

# Astral Apostle

## Chapter 141: New Life Objective (1)

After waiting for two days in the Imperial Hunter Base, Zhou Jing roughly understood the situation. There were all kinds of facilities here, and everything was for the service of the Empire's hunters. There were also many settlements nearby.

Tarn City was both the capital and the safest fortress city in the current Terra Empire. Foreigners flowed in all year round, and the fortress city could not be easily expanded. Therefore, it was divided into three areas, namely the inner city, the outer city, and the subsidiary towns.

Those subsidiary towns were villages and towns attached to the capital and scattered around the city walls. With the restrictions on living and land prices in the capital, most foreigners chose to live in the subsidiary towns. They were separated according to customs, culture, wealth, and other factors. There were eight subsidiary towns around the capital, and the Imperial Hunter Base was one of them. It was just that the nature of this town was more special than the others.

Apart from hunting, the Empire's hunters did not produce anything and had nothing to do. Due to their powerful physique, they had a higher level of hormone secretion and were full of desire. Most of the time, they were even more restless than adolescents and had their own ways of venting.

Some people slipped away to other towns to look for brothels daily, while others spent their days on the training ground wrestling and sweating.

Zhou Jing's strength, displayed in his short spar with Cole, had spread like wildfire over the past two days. The army hunters in the base knew that a rather powerful Second Enhancement newcomer had come. Every day, there would be people inviting Zhou Jing to wrestle.

Hunters valued martial arts and respected the strong. Furthermore, intense activities often brought about more daily harvest. Zhou Jing did not reject anyone. Whoever came, he would challenge. This was enough to keep him satisfied.

Over the past two days, he had gotten to know many people through wrestling. The name "Jace" had also spread among the Imperial Hunters.

On the third day, the few hunting teams that were out hunting finally returned to the city.

The commander of the Imperial Hunters, Keriber, had returned. When he heard about Zhou Jing's situation, he did not even change his clothes that were stained with the blood of mutant beasts. Instead, he immediately asked Cole to get Zhou Jing to meet him.

...

Zhou Jing followed Cole to the entrance of the encampment. He saw a convoy of more than ten beasts pulling wooden boards at a glance. On them were the corpses of various mutated beasts.

Among them, there were a few mutated beasts that had been captured alive. They were covered in wounds, and their entire bodies were tied up with special ropes. Their bodies had been injected with a paralysis potion and, furthermore, had not eaten for many days. They were all listless, not even having the strength to struggle.

A large group of workshop staff was surrounding the convoy, loading and unloading the corpses of the mutated beasts and dragging them out of the vehicle. Beside the convoy, many hunters, including Cole, were surrounding a person.

Zhou Jing looked over and got a surprise.

Unlike other tall and burly hunters, this person was less than 1.7 meters tall. However, he was extremely stocky, and his muscles were bursting out like an explosion, almost protruding out of his leather armor. He looked very hard, like a rock with clear ravines carved onto it. On his back hung a hexagonal spiked war hammer with an extremely exaggerated head ratio, and there were mottled bloodstains on it.

He had thick eyebrows and white hair at his temples. He looked quite old and had sported a beard.

"That's our commander, Keriber," Cole introduced quietly.

"He's a little different from what I imagined..." Zhou Jing said honestly.

"I understand." Cole lowered his voice and laughed. "The commander's figure wasn't like this originally, but during the fourth enhancement, he chose a Dwarf Turtle Dragon. His bad luck caused him to inherit the side effects... In short, it's best not to mention his height in front of him. Whoever mentions it will fall out with him forever."

Zhou Jing's face twitched when he heard this.

... It seemed that it was necessary to get one or two more Mutant Blood Warriors to clear the life objectives. If he, unfortunately, obtained a side effect from a certain enhancement, his main body would at least have a backup option that could be replaced.

At this moment, Keriber saw Zhou Jing and immediately pushed through the crowd.

“You must be Jace! I heard that you could defeat Cole? Alright, we Imperial Hunters need talents like you.”

Although he was laughing, his voice was extremely deep, almost causing the air to tremble.

Zhou Jing greeted him simply and sized up Keriber curiously.

So this was the current Chief Hunter of the Empire, the strongest in existence.

He quietly opened the interface and spent 10 Astral Points to activate the reconnaissance.

The next moment, Keriber’s attributes appeared on the interface.

[Attributes: Physical Fitness 74, Resistance 80 (Second Order Max), Perception 42, Spirit 18, Energy 10]

*“He has three attributes which have broken through to First Order. Furthermore, his Resistance is really high. He’s already at the threshold of Third Order... An ordinary person’s Fifth Enhancement should be lower than this. After all, Keriber definitely knows a lot of skills to increase his attributes as well... Speaking of which, he actually still has 10 points in Energy.”*

Zhou Jing was very interested.

According to others, Keriber was a 55-year-old hunter. He had been the commander of the empire’s hunters for seven years, with rich hunting experience and also highly proficient in many weapons. His body was extremely strong, and he could even kill most high-risk mutant beasts with his bare hands. He could also deal with the fatal-risk mutant beasts with ease.

With such an attribute for Physical Fitness, he had already exceeded most mutated beasts. In this world, only a few creatures could threaten his existence.

Zhou Jing compared it with his own body parameters. He felt that with Keriber’s attributes, the latter’s strength was more than 10 tons, even reaching 20 tons. Even if he was not fast, his minimum top speed was at least 120 to 130 kilometers per hour. His strongest aspect was his defense, and he could withstand attacks much stronger than even Zhou Jing’s maximum strength.

While he was calculating and thinking, his mouth was not idle. He chatted with Keriber, and both of them got to know each other.

Although Keriber was the peak of the existing hunters, he did not put on airs. Although his voice was powerful, his words were quite amiable.

## Chapter 142: New Life Objective (2)

“Cole said that you plan to enhance a third time. You’re very brave—not bad. Once you officially join, the workshop’s inventory will be completely open to you. You can choose any blood potion you want. You’ve also waited for a few days, so let’s not delay anymore. Let’s go to the Bestial Battle Arena today, I’ll bring you there.”

He directly threw the task of unloading the goods to his deputy and called Zhou Jing and Cole to follow him. Then, he ran straight to the Bestial Battle Arena, swift and decisive.

Zhou Jing followed closely behind. The group soon arrived at the Bestial Battle Arena on the capital’s outskirts. A huge circular building was located here and was heavily guarded.

Keriber went up to talk to the guards before bringing Zhou Jing and the others in.

When the person in charge of the Bestial Battle Arena heard the news, he personally came out to welcome them.

“Commander Keriber, why are you here today?”

“Find a mutant beast. I want to test our new recruit.” Keriber let out a muffled laugh and went straight to the point.

“No problem! I’ll get someone to pull one over from the beast cage immediately.” The person in charge of the Bestial Battle Arena readily agreed. But then, he looked at Zhou Jing, “What sort of mutant beast do you want to fight?”

Keriber and Cole also turned to look at Zhou Jing.

Zhou Jing pondered for a moment and probed, “A medium-risk mutant beast?”

If it was a one-on-one, he felt that it was better to be on the safer side.

“Okay.” Keriber had no objections.

The second enhancement corresponded to the danger of a medium-risk mutant beast. Although Jace was very strong and fine to challenge the high-risk assessment, and it would prove his value if he succeeded... it was more or less a risk.

In Keriber's opinion, choosing to challenge the medium-risk was also a measure of one's ability. He had long passed the age of gambling, taking risks, and challenging his limits. Instead, he advocated a sure and steady style. It was good for a hunter to only attack when he was confident.

Of course, it was safer to choose low-risk, but that did not match the extent of Zhou Jing's enhancement.

Zhou Jing made some preparations before entering the Bestial Battle Arena. Meanwhile, Keriber and Cole went over to the tall spectator stands to be the audience.

After waiting for a while, Zhou Jing suddenly heard the roar of a beast approaching.

“Snort snort—Roar!”

The entrance sealed with iron bars opposite Zhou Jing was opened. A Mutant Beast roared and rushed into the Bestial Battle Arena. The chains around its neck dragged on the ground, making clunking sounds.

This was a wolf-headed beast with a human body. It was about 2.3 meters tall, bipedal, with a hunched body. Its long fur was gray and black, and its sharp claws were like blades. It could easily cut open a person's stomach, and as it ran, it left deep claw marks on the wall.

