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Apocalypse Gachapon

Chapter 46: Upgradeable Equipment

When he grabbed the necklace, the information regarding it entered his mind.

“Basic Meditation Oasis (Upgradeable): Natural mental energy recovery +25%, basic meditation exchange (Upgradeable): can absorb demon crystals to replenish mental energy, ratio is 1 unit of mental energy for 5 units of demon crystals.”

After seeing its stats, Ye Zhongming was delighted. This was like getting a pillow when you wanted to sleep. A few hours ago he had just used up his mental energy and he only replenished less than a quarter such that he couldn't use his skills. He was afraid that he couldn't control it and finished up his mental energy once more which would affect his body situation.

With this necklace, it would be much easier to recover. Not only did he increase the recovery speed, he could also absorb demon crystals to make up for it.

This meant that as long as he had demon crystals, he didn't need to care about mental energy use!

Why did this thing look like it shouldn't just be a piece of white equipment?!

In Ye Zhongming's memory, equipment with two skills were all epic tier equipment! They either had gold or purple light. He had never heard of basic equipment with two skills.

In his last life, his green sniper rifle only had two stats and no skills at all! Even then, many people in his team were envious.

Ye Zhongming calmed down as he noticed something weird.

Why did such an accurate description of the necklace appear in his head?

It turned into pure numbers. Usually, only high level crafting jobs would have the skill. Apart from that, some scouting skills could too.

But Ye Zhongming didn't fit both requirements. He didn't have a scouting skill and his craftsman level wasn't high. Logically speaking, he shouldn't be able to see the stats so clearly.

But it did happen. Thinking about it, he could only put it down to the necklace being special.

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But Ye Zhongming felt that the reason why the necklace could have two skills would have to do with the fact that it could be upgraded.

He had once heard of legends of such equipment. Different from job levels, one didn't need upgrade scrolls but something called an unlocking potion. Someone said that these equipments were actually sealed so to use their full strength, one needed the potion to unlock it.

These potions were really rare and precious. Normal ones would rarely appear on level five wheels and was a market without supply. Occasionally they would appear but they weren't something normal people could buy. Most of them were crafted by chemists and their levels weren't fixed so whether or not you could use them to upgrade depended on luck.

Seemed like to upgrade this equipment, you needed precious liquid and it would be tough which was why it was set as a piece of white equipment.

Ye Zhongming estimated that if you upgraded this equipment to the highest level, it was epic or even legendary equipment!

As for now, this equipment was good, but its buff wasn't as exaggerated as imagined.

The meditation oasis was a passive skill that increased mental energy recovery. 25% wasn't much. After Ye Zhongming used up all his mental energy, he needed at least 20 hours to fully recover. With this skill, it would reduce it by 5 hours.

The other active skill, caused Ye Zhongming's head to hurt after he tested it.

Ye Zhongming was left with six crystals and he wanted to try to use them to exchange for some mental energy.

What he could confirm was that the level one demon crystal was one unit and it was fixed. One crystal was one unit.

Which meant that five units were the same as five crystals to recover one point of mental energy.

How much mental energy did he have? Ye Zhongming estimated and he was at 200. To recover it fully, that would need 1000 level one crystal!

The three of them risked their lives to only get 700! Even if he used them all, it was not enough for him to fully recover.

As compared to the things from the gachapon, it was not worth it to use them to recover mental energy.

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No wonder this was just a white piece of equipment. Its two skills weren't overpowered. Especially this active skill, it was not worth it at all.

But after all Ye Zhongming was someone who had lived once. Although he felt like the equipment was just average, but if it upgraded, then with the demon crystals along with smithing skills, he might be able to benefit from it.

He wore the necklace and allowed himself to recover automatically. No matter what, having something was better than nothing. Fortunately, it was quite neutral so Ye Zhongming could accept it.

They got many good things from the gachapon. Although they were just basic immunity potions and level one strengthening potions, but at the start of the apocalypse, they were very valuable. Just talking about the immunity potion, many people were willing to spend huge amounts to get it.

They looked at Ye Zhongming, they looked like... Dogs waiting to be fed. The real dog Yellow Ball wasn't very interested and just ran to other spots to find food.

Each person got one immunity potion and after injecting it, they had antibodies. Apart from extreme situations, even if they were scratched, they would still be able to live.

No one was willing to become those dirty bloodthirsty monsters. Moreover, they were girls who cared about looks. When Ye Zhongming injected it into them, even Park Xiuying looked over at him with gratitude.

