was saved as a checkpoint for you>
- <Meaning, if you ever lose your energies, you won't lose your unlocks>
- <All the unlocks you made before unlocking the shop have been permanently unlocked>

When the Nings heard about this, they became incredibly happy. They had suffered back in the forest where after they used parasite on the wolf, they had spent a lot of

energy, so their parasite skill was locked until their energy was back and past the unlock level for that ability.

Now, even when they had 0 energy, they didn't have to worry about losing their senses and energy. This was an incredible gift from the system.

'So, why did the system change?' Ning B asked.

<You are past the initial phase of the system where your purpose was to unlock the shop>

<Now, the true system has been revealed to you>

'True system? Does that mean everything we knew about the system before was fake?' Ning B asked while completely stupefied at the system's answer.

< No>

<The previous system was a tutorial, meant to teach you how the system worked>

<Now that the shop has been unlocked, you will see the true power of the system>

The Nings stayed silent. The true system was finally showing itself to them? They couldn't understand what it meant, but they started feeling a bit excited after all.

'So what happened to the tasks? Why are they replaced with the skills thingy,' Ning A asked.

<The tasks were the main methods to teach you how to gather Energy>

<Now that you know it, the tasks are no longer required>

<The skills are techniques and abilities you buy from shop>

'Huh? You can buy techniques and abilities from the shop?' Ning A said in surprise.

'Wait!! Is it like superpowers? Can we get superpowers using the shop?' Ning B asked.

<Yes>

'Oh my god,' Ning A said after hearing this. If he could become like those cultivators that flew and fought, he would be incredibly happy going forward.

'Alright, tell us right now then. What is there in the shop for us to buy then?' Ning B asked. The system simply replied.