“A humanoid mutant beast, a Gray Werewolf, right...” Zhou Jing recognized the species of this monster.

Among the mutated beasts, there was a special group called the humanoid species, possessing a body structure similar to that of a human. Compared to other species, their strength and speed were not outstanding, but their size was not huge like the other beasts, making them difficult to deal with. Furthermore, they were generally more cunning.

The characteristic of the Gray Werewolf was its quick regeneration and extremely strong sense of smell. Although their physical strength was limited, because of their “petite” size, they were more agile and dangerous.

The most troublesome part was that the Gray Werewolves were social creatures and would only appear in groups. They were even more troublesome than ordinary high-risk mutant beasts. There were not many chances to fight them one-on-one like now.

*“It should have been deliberately chosen by the Bestial Battle Arena. This kind of mutant beast with self-healing abilities is probably the Bestial Battle Arena's favorite. It can be used repeatedly.”*

Zhou Jing pondered in his heart, but that did not stop his movements. He pulled out the long saber on his back... This was a new weapon that he had spent money to buy. It was forged from refined iron and was tough and sharp. It was of high quality among ordinary weapons.

After the Gray Werewolf rushed into the Bestial Battle Arena, its first thought was to escape. It ran and jumped crazily but could not jump past the high wall.

Its scarlet eyes turned, and it finally noticed Zhou Jing, who was on the scene. It immediately lowered its body and made a posture as if it would pounce at Zhou Jing at any moment. It bared its teeth at Zhou Jing, and its throat rumbled as it threatened its opponent.

Zhou Jing moved his shoulders and suddenly rushed forward.

Seeing this, the Gray Werewolf roared angrily and pounced into the air, his sharp claws stabbing out like ten daggers.

Zhou Jing held his breath and instantly entered the [Thunder Strike] state, his explosive power increasing by a notch.

Whoosh!

With a twist of his foot, just as they were about to collide, he spun around to avoid the threatening claws.

The long saber tilted, dragging out a narrow beam of cold light.

Swoosh!

In the arena, two figures instantly crossed each other.

Silently, a slice of wolf hand flew out.

Blood spurted out from the perfectly smooth cut.

One of the Gray Werewolf's arms was cut off in an instant. In front of Zhou Jing's blade, with both speed and strength, it was like a hot knife cutting through butter.

"Wuu!"

The Gray Werewolf screamed like a puppy in pain. It turned around and tried to grab Zhou Jing's back.

However, Zhou Jing's speed was even faster. With a single step, he had already turned around to face it, slashing out with his saber.

The blade cut through the flesh and bones, directly cutting off half the palm and a portion of the forearm from the Gray Werewolf.

The Gray Werewolf was in intense pain, and its bestial nature completely erupted. Ignoring the heavy injuries on its arm, it suddenly opened its mouth, wanting to bite off the throat of the enemy who had injured it.

Under the influence of the strong neck muscles, the Gray Werewolf's lunging bite was like a snake's head flicking. It was fast and fierce. In a flash, its mouth full of sharp teeth was about to touch Zhou Jing's skin.

However, before the bite could land, Zhou Jing had already read the trajectory of its actions.

His expression did not change, merely raising his hand to elbow squarely on the chin of the Gray Werewolf, causing its bloody mouth to snap shut.

Then, he raised his leg and kicked. A huge force exploded on the chest of the Gray Werewolf.

Peng!

The Gray Werewolf was kicked into the air.

Halfway through its flight, the chain around its neck suddenly tightened. The other end was actually grabbed by Zhou Jing!

## **Chapter 143: New Life Objective (3)**

With a strong tug!

In the next moment, an even stronger force stopped the Gray Werewolf's momentum and dragged it back to Zhou Jing.

Before it could land on the ground, Zhou Jing let go of the chain. He held the saber with both hands and slashed directly at it.

A cold saber light flashed, cutting through the Gray Werewolf's vision.

Its neck passed through the horizontal incoming blade.

Splat!

A huge wolf head spun and soared into the sky, and the blood shot up four to five meters into the air.

The headless corpse passed by Zhou Jing and staggered a few steps forward before falling to the ground behind him.

“Huuuuu...”

Zhou Jing exhaled the breath he had been holding in his body. He casually shook off the coagulating blood on the blade before sheathing it.

In front of Jason’s current physique, a medium-risk beast was like a quail. He did not even need to pull out all his cards and could kill it head-on.

Clap, clap, clap—applause came in waves from the stands.

Keriber looked impressed. “Good fight.”

The battle was very short, almost instantaneous. He could see Zhou Jing’s suppression of it. It was smooth and easy for him.

It looked easy, but only by crushing a Gray Werewolf in all aspects with strength and speed, as well as understanding the habits of the opponents, could one easily and quickly kill such a medium-risk beast.

Keriber had always loved capable hunters.

He jumped down from the stands and came in front of Zhou Jing. He raised his head and said, “From now on, you are a glorious Imperial Hunter.”

“*Don’t I need to take an oath or apply for an identification...*”? Zhou Jing wanted to scratch his head.

The Mutant World was more sloppy than the main world in this aspect.

At this moment, a new message popped up on the interface.

[Triggered achievement [Imperial Hunter]!]

[You have received 500 Astral Points!]

[Specific conditions have been met... Do you want to add a new [Life Objective] to the current Apostle?]

[Current Life Objectives: [Empty Slot] x3]



[Loadable Objectives: [Empire's Chief Hunter], [Hunter Master], [Surpassing the Epics] ]

*"Huh? A new Life Objective?"* Zhou Jing paused.

He thought that after completing an apostle's life objective, this would be over.

It seemed that his guess was wrong. Life Objectives were renewable and could be replaced or added in some way. It was probably something like a career mission or career achievement.

And the initial number of Life Objectives the had meant how many empty slots there would be after they were completed.

Zhou Jing quickly began to analyze.

One of the so-called "certain conditions" should be to participate in special events or join certain factions.

In this case, the situation was more favorable than he had expected. The Eternal Apostle still had this stable method to obtain Information State without a need to cause trouble everywhere.

Unlike creating a new apostle, the [Life Objective] that was automatically triggered was no longer mandatory. It could be discovered on its own, and it would be more flexible in choosing whether he wished to take up the objective... This was like how a normal person would establish a new goal after completing one.

Moreover, Zhou Jing discovered that the [Life Objective] he had discovered seemed to be similar to the Apostle's original [Life Objectives]. Perhaps only a larger goal in a similar direction could be triggered.

That meant that a person who was determined to study medicine would not easily have a life objective like "becoming a literary master" unless encountered a special reason.

*"If not only Eternal Apostles, but even those who have yet to clear the level can automatically trigger a new life objective, then this might be a long-term way to obtain a clear route to clearing the level for all future apostles. Completing one mission after another is more purposeful and stable than doing something illusory, but the prerequisite is that it can be triggered."*

Zhou Jing thought to himself and was extremely excited about this new prospect.

At this moment, the three targets that could be loaded were all based on his Mutant Beast Hunter route.

As the name suggested, the [Empire's Chief Hunter] had to be conferred by the Empire. As for the [Hunter Master], he probably had to master a large number of hunter breathing techniques and combat techniques. He had to accumulate 100 mutant beast kills and become the publicly recognized "Master" of the hunters. The [Surpassing the Epics] stated that to perform more enhancements than the historical record of Raven, which was eight times.

Jason·Wood was currently a salted fish without a goal. Zhou Jing felt that these three goals were similar to his plan, so he did not hesitate and directly chose to load them all.

[Jason·Wood's life objectives have been changed.]

[Current Life Objectives: [Empire's Chief Hunter], [Hunter Master], [Surpassing the Epics]]

*"I feel like my life has suddenly gained some meaning..."*? Looking at his three new goals, Zhou Jing felt inexplicably motivated.

While he operated the panel, Keriber did not stop speaking.

"...As for your friend Rosen, I've learned about his situation. I can make an exception. There's no need for a hunting test," Keriber was explaining. "If you can successfully enhance three times, you'll be the backbone of the Empire's Hunters. You'll then be qualified to lead a small team and recruit Rosen into your team."

"Okay." Zhou Jing came back to his senses.

Keriber nodded and raised his hand high, patting Zhou Jing on the shoulder. He encouraged him with the expectations of a leader for a potential employee.

"I have high hopes for you. You can look for me to chat when you have time."