Naturally, Ye Zhongming kept the last bottle to exchange for useful things in the future.

But now there was a new question, how to split the three potions?

Chapter 47: Team formation

Based on the numbers, there were three bottles for three people. But the problem was, he was not close to the three of them.

Mo Ye was someone he had high hopes for and wanted to recruit. Moreover, Ye Zhongming promised her that she would get one.

As for Liang Chuyin, Ye Zhongming didn't have high hopes for her potential. After all, there was just one standard to judge people in the apocalypse, whether or not you were strong enough. Or rather, how strong you could become. But on her, she saw the softness of a woman, but he couldn't see... The potential to become strong.

Although whether or not one became strong depended on how much you invested, but as compared to Mo Ye, her foundations were much weaker.

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What gave him a headache was Park Xiuying. Her saintly attitude was a huge no-no. Not only would it kill her, but it would also kill people by her side. So although as a guy he liked her, but after noticing her personality, he removed her from his own list right away.

But since leaving the armed forces building, she had been following them. Even if she didn't do much she did contribute. She went all out when digging the crystals and even fought to protect them. That was something rare for her who cared about her image.

But even then, Ye Zhongming was hesitating. Should he give Liang Chuyin and Park Xiuying? The level one potion was very precious.

“Can do everything, fighting or anything else.”

Although Liang Chuyin's basics weren't as good as Mo Ye, her body was exquisite but a little thin. But from her precision and firmness, she was the best out of all three.

After injecting the immunity potion, this woman realised the problem of the one star strengthening potion. She expressed her determination. Before Ye Zhongming rejected her, she expressed her attitude.

Even Ye Zhongming had to admit that she was able to see problems clearly. Her words could even tempt people.

“It might not be luck to get such a thing. In the future, we will face unexpected situations and each will concern life and death. With strength, I won't let you all go easily and you all will fight with me. Maybe tomorrow or even tonight you might die. Have you considered that?”

This was the first time Ye Zhongming was talking so seriously to her.

“I know, I understand, I am clear. You saved my life, as long as you give me a chance, I will stand by your side. Even if a strong enemy is in front of us.”

You could even see some marks of the slap that he gave her last night. But now she was solemnly swearing at the guy that hit her. Ye Zhongming really couldn't find a reason to reject her.

Basics weren't good, the potential wasn't good... But at least she had a heart. He shall just invest more in her in the future.

“What about you?” Ye Zhongming looked at the cop, “I promised to give you this strength so you can choose. Will you leave or stay?”

Mo Ye's expression was complicated.

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Before this, she had planned to leave. Her years of education and training made her dedicated to the organisations of the country. That also bred some loyalty.

But since she met this guy and went through so many things together, she felt like her thinking and mentality was changing. In the depths of her heart, she wanted to maintain such a situation and welcome the new world and power with this guy.

But... her life, was like a line pulling her backward.

“Can you tell me what you are going to do next?”

Mo Ye didn't reply to him right away and asked that instead.

He thought about it and replied, “Tonight I shall head to Pearl Lake and tomorrow I will be near the Baixing Mall.”

Mo Ye nodded, “Sorry, I might leave.”

Although he was mentally prepared but he still felt bad about it. A good seed like her was tough to find so it was a waste that she would leave.

“But I should be back, I just have things to consider and want to take a look. If things are smooth, I will go to Pearl Lake to find you. If something is delayed then I will head to the mall tomorrow.”

That reply made Ye Zhongming smile. If she had no feelings for her previous group, that would make Ye Zhongming judge her differently.

Mo Ye and Liang Chuyin were dealt with so everyone looked at Park Xiuying.

This minority female teacher was in a bad state. She had fought a strong guy so her glasses were broken and her clothes were tattered. Her white skin had some obvious bruises.

Teacher Park really wanted the strengthening potion. Although she had opinions about how Ye Zhongming did things but she couldn't deny that she envied his strength and also his determination in dangerous situations.

But she knew that this guy didn't have a good impression of her. From the way he looked at her, she understood that her hope of getting the potion was small.

Right, she did help him but anyone could do that. She was not indispensable.

But if she left these people, where would she go? That cop had a place to go, she had allies. That influencer was following Ye Zhongming and wouldn't leave. What about her?

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Her families were all in another town. With the dangers here, she couldn't even leave the district!

Help? The apocalypse happened hours ago. If there was help it would have come.

Park Xiuying was at a loss.