With that, he did not stay there any longer. After bidding farewell to the two of them, he leaped out of the entire arena, not even bothering to take the entrance out of place.

Zhou Jing watched as Keriber jumped out of the Bestial Battle Arena. Then, he turned to look at Cole. "He's quite a good person."

"Of course. Commander Keriber is like the big brother of our Imperial Hunters. He remembers the names of every hunter and apprentice." Cole shrugged.

While the two of them were chatting, the medical team from the Bestial Battle Arena had already entered the arena to see if the Gray Werewolf could still be saved.

After discovering that it was completely dead, the medical team immediately became an autopsy team. They gathered materials on the spot and squeezed the value of it.

Zhou Jing and Cole did not stay long. After bidding farewell to the person in charge of the Bestial Battle Arena, they set off.

Not long after, the two of them returned to the Imperial Hunter Base. Zhou Jing did not delay and went straight to the workshop.

Upon hearing that he had officially become an Imperial Hunter, the workshop opened its service and brought him to the warehouse to display the stock of the blood potions.

“This is our current stock. Take a look and see what you want.”

Zhou Jing took the list from the workshop staff, and upon gazing at it, his eyes widened.

The dense content filled the list.

*“There actually is so much stock?!”*

*“With so many hunters here, it should not be the case!”*

Seeing Zhou Jing’s surprise, the workshop staff resigned himself to explain.

“This workshop is directly under the Empire. Unlike other towns, our production capacity is far greater than our consumption. We have sufficient mutant beast materials and rarely stop production. Moreover, when developing a new formula, we will create a large number of excess potions as well.

Every year, only when we nurture apprentices will we use a large number of blood potions. However, very few hunters want to break through to a higher level of enhancement. Therefore, there will always be more and more storage units, and all kinds of blood potions will accumulate dust..”

Zhou Jing’s eyes lit up as he looked at the list of high-quality potions. Usually, those would have long been reserved by others were he in other towns, but here, no one even bothered to reserve, as there were simply too many of them.

He had indeed chosen correctly to come to the capital!

## **Chapter 144: Third Enhancement! (1)**

Due to the restrictions of this world’s logistics level, it was difficult for the products of the Empire’s direct workshops to be transported to remote towns, causing such a phenomenon.

There was a dazzling array of various types of mutant blood potions. There were even more than ten sets of fatal-risk mutant beast potions that were rarely seen outside, including the works of masters.

According to the formula of the Mutant Blood Potion, there was a huge difference in the final product's effect if the ingredients of a mutant beast were mixed with different herbs or ores.

The better the formula, the better the strengthening effect on the body. It would inherit the stronger characteristics of the beasts, and the less likely it was for there to be side effects, reducing the chances of death.

In the past, after a long period of research, the various tribes had each grasped a unique formula. However, after the establishment of the Terra Empire, they gathered the formulas of many tribes and further researched and improved them, forming a formula with more outstanding effects, thus consolidating the empire's resource advantage.

In addition, a large number of elites and master pharmacists were gathered in the capital, so the products of the Empire's direct workshops were often one or two levels higher than those of other towns.

As for the higher-level research projects, the royal capital had left the other towns in the dust. They had started researching a type of compound blood potion as well as a sort of legacy potion that would allow one to inherit the current mutant beast superpowers, but there had been no results yet.

Due to the strange variety of mutant beasts, most of the technology in this world was focused on the research of mutant beasts. To a certain extent, it had already reached the level of biotechnology and genetic engineering. It was quite advanced in biotechnology, but it was very backward in other aspects.

In some aspects, the Mutant World had some concepts, products, systems, and so on that seemed to be incompatible with the current era... Zhou Jing had always thought that this was the influence of the "alien lifeforms."

Therefore, he was used to seeing things that were different from the current era.

After Zhou Jing asked the workshop staff, he was immediately immersed in the inventory list of the workshop and wanted everything.

He slowly narrowed down his choice and finally chose two bottles of extremely high-standard blood potions.

Unlike other towns, which had a limit on how many potions could be exchanged for, the Imperial Hunters could directly take whatever they wanted as long as they reported it to the base.

Keriber had already greeted him, and the procedures were smooth. Before long, Zhou Jing walked out of the workshop with two exquisite wooden boxes containing potions.

“When do you plan to enhance?” Cole was curious.

“After a while. I need to adjust my condition first.”

“Then when you’re ready, you can call me to help you stand on guard.”

“Okay, okay.”

Zhou Jing casually replied.

He did not plan to use the potion in front of others this time.

After all, the enhancement of the Mutant Blood was risky. If he was unlucky enough to fail and die in front of everyone, it would be very difficult for him to return.

After the incident in White Plains City, he already had experience in this aspect.

Zhou Jing had long thought about it. In the future, he would have to avoid others when he enhanced himself. Even if he died, no one would know. This way, after he died, he would not be buried and could continue to stay in his original place.

Cole did not suspect anything and took out a thick hardcover book from his bag before handing it to Zhou Jing.

“This is our course catalog. Go back and flip through it in the next few days to see which you would like to learn first. When the time comes, I’ll bring you to find the corresponding hunter teacher.”

Zhou Jing took the hardcover book with a subtle expression.

*Good lord, there are even teaching materials?*

He had thought that the hunters would use primitive words and teachings. After all, that was what Barong did.

After bidding farewell to Cole, Zhou Jing brought Ross home. The first thing he did was flip open the book and take a look. He realized that the Imperial Hunter course was indeed comprehensive and planned.

The courses were even classified into stages such as Entry, Advancement, Expert, and so on. It was quite a déjà-vu experience.

*“If you tell me this isn’t because of the influence of the life form from the alternate dimensions, I will pee upside down from now on.”*

Zhou Jing’s face twitched as he read.

Over the past few days, he had also paid attention to his surroundings. He did not discover any existences that were suspected to be from an alternate dimension among the Imperial Hunters. Of course, it was also possible that they were hiding too deeply.

Although he felt that there would most likely be hidden life forms from other dimensions in a place like the capital, he did not have any thoughts about it at the moment. The real benefit was to increase the power of the Eternal Apostle first.

In the textbooks of the Imperial hunters, the most important lesson was not to fight but to learn information about all kinds of mutant beasts. This was information that generations of hunters had exchanged with their blood. To most hunters, it was more important than direct combat strength.

For example, Barong had only been enhanced once in the past, but because he knew the habits of the white spider monster like the back of his hand, he could lead a group of ordinary hunters to kill it.

However, to Zhou Jing, the highest priority was still the Hunter’s Breathing Technique.

*“Wow, as expected of an orthodoxy. There are 18 breathing techniques available.”*

Zhou Jing clicked his tongue, his eyes shining.

Barong had said before that the hunter’s breathing technique needed to be taught by someone personally. It could not be taught by books, and the book also only listed the breathing techniques that some hunters in the Empire had mastered.

If he wanted to learn, he would have to seek guidance from the corresponding people. He could not learn it just by relying on the teaching materials.

The 18 types of breathing techniques did not seem like much and did not match the number of Imperial Hunters that numbered in the thousands. However, many of the breathing techniques mastered by hunters were repetitive. For example, the three breathing techniques mastered by Zhou Jing were also recorded in the book.

Most people only learned two or three techniques according to their own path. They did not have the energy to practice other breathing techniques, nor could they use them in battle.

## Chapter 145: Third Enhancement! (2)

It was already impossible to determine how many more types of Hunter's Breathing Techniques there were in the world. As for the 18 types of Hunting Techniques, they basically covered all kinds of strengthening directions. There were strength types, high-speed, tenacious, training, and so on.

There was also a special breathing technique called the "Primal Breathing Technique." It was said to be an incomplete version of the original breathing technique. The subsequent breathing techniques were all derived from this foundation.

Imperial hunters would more or less master a little bit of the "Primal Breathing Technique." It sounded famous, but it was the most ineffective breathing technique. The breathing technique from ancient times was crude, and the subsequent improved versions were getting better and better. It was not that the older the technique was, the stronger it became.

However, the Primal Breathing Technique had a convenience, which was that it more or less contained the essence of other breathing techniques. Therefore, it would be easier to learn other breathing techniques after mastering it. Therefore, this was almost a compulsory course for the Imperial Hunters.

Zhou Jing was delighted, "This is really a treasure trove of knowledge!"

He had a unique advantage in learning. The Accelerated Learning was enough for him to master a breathing technique quickly.