"Give her one, actually she is a nice person." Liang Chuyin begged for her which surprised Ye Zhongming. Especially Park Xiuying herself as she didn't expect the woman who didn't have a good impression of her to do that.

"Treat it like I owe all of you, I will think of a way to pay it back. If we ignore her, she can't survive with her personality." Mo Ye helped speak up for her.

Ye Zhongming looked at them and nodded.

"Wait here for me."

He headed to the room aside and took out the things in his bag to modify a few tubes of the level one strengthening potions.

"Thank you." Park Xiuying thanked the two of them.

"Don't be happy too early, if you drag us down, I will be the first to kill you."

Hearing her threat, not only did she not feel angry, she felt touched. She pulled their hands and shook them.

When Ye Zhongming came out, she noticed that their relationship had changed. But that was a good thing and was something he hoped to see.

"It will hurt after injecting, hold it in."

After saying that, he passed each of them one.

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After leaving the supermarket, Mo Ye left alone while Ye Zhongming brought the two of them back to his house.

"I will go do something so rest here. If you feel like your situation is good you can go kill some zombies. Remember, don't draw too many. If you see white colored crystals on them or other monsters, run. Do you understand?"

Although the two of them were still excited about having evolved but they listened to him and nodded their heads.

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After he left, he moved around the city. He had to see a place. If it was like the last life, there were many good things there.

His evolution speed couldn't get dragged down by these women.

Chapter 48: Protector beast

In the last life, Ye Zhongming had heard of an interesting thing.

It was said that two months after the apocalypse began, someone noticed a protector beast in a factor. That beast had reached level five and killed many survivor teams. It was really strong. What gave one a headache was that it had two more helpers. Although they weren't as strong but they were level four.

The three monsters ruled a region.

A six star army expert attacked to kill these three. Legend had it that he got a blueprint and an egg from this beast.

Ye Zhongming was not sure which breed this beast was, he just knew that the blueprint was a weapon blueprint. That was because not long later, the experts' team started to equip itself with a strong silver blade that was sharp and really useful.

In the last life, Ye Zhongming was a blade user so he paid attention to such things. When he heard about it, he remembered it in his heart.

Of course, there was another reason why he paid attention to it. That was because the one who killed the protector beast was a famous nine star military expert Heaven Blade Wang Ding! The idol of everyone who used a blade.

In this life, Ye Zhongming became a smith and obtained this white blade which made him recall this matter. Thus he was interested in the blueprint.

If he could get it, he could remake the blade in his hand and raise its level and strength. When the time comes, his strength would increase greatly.

Moreover, each egg was a huge replenishment for evolved people. After eating it, it was like having a weakened strengthening potion.

This time, Ye Zhongming came out to see if that thing was real or not.

The factory in the story was quite far from his house and would take an hour by walking. There were dangers all around so it would take much longer.

Fortunately, he had a one star evolved body so in a safe situation, he would be much quicker than normal people.

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When he found the factory, it was already noon.

It was a commercial building that had just started construction. The Foundations were done and five to six stories were built and were being surrounded by a dark green protective fence. Trees were all around. If the apocalypse didn't come, this place would have been really busy.

But now it was totally silent.

That was weird. For a construction ground that just started, the workers mostly stay inside. Those security guards and logistics officers would basically be stuck here. When the apocalypse occurred, there should be many zombies here.

But Ye Zhongming observed and didn't even notice one.

Seemed like something really took over this area and either chased or ate all the zombies.

To eat normal zombies or chase away these zombies, it had to be two star.

He snuck in a climbed up the building that was furthest away. He got to the top floor and walked carefully to the window.

He could see everything from this area.

He looked around and when he glanced at the southeast corner, he squinted his eyes and even his breathing slowed down.

He saw the target.

Ape Turtle!

After the apocalypse occurred, apart from life forms from Earth-- humans and plants mutating, there were also aliens, things that survivors called monsters.

After the apocalypse, many dungeons appeared. Normally, these monsters appeared only in dungeons.

But there were always exceptions. Some of them would walk out and roam the outside world.

Apart from that, some great items like blueprints etc would appear. Monsters would guard these items and those they were known as protector beasts.

These monsters would often move about the area of the item that they protected and they had specific territories.

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As these monsters were a branch of the monsters from the dungeons, so their descendants were great training partners. Especially for teams that wanted to enter the dungeons. They could fight with the protector beasts to gain experience.

Moreover, killing these protector beasts would often give great items.