According to his previous experience, he would be able to master a breathing technique to Level 4 in three months if he accelerated the learning speed from the beginning. However, now that his Physical Fitness and Resistance aptitude had risen to the blue level, his learning speed was even faster. Therefore, he would probably be able to master it in just two months.

There was a limit to his time every day, and his personal energy was also limited. He could probably practice three to five breathing techniques at the same time.

*"Therefore, it would probably take... at least half a year, at most a year to learn all the Imperial Hunter's Breathing Techniques?"*

Zhou Jing thought about it but sucked in a cold breath of air at the thought of the expenses.

If he didn't know, he wouldn't have known. He was shocked by the 's learning ability.



Of course, the expenses were also very expensive...

*"The cost of accelerated learning of a breathing technique to Level 4 is 700 Astral Points. Excluding the three I've mastered, there are 15 types that I can learn. This is about 10,000... It's still a little expensive."*

Zhou Jing pondered for a moment and felt no need to bite off more than he could chew. It was better to just take things slow.

After all, he had a plan to start a new apostle, so he had to keep some funds.

In addition, the added attributes of the combat breathing techniques were not high. It might not be necessary to learn all of them... He would screen them when the time came.

The life goal of a Hunter Master was to master a large number of breathing techniques. If he did not master most of the breathing techniques here, then would he not have come for nothing...

Zhou Jing's eyes gleamed.

...

In the next two days, Zhou Jing became low-key and obedient. He rejected all the hunters' invitations to spar, and the reason he gave to the outside world was that he was preparing for his Third Enhancement and was adjusting his state.

Although the Imperial Hunters were very curious about this powerful newcomer and wanted to get to know him, everyone knew the danger of enhancing and tactfully did not disturb him.

After removing himself from the public eye, Zhou Jing found a day to leave the base and brought Ross to the wilderness.

The capital was mainly surrounded by plains. After running for a long time, he finally found a few sparse forests.

Zhou Jing found a secluded forest and stopped before taking out the two sets of blood potions.

"Let's do it here... Come here and drink this."

Ross's expression remained wooden as he took a black oil-like potion and drank it in one gulp. He then looked at Zhou Jing without saying anything.

"Stop looking at me. Go sit over there."



Zhou Jing pointed at a tree.

Ross then walked over and sat cross-legged under the tree, waiting expressionlessly for the medicine to take effect.

Soon, black blood vessels appeared and covered his calm face.

“I wonder if he can succeed this time...”

Zhou Jing muttered to himself.

Back when he had asked for two sets of Mutant Blood Potion from the workshop, one of them was chosen for Ross. It was a Flying Shadow Dragon Potion that was crafted with excellent craftsmanship.

The Flying Shadow Dragon was a rarely seen draconic mutant beast at the fatal-risk level. It was also known as the “Dark Shadow.” It was famous for its stealth and surprise attacks and could also fly for short distances. It was extremely dangerous in a dark environment. Even a fully prepared hunter team would be wiped out if they were not careful.

Ross’s previous enhancement had chosen the “Black Hand Fox.” The range of species for development was huge.

It was naturally best to use similar types of potions to strengthen one’s blood. However, as long as the enhancement direction and characteristics of different types of medicine were similar, there would not be any conflicts. The risk of losing the success rate by using the same type of potion was acceptable.

The Black-Handed Fox and the Flying Shadow Dragon were not on the same level, but their strengthening directions overlapped and had a certain degree of compatibility.

Some hunters who pursued greater strength would occasionally take the risk to jump to the path using other species of mutant blood potions when strengthening... And the enhancement effects of draconic mutant blood potions were often the best among those of the same level.

After the Eternal Apostle reset the follower function, Ross had another chance to revive, so it was better to let dumb-dumb enhance first.

Even if he failed, he would serve as an experience for Zhou Jing in further enhancing with draconic types.

Zhou Jing jumped onto the tree and observed his surroundings from time to time to see if anyone was coming, secretly guarding the area.

The blood potion quickly transformed Ross's body. After a long time, the blood vessels on his face finally calmed down and returned to their original state.

Seeing this, Zhou Jing jumped off the tree and sized up Ross.

This dumb-dumb seemed to have grown seven to eight centimeters taller, and his arms had also lengthened a little. His hands could even reach past his knees now.

"He actually didn't die. What kind of luck is this..."

Zhou Jing clicked his tongue. Although he was happy, he also felt a little jealous.

He felt like Ross' enhancement was so easy. He was much more unlucky during his second enhancement.

## Chapter 146: Third Enhancement! (3)

He shook his head, opened the interface, and looked at Ross' attributes.

[Ross (Apprentice)]

[Mutant Blood Warrior: Second Enhancement (Flying Shadow Dragon)]

[Effect: +14 Physical Fitness, +8 Resistance, +8 Perception]

[Attributes: Physical Fitness 28, Resistance 20, Perception 18, Spirit 5, Energy 0]

[Second Enhancement Bonus: [Ambush Stance], [Shadow Ambush], [Low-level Dark Elemental Resistance], [Child of the Night] (Special)]

"The enhancement of a draconic mutant beast is good. This attribute enhancement is much higher than the last time Ross enhanced."

Zhou Jing calculated.

Ross' first enhancement gave him a total of 21 attribute points. Now, his second enhancement showed an increase to 30 points.

Because Ross himself was almost a clean slate in terms of bodily attributes, this was basically the difference in the quality of the potion itself.

Furthermore, not only did this Flying Shadow Dragon Potion increase his attributes, but it also allowed Ross to inherit powerful characteristics.

[Ambush Stance] could increase explosive power and speed. It had a special high-speed bonus when attacking for the first time. Meanwhile, [Shadow Ambush] increased one's stealth ability. At the same time, when hiding in the shadows to attack, there was an additional explosive power bonus given.

The best was the [Child of the Night], which was a special characteristic like his [Thunder Strike].

When fighting at night, there would be a positive enhancement. Strength, speed, reaction, perception, and other qualities were all strengthened. Moreover, it was even harder to discover the user when sneaking at night.

Because Ross had yet to master any breathing techniques and lacked the additional attributes of the skills, his total attributes only placed him in the middle of the pack for a Second Enhancement Hunter.

However, the enhancement characteristic of being good at stealth and ambush allowed him to have a short-term explosive power that was not inferior to elite hunters in terms of surprise attacks and assassinations... As long as he was not as stupid as before.

*"This follower is getting more useful..."*?Zhou Jing was secretly gratified.

He left Ross standing guard while he pulled out another bottle of brilliant gold potion.

This Golden Lightning Dragon Potion was also the work of a master. Its quality was extremely good. He had specially chosen this blood potion for himself.

The Golden Lightning Dragon was a high-level existence even among the fatal-risk mutant beasts. It was also known as the "Violent Lightning." It could condense electricity and release lightning. It had a strong and agile draconic body, was fast and powerful, and was a top-notch predator. Other than being unable to fly, it had almost no shortcomings. Hunters who had been strengthened less than three times were nothing in front of it.

Zhou Jing found out from the workshop staff that the Golden Lightning Dragon had appeared in the surrounding area a few months ago. There was a four-time strengthened hunter who led a team to suppress it, but he was actually seriously injured and retreated. He almost did not return alive.

In the end, Keriber personally took action and fought a fierce battle. In the end, he killed this mutated beast, and only then did the workshop have such a potion.

*"I have the Electric Leopard Enhancement, and both of which are of the lightning attribute. I hope I can jump to the path of dragon enhancement this time..."*

Zhou Jing took a deep breath and drank the potion in one gulp.

Gulu!

When the potion entered his mouth, it was like an extremely spicy liquor that numbed his tongue.

Soon, it was as if his body had been struck by lightning. A wave of electric shock, accompanied by numbness, quickly swept through his entire body.

Zhou Jing hurriedly leaned against the tree and sat down. His entire body seemed to have been electrocuted and was twitching non-stop.

It was not the first time he had experienced the pain of being strengthened by the mutant blood, but this time, the pain was even more intense than before. He could almost smell his flesh being charred by the electricity.

However, after the first wave of pain, Jason's [Tenacity] talent and the [Low-Level Lightning Resistance] provided by his first enhancement gradually began to take effect.

He vaguely felt the violent energy in his body gradually stabilize and transform his flesh and bones. He closed his eyes and silently endured the strengthening process.

...

As time passed, the sky gradually turned dark, and the faint sound of wolves howling could be heard in the forest.

Ross, who was on the tree, was motionless like an owl, guarding Zhou Jing loyally.

Zhou Jing sat under the tree for a long time. Finally, the pain subsided, and the surging power almost overflowed from him.

The eyes slowly opened, and there was a faint flash of golden lightning.

Zhou Jing felt a change in his body. Other than a strong sense of hunger, there was no other discomfort.

"Pretty reliable. Nothing unexpected happened for the third enhancement!"

Only then did he feel relieved.

His basic attributes were high, to begin with, and he also had the enhancement of skills. In addition, his physical fitness and resistance aptitude had increased to the blue tier. Under the combination of many factors, the success rate of strengthening his blood was far higher than Ross'.

Opening the interface, a brand new notification greeted him.

---

[Jason Wood – Eternal Apostle]

[Supernatural Power System — [Mutant Blood Warrior], Tier increased]

[Mutant Blood Warrior: Three enhancements (Golden Lightning Dragon)]

[Effect: +17 Physical Fitness, +13 Resistance, +10 Perception, +5 Energy]

[Current Attributes: Physical Fitness 58, Resistance 40 (+4) (First Order MAX), Perception 28, Spirit 6, Energy 5]

[Third Enhancement Features: [Power of the Ferocious Dragon], [Berserk Lightning], [Intermediate-Level Lightning Resistance], [Internal Electric Discharge] (Special)]

[Power of the Ferocious Dragon]

[Effect: With the powerful strength of a dragon species, your muscles and bones will be more solid, greatly increasing your strength and ability to withstand impact.]

[Berserk Lightning]

[Effect: Your attacks are like violent lightning. Your explosive power and speed will increase. You can last longer without fatigue.]

[Intermediate-Level Lightning Resistance]

[Effect: You have a certain tolerance for lightning and electricity and will not easily fall into a state of paralysis.]

[Internal Electric Discharge (Special)]

[Effect: Your body will naturally store electricity. When needed, you can discharge the electricity to stimulate your body and completely overhaul your attributes. The maximum duration of the “Internal Electric Discharge” state depends on the upper limit of your body’s electrical energy reserves. The higher the resistance and energy attribute, the greater the upper limit.]

[Remark: Using it for a long time will cause paralysis and organ damage. The higher the individual’s electric resistance, the less likely it is to be damaged. If the host achieves high-level electric resistance, the side effects can be completely avoided.]

---

*“Wow, my attribute bonus has increased by a lot!”*? Zhou Jing was pleasantly surprised.

The first enhancement provided 27 total attributes, and the second enhancement gave 31 points. Now, the third enhancement had increased to 45 points.

The quality of the medicine was one thing, but the increase in his physical fitness and resistance also had an important effect.

The enhancement this time had further enhanced his physical fitness. He was no longer purely agile but had high agility and high strength. He was basically a boss-level character at this point.

What surprised him the most was that he actually obtained a special characteristic related to energy. He could really release electricity now.

Although it could not be shot out and could only be used to stimulate and, in essence, strengthen the body, it was a sign of the potential growth of a special ability.

*“Is this a normal strengthening result, or is this potion the result of the research of the Empire’s direct workshop?”*

Zhou Jing pondered in his heart. He estimated that the 5 points of energy attributes were brought about by the [Internal Electric Discharge] skill.

He sensed for a moment and felt that he could really feel the electricity slowly accumulating in his body. However, it was not absorbing through any external elements but accumulating using his bioelectricity.

The explosion of [Internal Electric Discharge] had a longer duration compared to [Thunder Strike]. This could allow him to use it during combat for a longer period of time.

He then tried it and realized that he could use both at the same time, but it would consume more of his stamina.

*“As my enhancement level increases, the advantage of my initial high attributes and aptitude will also slowly increase. Usually, a hunter with three enhancements will only have their physical fitness break through the First Order. It’s almost impossible for them to reach 50 points, but I’m almost at 60 points now... It should be equivalent to four enhancements, right?”*

Zhou Jing silently evaluated his own level. Suddenly, he lashed out with his leg, hitting the tree trunk beside him.

Crack!

The wood exploded, and the entire tree was snapped in the middle. It fell down, and the huge sound startled a large number of birds in the forest.

*“With this kick, won’t I be able to kick some mutated beasts into two... As expected, the body of a physical enhancer is the greatest weapon of destruction.”*

Zhou Jing was secretly speechless but extremely excited.

He composed himself and looked at his attribute panel. His resistance attribute had been increased enough to the point he could advance. He did not hesitate.

[(+4) Level Surplus has been consumed]

[Resistance increased to Second Order]

[Please select a new trait from the following three options.]

1

1

1

Zhou Jing thought for a few seconds and made his choice.

[Selection complete. Trait generated.]

[Current Resistance Attribute: 40 (Second Order)]

[Resistance Trait: [Elemental Resistance] ]

## **Chapter 147: Genetic Potion (1)**

Zhou Jing touched his body. Even after choosing this resistance trait, his body had no obvious changes, and it was impossible to tell from his appearance.

He tried to activate the [Internal Discharge] state. Golden lightning flashed in his eyes, and the electric current stimulated his organs. He felt that the slight pain and numbness before had become almost undetectable now.

*“The effect seems to be very good. Although it hasn’t reached being completely exempt from the internal discharge side effect that High-Level Electric Resistance can achieve, it’s close.”*

Zhou Jing was quite satisfied with the effect of this trait.

He chose [Elemental Resistance] partly to increase the duration of the [Internal Electric Discharge] and reduce the side effects, and partly considering his vulnerability to energy attacks.

Although most mutant beasts only had physical attacks, and there were not many mutant beasts with special abilities, which would mean his [Elemental Resistance] might be rarely used, he was a speed-type enhancer. He could block physical attacks and did not need to resist them head-on, but he was helpless against energy attacks.

Zhou Jing had not forgotten that when he dealt with Buzz Cut last time, he was almost unable to fight back against the other party's close combat attacks, which were infused with special energy. The force penetrated his body, and every strike would ignore his defense.

There were clearly many "alien lifeforms" in this world, and he might encounter them again in the future. Therefore, he felt that having a sort of "Magic Resistance" attribute was more beneficial.

s could construct their own ability system and did not have to worry about affecting the main body, so he was not too conflicted when he chose his skills.

After scanning through his attributes again and confirming that he had completed the enhancement, Zhou Jing closed the interface.

"The species that I've used to enhance myself are the dragon, tiger, and leopard... They're all ferocious beasts."

Zhou Jing looked down. His body was stronger than before, and his body was thick. He looked like a fierce man.

The enhancement this time was quite smooth. His and Ross' combat strength had increased by a notch. Among the hunters in the current world, they were more or less considered experts. This trip was worth it.

He did not stay in the forest for long. He brought Ross back the way he came and returned to the Imperial Hunter base at dawn.

Zhou Jing waited until noon before he went to look for Keriber, indicating that the enhancement was successful.

"You've already completed three enhancements?"

Keriber was eating a large pot of rice with many hunters in the canteen. When he heard Zhou Jing's words, he pulled out the head that was stuffed in the rice bowl and raised his rice-stained head in surprise.



The lively canteen fell silent. The surrounding hunters paused and looked at them in surprise.

“...What kind of look is that? Did you want me to fail?” Zhou Jing was puzzled.

“Of course not. The main thing is that with your speed...”

Keriber’s tone was subtle.

If he remembered correctly, it had only been two days since this person obtained the potion.

For something as dangerous as strengthening one’s blood, an ordinary hunter would need at least seven to eight days to properly adjust their mental state. *Who could do it so quickly?*

Back then, when he had undergone three enhancements, he also had to adjust his state for half a month before he had the courage to drink the blood potion.

Moreover, when most of the Empire’s hunters were strengthening themselves, they would find companions to protect them. *What is going on with this person? Why did he quietly strengthen himself and stun everyone?*

Keriber looked at Zhou Jing, and a thought suddenly popped up in his mind.

*... is this kid a reckless gambler at heart?*

Although they were surprised, many hunters were still very happy to see someone pass the threshold of three enhancements. They stopped eating and came up to congratulate him.

“Congratulations, Jace. Shouldn’t you be treating us to a meal?”

“Alright, we have another core member. We’ll have another good hunter in the future.”

Many hunters surrounded Zhou Jing, laughing non-stop.