Before reviving, there weren't many of these protector beasts left. The weak ones were all killed and those who could survive outside the dungeons were really strong that even nine star experts didn't want to offend.

The Ape Turtle was a type of protector beast.

This name was naturally given by survivors. They were often named after the imagination of humans.

Ape Turtle had a head that looked like an ape, a shell on its back and a tail that looked like a crocodile. It had high defence and really high strength.

There was also another reason why survivors paid attention to it, it had decent reproductive abilities.

Maybe to maintain the food chain. Monsters including the mutated plants on earth, the stronger ones had weak reproductive abilities. This rule also affected humans just that it wasn't as obvious.

There were exceptions like this. Their reproductive ability was not bad. Based on human observations, they could give birth once every year or two and would have 2-3 eggs with an 80% success rate. They appeared in many dungeons in large amounts and they often lived together in groups of ten.

Of course, even then, only a few could evolve to level nine. Most humans would bump into level six ones.

The one that Ye Zhongming saw was level two.

Ye Zhongming did kill them before in his last life and knew its strength and weaknesses. After thinking about it, Ye Zhongming realised that it would be tough.

Same-level monsters were much stronger than the natives on Earth. Ye Zhongming found it so hard to kill a level two Blood Tongue Lizard so asking him to hunt this was no different from asking him to die.

Moreover, in the rumors that he heard, this Ape Turtle had helpers!

Ye Zhongming observed for a while more before moving out.

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Although the enemy was strong but he didn't want to give up. Before he did anything, he needed to have some preparations.

Chapter 49: Armor piercing bullet

The blade was pulled out from the head of a zombie and Ye Zhongming also easily dodged the blood that spurted out.

In just a day, the liquid in their bodies had changed. They slowly turned into a different color from when they were alive.

To kill the Ape Turtle, Ye Zhongming spent two hours here.

He killed the zombies a hundred meters around that spot to clear out a region.

In normal situations, a level one evolved didn't have much chance of winning against a two time evolved monster. If not for Ye Zhongming having two support jobs and also his understanding of its weakness, then he would just be spinning gachapons and using normal methods to get strong.

But this was just an Ape Turtle. He also had a white weapon which gave Ye Zhongming confidence.

But Ye Zhongming was living for a second time and had hunting experience. He didn't directly challenge it, he had to increase his advantage.

Apart from that, he had to prevent accidents from happening.

The biggest accident at the start would be for zombie hoards to appear. He had to ensure that none of these would come over and disturb him.

Moreover, he needed some demon crystals to recover mental energy. As for whether or not it was worth it, he couldn't care about so much.

When he went back to the construction area, he had a hundred more level one crystals. With Yellow Ball's help, the efficiency was much higher.

He left some as reserves while he used mostly for the active skill of the necklace to obtain over ten points of mental energy. Along with natural recovery, he had recovered up to a hundred points.

He hid in a corner and took out the Blood Tongue Lizard's claws.

He consumed a lot of mental energy to obtain this thing using the Collection and Refining Technique.

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Ye Zhongming placed a claw and the blade together to see if he could enchant it but he got rejected. The blade with toughness stats had reached the limit of its current level.

He placed them on the shield and wanted to enchant this grey equipment. But the notification he got was that it didn't fit the enchanting requirements. It seemed like the stats that the claw would cause were different from the defensive gear of the shield.

In the end, he took out some bullets.

These were given to him by Mo Ye and were suitable for his new gun.

This new gun was really good but since it was strengthened from two normal guns, it was just grey. Its strength wasn't far above Earth's normal weapons. But since he didn't have other guns to strengthen, he couldn't improve the gun itself.

Thus, he could only work from the bullets.

Fortunately, Enchanting could be used on consumables like bullets.

Ye Zhongming didn't enchant it right away. He thought about it and started to strengthen the claws themselves. He strengthened four of them. This grey material shone a small light even under broad daylight.

He placed these claws near a bullet and he used Enchanting Technique. Light swirled and a translucent bullet appeared in his palm.

This bullet didn't look like a metal at all, instead, it looked like an art piece made of crystal.

"Penetration +4."

A stat appeared in his mind. This was the benefit that the Smith job gave him. Even when crafting equipment, he could find out all the stats about it.

This was what he gained after Ye Zhongming got familiar with his secondary job. This experience wasn't written on the scroll.

Ye Zhongming grabbed one more to enchant this bullet. After it lit up, its stat became "Penetration +6."