Although they had only known each other for a few days, the identity and responsibilities of a hunter meant that they had a high sense of collective identity. The title bound different types of people closely, allowing them to quickly accept each other.

Keriber didn’t dwell on it. Instead, he told everyone to be quiet before he spoke.

“Since you’ve completed three enhancements, you’re qualified to lead a hunter team independently. What do you think?”

Zhou Jing pondered for a moment before shaking his head. "I'd better follow the other teams and observe the hunting methods of the Empire's hunters first. Moreover, I haven't learned the Imperial Hunter course yet, so I want to focus on studying it during this period of time."

"That works too." Keriber had no objections and decided. "Then you can join Cole's team. You know him best anyway."

"Alright." Zhou Jing nodded.

If he led the team alone and moved out in the placement mode, as the main force of the team if he did not lead well, there might be a huge problem. It would be much easier to follow another team with another Third Enhancement hunter to observe.

At the very least, he did not plan to lead the team himself until he mastered most of the hunters' breathing techniques.

With Keriber's approval, Zhou Jing immediately went to look for Cole and joined his team. The whole process went quite smoothly.

The team leader welcomed Zhou Jing warmly. With an additional three-time enhanced hunter on the team, he was more confident in going out to hunt. He naturally had no reason to object.

Through word of mouth, the Imperial Hunters in the base knew that Jace had completed three enhancements. Zhou Jing thus became a topic of conversation for a while.

However, no one could always occupy the focus of others' lives. As Zhou Jing kept a low profile and found someone to learn the Hunter's Breathing Technique, the Imperial Hunters also gradually got used to the existence of this new companion. Life seemed to have returned to normal.

...

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[The projection has ended!]

[Actual time of stay: 12 days]

[Current resource collection: 520 Astral Points]

[Experience log has been recorded, and relevant exploration results have been entered into the Records.]

## Chapter 148: Genetic Potion (2)

[Cooldown till next Astral Projection: 16 hours in main body]

Zhou Jing skillfully set up the placement mode—mainly focusing on cultivating the breathing technique’s development before exiting the preparation space and returning to his main body.

Back in the main world.

The morning sun shone into the rented house, and dust floated in the light.

Zhou Jing’s eyelashes trembled as he opened his eyes.

He sat up and opened his main body’s ability library. Jason’s third enhancement ability appeared inside.

[Mutant Blood Warrior: Three enhancements (Golden Lightning Dragon)]

[Source of Ability: Jason-Wood (No. 002)]

[Conversion Cost: 3,000 Astral Points, 30 Information State Particles]

[Requirement: Astral Projector Rank Lv2]

*“Not bad, not bad. As expected, the ability library has been refreshed at the same time.”*

Zhou Jing was in a good mood and closed the interface.

He was not in a hurry to convert his new ability. The registration of the Supers had been completed, and he was waiting for the immigration spacecraft to set sail to a new planet to receive the Supers’ education. There was no use in increasing the strength of his main body now.

In any case, the results of the Eternal Apostle would not escape from the ability library, so there was no need to invest in it immediately.

In Zhou Jing’s opinion, converting the results of the to his main body was the final benefit. Before that, using the Astral Points on the Apostle was better as it served as a long-term investment. Under the situation where his main body was stable, it was best to invest more.

He had a plan to create a new apostle, so he planned to save more astral points for the talent molding of a new apostle.

*“Jason has already integrated into the Empire’s Hunters. He has time to develop and can slowly practice the Hunter’s Breathing Technique, so I’m not in a hurry to use Accelerated Learning for him. I’ll first place him to generate resources... As for what path the new apostle will take, I can think of something else.”*

Zhou Jing slowly mapped out his route.

Currently, he could only come into contact with the Mutant Blood Warrior system. The new apostles might also have to take this route, but with Jason in front of him, there was no need to rush to enhance them.

The purpose of becoming a Mutant Blood Warrior was to obtain strength and quickly protect himself. Now that he had the protection in the form of Jason, the new apostle could consider some special routes and learn some skills.

*“Now, my source of information is only from the hunter faction. The new apostles don’t have to be hunters, if they enter a new industry, they might be able to obtain special information at other levels and interact with different groups of people.”*

Zhou Jing calculated for a while and had some ideas.

He put this matter aside for the time being and got up to wash up and eat. At the same time, he picked up his phone to check the news.

Last night, when he was “sleeping,” the Supers Bureau sent him a message. The approval of the assistant quota had been completed, and Zhang Xiao could go over to use the genetic potion today.

Currently, the only thing that could be bought was the Elementary Genetic Potion. The asking price was 250k Nassau. Compared to the value of the genetic potion itself, this was almost a cabbage price, but it was still a price that Zhou Jing could not afford.

However, Zhang Xiao had sent a message yesterday saying that he had already raised 370k Nassau and was still working hard to raise money.

According to the market price, an assistant slot could be sold for more than 5 million Nassaus on average. If someone were to bid for it, it was not impossible to reach tens of millions or even hundreds of millions... The 370,000 Nassaus was far from the market price.

Beep, beep, beep —

Just as Zhou Jing was thinking, his phone suddenly rang. It was an unknown caller.

He answered the call, but before he could speak, the other party spoke first.

“Hello, is this Zhou Jing?”

“Who are you?”

“I’m Zhang Xiao’s brother, Zhang Xing. This is our first time talking, right?”

“What can I do for you?”

Zhou Jing narrowed his eyes. He remembered that Zhang Xiao often mentioned this person. This was the true successor of his family’s business.

“It’s like this. I heard from Zhang Xiao that you plan to sell the assistant slot. I’m willing to pay eight million Nassaus for it, higher than the market price. I’ll also give Zhang Xiao two million Nassaus as compensation. What do you think?”

“... From what you’re saying, you want to replace him as my assistant?”

“I know that you and Zhang Xiao are friends, so I’m giving him some consideration. However, he won’t be able to make up the market price for the assistant spot. You’ll be at a disadvantage. Why don’t you sell the spot to me? I’ll talk to Zhang Xiao about it, and I won’t harm your friendship. He’ll understand...”

“Goodbye.”

Without waiting for him to finish, Zhou Jing hung up the phone.

It seemed that Zhang Xiao had already laid his cards on the table with his family. They were all from the same family, but if Zhang Xiao could not come out with enough money, this could only mean his family was unwilling to invest too much in him, and the important members of the family had their eyes on this spot.

If it was under normal circumstances, Zhang Xiao’s family would not be like this. Having another Super would only be beneficial, and they would also value him in the future.

However, Zhang Xiao had probably mentioned his plans to migrate with his three friends, so his family was unwilling to help him pay too much.

If he went to another planet, he would not be able to help his family. The investment would be wasted, and there would not be enough profits... If Zhang Xiao wanted to use his family’s money, he would probably have to agree not to emigrate.

Zhang Xiao was still raising money, which meant that he was still negotiating with his family.

Zhou Jing thought for a moment and called Zhang Xiao.

“Hello, Jing, what’s wrong?” Zhang Xiao answered the call and asked.

“How much money have you raised now?”

“Still only 370,000... Wait a little longer, I can get more...”

Zhang Xiao thought that Zhou Jing was rushing him to raise money.

He had recently fallen out with his family. His family’s money did not come from nowhere, and they did not want to invest five million Nassaus in a fellow who was preparing to emigrate.

As a younger generation on the fringe, he had no right to use his family’s funds.

If the benefits of being an assistant fell on the leader or successor, they would be willing to give him a lot of money for his sake.

## Chapter 149: Genetic Potion (3)

Zhang Xiao was in a terrible fix because of the money, but he did not want to complain about it. He immediately expressed his determination.

Zhou Jing interrupted him and said directly, “There’s no need. 370,000 is enough. Transfer the money over.”

“This... This isn’t enough for the market price.” Zhang Xiao was stunned.

“What market price? Cut the crap and transfer the money to me. The Supers Bureau is still waiting for me to transfer money to buy the medicine. Come over and inject it today. I still have other things to do. How can I wait for you every day? How long will it take for you to gather the money? Maybe we’ll all be on the ship by then!” Zhou Jing said bluntly.

Zhang Xiao was silent for a while before he suddenly said, “Did my family call you?”

“Why do you keep asking questions? Are you a kid? Hurry up and transfer the money! I’ll go to the Supernatural Bureau immediately. If I don’t see you there, I’ll crush your butt.”

Zhou Jing ended the call and informed the other two best friends to meet up at the Supers Bureau. Then, he put on his clothes and went out.

...

Twenty-five minutes later, at the West Sea City's Supers Bureau branch.

Zhou Jing walked in and found that his three best friends had already arrived and were chatting. To be precise, Li Xiaoyin and Xu Lingyun were comforting the excited and nervous Zhang Xiao.

"Yo, Jingjing is here." When Li Xiaoyin saw Zhou Jing, she immediately waved and greeted him.

Zhang Xiao looked over with a complicated expression.

He did not want to take advantage of his friend, but in the end, he still owed Zhou Jing a favor.

However, at this point, he could only accept Zhou Jing's good intentions. He would secretly engrave them within his heart.

Zhou Jing walked to the three of them and patted Zhang Xiao's shoulder. "How is it? Are you ready?"

Zhang Xiao took a deep breath, and his fat face seemed to deflate, "No."

"Then let's go back. We'll come back when he's ready." Xu Lingyun was about to pull Zhou Jing and Li Xiaoyin away.

"Get lost!"

Zhang Xiao shot back before helplessly continuing,

"I don't even know what it feels like to use the genetic potion. I can't be mentally prepared."

Hearing this, Xu Lingyun's expression instantly turned serious.

"Have you had breakfast?"

Zhang Xiao was stunned. "No, didn't the Supers Bureau remind us to go on an empty stomach on the day of the strengthening?"

Xu Lingyun nodded in relief. "It's good that you didn't eat. Otherwise, if your stomach loses control during the strengthening, you'll vomit your sh\*t out."

"How do you know... You didn't follow the doctor's instructions when you strengthened yourself, right?"

“That’s not important.” Xu Lingyun waved his hand. “As long as you haven’t eaten, it’s fine. The genetic potion is very safe, but it hurts a little.”

“How painful is a little?” Zhang Xiao did not trust Xu Lingyun at all.

Li Xiaoyin tapped her chin with her finger and said thoughtfully, “You’ll probably scream like a pig being slaughtered. I even recorded a video of what happened that time.”

“Is there a video? I haven’t seen it yet.” Zhou Jing was curious.

Li Xiaoyin said excitedly, “Aish, you don’t know. When this Old Xu had finished strengthening and the gene capsule was opened, half of its body was soaked in shit. You should’ve seen the disdainful expressions of those researchers...”

“Ahem! Let’s go in. Don’t let the people from the Supernatural Bureau wait too long!”

Xu Lingyun hurriedly interrupted the two of them and led the way.

Zhou Jing did not continue this topic and only gave Li Xiaoyin a look—Send me a copy of the video later.

Li Xiaoyin understood and made an OK gesture.

The group arrived at the enhancement venue. Feng Feng and the researchers from the Supers Bureau had been waiting here for a long time.

A metal round cabin had been placed in the middle of the room, with many injection needles in the cabin. The tubes of these needles were connected to a row of medicine tubes containing light blue liquid outside.

This light blue liquid was the Elementary Gene Potion, a technological product of genetic engineering in the main world.

“The equipment is ready. Do you want to use it first or pay first?” Feng Feng carried out his duty and reminded him with a smile.

Zhou Jing had already received a transfer from Zhang Xiao. His short account balance was immediately filled with a huge sum of money that he had never touched in his life.

Without hesitation, he transferred 250,000 Nassau to the Supernatural Bureau.

He only earned 120,000 Nassau from Zhang Xiao in this transaction.

“Lie inside.”

Zhou Jing put away his phone and gestured at the metal cabin.



Zhang Xiao patted Zhou Jing's shoulder. Everything was obvious. There was no need to put it into words.

He took a deep breath and took off his clothes under the guidance of the researchers. He placed a pile of electromagnetic tablets on his skin and drank a few bottles of different catalysts. Then, he lay straight in the cabin.

Siii—The sound of an air pump could be heard. The hatch cover closed, trapping Zhang Xiao inside.

At Feng Feng's request, Zhou Jing and the others walked out of the room to wait. They could only watch the situation in the room through the glass window.

Several researchers began to frequently adjust the equipment and mutter something.

"The equipment is operating normally. The energy rays are ready, strengthening can be carried out at any time..."

"Countdown... three, two, one, inject the potion!"

As soon as he finished speaking, the injection needles were inserted into Zhang Xiao's body one after another. The light blue genetic serum quickly flowed along the catheter.

The metal cabin began to operate, emitting a buzzing sound. Soon, Zhang Xiao's painful cries could be heard from inside.

Zhou Jing rubbed his chin with interest, "It really does sound like a pig being slaughtered."

Xu Lingyun curled his lips and said indignantly, "Hmph, his screams aren't as nice as mine. There are too many broken chords, and neither is he as high-pitched as me. I even went up octave by octave."

"... What's with your inexplicable desire to win?"

Li Xiaoyin couldn't help but complain.

The few of them chatted and waited patiently, without a worry.

The genetic potion technology from the Interstellar Government was extremely mature and well researched. The risk of the primary genetic potion had long been reduced to the minimum, almost negligible.

After waiting for four to five hours, the strengthening process finally ended.

The hatch cover popped up with a crack, and white mist rose from within.

The researchers quickly went to the metal cabin and helped Zhang Xiao out.

Zhang Xiao was covered in sweat and panting heavily, almost unable to stand steadily.

His body had changed drastically. He was originally a fat man, but now he was a buff fat man. His original fat could not even hide the outline of his muscles.

“How do you feel?”

“Are you feeling unwell anywhere?”

“Did anything leak?”

The three of them walked into the room and asked with concern.

Zhang Xiao panted for a while and shakily found a seat to sit down. However, he did not control his strength well and almost crushed the armrest of the chair.

He repeated the action of clenching his fists and opening his palms. Feeling his strength that had increased greatly, his face was filled with excitement and surprise.

“Is this a superhuman physique? I feel like I can flip this entire building now!”

Li Xiaoyin laughed. “It’s just an illusion since your strength has drastically increased. You’re already considered low-key. What Old Xu said back then was that he felt as though he could penetrate the entire planet!”

“... Did he say that while he was soaked in shit?”

Xu Lingyun ignored the two of them. He squatted down and carefully examined Zhang Xiao’s crotch.

“Why isn’t there any yellow at all? I don’t believe you cleared yourself so thoroughly last night...”

“That’s enough!” Zhou Jing couldn’t take it anymore. He grabbed Xu Lingyun’s head and pulled him aside.

Zhang Xiao looked at the few people who were teasing him and felt inexplicably emotional.

Half a month ago, he would never have thought that everyone would actually become a Super, and yet, the four of them had actually embarked on this path at this moment.

Zhou Jing turned to look at the remaining genetic potion in the tube, his eyes flashing.

Speaking of which, the genetic potions of the main world and the mutant blood potions of the mutant world should be different.

He wondered if he could accept the strengthening of the gene potion after receiving the enhancement of the Mutant Blood Potion from another world...

While he was distracted, Feng Feng came over and interrupted their conversation.

“Congratulations, you’re also a Super now. The Bureau will speed up the production of documents for you...”

He explained the process that Zhou Jing had experienced before. Zhang Xiao also had to go through the process.

While listening to the two of them, Li Xiaoyin suddenly asked Feng Feng,

“By the way, we want to migrate to a new planet. Do we have to go through any procedures with the Supers Bureau?”

Feng Feng was stunned. He thought for a moment and said, “We need to fill out a few application forms. The rest will be arranged by the Bureau... Do the four of you have this plan?”

Li Xiaoyin turned her head to take a look. Zhou Jing and the other two nodded. This had been agreed upon long ago.

“That’s right. All four of us are leaving.”

“I need to report this situation to my superiors, but the Bureau will respect your wishes.”

Feng Feng then added,

“The procedures will take some time. If you have made up your minds, you can participate in the Bureau’s pre-immigration training class. The Supers of this batch of immigrants from West Sea City are all inside. All of you will be passengers who will board the ship together, and a portion of them will become your peers in the future. If you want, you can get to know them in advance.”

## **Chapter 150: Same Hometown (1)**

As Supers were not under the jurisdiction of the Immigration Bureau, the bureau itself opened a pre-immigration training class to explain the things to take note of after boarding the spaceship.

The Supers Bureau was also in charge of the review. Only Supers with stable abilities were allowed to migrate in a sober state. Otherwise, they could only obediently enter the life-support cabin to sleep. This was to reduce the risk of the spaceship crashing. After all, if a Supers lost control within the spaceship, it was very easy for them to destroy it.