After seeing this value, Ye Zhongming understood. The same material could stack and would add to the original stats. But this effect would weaken. For example this bullet, if he used one more claw, that one just add one point of penetration.

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He didn't take the risk. Ye Zhongming used the remaining two claws on the other two bullets. So now he had three bullets with strong penetration, one with 6 points of penetration!

Penetration was something that he wanted. This stat was just the armor piercing effect that was suitable for the Ape Turtle.

He placed the three bullets into the chamber. Ye Zhongming stood up and took in a few breaths before he walked out of the hidden place.

The Ape Turtle built its nests on a huge cement stirrer. The earth's devices gave it a sense of freshness.

It didn't like the daylight so it was sleeping in the car.

The surviving humans and zombies were probably eaten by this Ape Turtle. It needed sleep to digest the food and turn it into its own strength so that it could evolve quickly.

When Ye Zhongming was within 20 meters of it, it opened its eyes. It sniffed and rage appeared on its face that was covered in black fur.

Its two meter long body surged out from the vehicle and it landed with a loud thud. Its huge eyes locked onto him.

Monsters were very sensitive to human scent, very few people could sneak attack monsters of a similar level.

Ye Zhongming looked at the monster that was covered in green scales and did a provocative gesture.

Monster's evolved more than lifeforms on earth and their intellects were limited to their level. For example this level two Ape Turtle, its intellect was based on its species and not only level. Even if its intellect was not on the level of humans, it was smarter than many of those on Earth.

So it might not understand that gesture but it could understand what it meant. What infuriated it was that this human actually took out a red cloth!

Right, when it saw the red cloth it got easily angry. That was the experience that humans in his last life gained. After clearing out the zombies, Ye Zhongming found this piece.

Wu wa!

It cried out really loudly. After roaring, its body stood up and surged right at Ye Zhongming. Its attack method was similar to humans.

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But Ye Zhongming knew that its attack was stronger than humans. It was extremely strong, both its hands and legs had sharp claws that could easily rip apart the body of three star evolved experts. Its defence was strong too as its stomach that it revealed from standing up wasn't a weakness. Scales also covered that area too.

The Ape Turtle was really quick and in just a blink it was in front of Ye Zhongming. Its claw swept right at Ye Zhongming's face. If he got hit, his flesh would open up.

He jumped backward and shoved the red cloth into his waist to continue to provoke the beast. While dodging, he fired the gun.

"Peng", the body of the Ape Turtle shook. It was shocked about the sneak attack and it looked at its stomach to see that a few scales were broken. Fresh blood was flowing out.

The monster cried out once more. This time everyone could hear the rage in its voice.

This despicable human actually injured it! This Ape Turtle went berserk and jumped to close the distance. It waved its claws and used its skill--- Tempest Claw

Two claws struck so quickly that he couldn't see clearly. The air was being ripped apart. If he was hit, his body would be ripped into pieces.

But Ye Zhongming had guessed it was coming and waved his blade in front of him to block its attacks.

The giant recoil transferred to his palms and made it hard for him to hold on. The gap in level made it tough for him to battle it head on. Half of his body was going numb because of the giant strength.

He felt some regret about the effect of that penetration+4 bullet before retreating. A giant tail brushed past his body, and the wind that it caused made Ye Zhongming feel some pain in his skin. The giant tail smashed the ground and left a half a meter large hole.

In a normal state, if the Ape Turtle saw a human dodge its second skill, then it would become more careful.

But Ye Zhongming had experience from his last life. As he wasn't as strong as the last life, there weren't many methods that he could use. But at least he was able to make it lose its mind. That red cloth stimulated this beast's senses.

Seeing the Ape Turtle pounce at him once again, Ye Zhongming did something unexpected. He sliced forwards and missed. That arm appeared right in front of its mouth!

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The Ape Turtle saw the human do something so stupid so it didn't hesitate, opening its mouth to bite down.

If someone was observing, they would notice the grey shield that Ye Zhongming had been wearing on his left hand since he had gotten it. But now it had been moved to his right hand!

Seeing the Ape Turtle bite down, Ye Zhongming looked more relaxed and did not panic!

His wrist waved and the blade spun around to stick to his arm. One was on top and the shield was below, protecting the arm in the middle.

Ka!

A ear piercing rubbing sound could be heard. That bite that the Ape Turtle thought would succeed was blocked just like that!

Shortly after, a black gun barrel stretched in from the small gap. A translucent bullet shot out from the barrel!