This kind of training class was usually handled by each city themselves. In the West Sea City branch training class, the students were all Supers from the city who chose to migrate.

Li Xiaoyin turned to look at the three of them. “Brothers, what do you think?”

Xu Lingyun shrugged. “It doesn’t matter to me. Anyway, you’re my boss. My small body is your accessory.”

“Then let’s go take a look.” Zhou Jing was quite interested.

Once they went to a new planet, their connection to this one would be cut off. As for the Supers who migrated with them, they would often see them in the future.

As for the new Awakeners who would go to study on the new planet, they would most likely be classmates in the future. Those who went to the same city would also have the same hometown relationship as a bond.

Seeing that they had all decided, Feng Feng took out his phone and operated the internal system, temporarily adding the names of the four of them to the list of trainees.

“They’re coming to the bureau for lessons this afternoon. If you’re interested, you can go over and take a look.”

Feng Feng explained briefly and gave the address and time to everyone. Then, he pulled Zhang Xiao along and carefully instructed him on the things to take note of after enhancement.

Zhang Xiao’s body had just been genetically strengthened, so he could not leave yet. He had to undergo many tests, so Zhou Jing and the other two accompanied him patiently.

After more than an hour, Zhang Xiao finally completed the various tests. He could move around freely for the time being, but he could not leave the Supers Bureau.

Only then did the four of them head to the address given by Feng Feng. On one of the floors of the Supers Bureau, they found the classroom for the pre-immigration training class and entered directly.

Swoosh —

The alloy doors opened, and the four of them walked into the classroom, immediately attracting attention.

There were more than 20 people sitting in the classroom, waiting for class to start. When they heard the commotion caused by the four of them, they turned around with puzzled expressions.

“Hey, Xiaoyin?!”

Zhao He was among them. When he saw the four of them, he was shocked.

Li Xiaoyin looked over and recognized this person. Her eyes lit up.

“Eh, it’s you, Brother Squirter. What a coincidence.”

“You’re also preparing to emigrate?” When Zhao He saw them here, he understood something, but he still asked to be sure.

“Yes,” Li Xiaoyin admitted openly. “We want to rise up to the heavens too.”

Zhao He’s face twitched, feeling a little depressed.

He had long planned to emigrate, seizing this opportunity to leave the competitive old planet. He felt that with his Class A potential, he would be in high demand on a new planet that lacked talent.

He would rather be the head of a chicken than the tail of a phoenix.

(TL Note: It means one would rather be at the top ranks of a small group than be at the bottom of a big group.)

Although he had been ruthlessly defeated by Li Xiaoyin previously, he felt that no matter how powerful Li Xiaoyin was, as long as she stayed on the old planet, it would not affect his future. By immigrating, he could avoid this fierce person.

He did not expect Li Xiaoyin to also emigrate. In that case, his own potential would be suppressed by hers.

Moreover, Zhao He was a little afraid when he looked at Li Xiaoyin. He had not forgotten the psychological trauma from the previous spar.

While the two of them were chatting, Zhou Jing observed the others in the classroom and realized that there was a huge age gap.

The oldest was in his fifties, but his face was ruddy. It seemed as though he had taken good care of himself. Meanwhile, the youngest was about ten years old. He was a child, and he was accompanied by his parents.

These people were all immigrants-to-be from West Sea City, mainly newly awakened Supers.

There were only three or four senior Supers, and they were not doing well in the local area, so they planned to go to a new planet to seek better development... The previous batches of immigrants had already sent almost all the senior Supers who were willing to leave, so there were fewer of them now.

While Zhou Jing was observing, everyone in the classroom was also sizing up the four of them.

Hearing Zhao He and Li Xiaoyin's conversation, everyone understood the situation. Knowing that the four were new immigrants, they immediately reacted differently.

"Oh! Are you a newcomer? We'll be classmates from now on."

"What abilities do these four friends have?"

"Brother Zhao He, introduce us."

Many people immediately spoke up enthusiastically.

On the one hand, they felt that everyone would be classmates in a foreign land in the future and wanted to get to know them. On the other hand, they thought the four were Zhao He's friends who needed to be welcomed.

There were two new Awakeners with Class A potential in the class. Zhao He received a lot of attention, and many people in the class paid attention to him. They felt that Zhao He would definitely develop very smoothly in the future, so they wanted to build a good relationship with him, so there would be more opportunities for conversation in the future.

Zhao He originally enjoyed the feeling of being the center of attention, but when Li Xiaoyin came, he felt a little embarrassed. He coughed and introduced the four.

"This is Li Xiaoyin. She has Class SS Potential. The one beside her is Xu Lingyun, her assistant. This is Zhou Jing, a Physical enhancer with Class C potential. They are all friends... As for the last one, I don't know him either."

"Zhang Xiao, I'm his assistant."

When Zhang Xiao heard this, he introduced himself and pointed at Zhou Jing.

“Nice to meet you.” Zhao He nodded.

Although Li Xiaoyin’s arrival made him feel inferior, Zhao He was only depressed but had no malicious thoughts in mind. After all, everyone knew each other, and he also wanted to build a good relationship with Li Xiaoyin.

Besides, when he went to school on a new planet in the future, there were requirements such as GPA and assessment. It was not bad to have a backer from his hometown...

Just like how some of his classmates tried to curry favor with him, Zhao He also planned for himself.

“SS?!!”

The warm smiles of everyone present froze on their faces as they froze.

In the next moment, these people became even more enthusiastic. They stood up from their seats and came over to introduce themselves.

Li Xiaoyin, on the other hand, was carefree and did not care that they were trying to please her. She quickly got along with them and exchanged contact details.

Even Zhou Jing and the other two enjoyed the feeling of being the center of attention.

Most of these people had Class C potential. Even Class B potentials were rarely seen.

The ten-year-old child was also pulled over by his parents to introduce himself timidly. Surprisingly, he turned out to be a new Awakened with Class B potential.

However, in the eyes of others, Zhou Jing and the other two were just a bonus. On account of their friendship, these people politely got to know Zhou Jing and the other two. Then, they mainly surrounded Li Xiaoyin to chat.

Zhou Jing and the other two did not mind being ignored. They leaned against the wall and stood in a row, feeling at ease.

“Sister Yin is really popular.” Xu Lingyun clicked his tongue.

“After all, she has SS potential. Even in the Super League Hall of Fame, there aren’t many celebrities with such potential.” Zhang Xiao smiled.

Zhou Jing did not chat with the two of them, instead silently sizing up the people in the class.

Not everyone in the classroom came over to curry favor. There were some people who did not move from their seats and only looked over.

A few of the seemingly more experienced Supers sat in their seats and watched coldly from the sidelines. From time to time, they would whisper to each other and look over with amusement.

It was unknown if they were teasing these newbies for currying favor or if they remembered how they were the same back then.

Although Li Xiaoyin had outstanding potential, the few of them only looked at her coldly as if she was their junior.

They had long finished attending the Supers Academy and could work directly on the new planet, so they did not have much in common with the new Awakened. They were a little detached from the group.

On the other side, a beautiful young woman with a hot figure was sitting in the corner of the classroom. She crossed her arms and only looked coldly at the lively scene.

There were two male classmates sitting on her left and right. The two of them looked a little hesitant, as if they wanted to come over and get to know Li Xiaoyin, but they did not dare to get up because they cared more about the opinion of the woman beside them.

Zhou Jing looked over and met the young woman's eyes.

The young woman glanced at him and slid her gaze away. She seemed to have no interest in him, a Class C man that was all brawn. She only stared at Li Xiaoyin with impatience and veiled hostility.

Seeing this, Zhou Jing blinked and pulled a classmate beside him.

"Who's that woman?"

This person turned around and noticed the strange atmosphere over there. He also lowered his voice. "Her name is Huang Wei. She's another newly Awakened Class A potential in class."

When Zhou Jing heard this, he immediately understood why this woman revealed a faint hostility towards Li Xiaoyin.

*Is she jealous? Too bad, there was nothing she could do.*

On the other side, a young man beside Huang Wei could not help but speak.

"Um... Sister Wei, should we go over and get to know our new classmate?"

Huang Wei glanced at him. "If you like, go ahead. I'm not stopping you."



“Then forget it.” The man shook his head in embarrassment.

Huang Wei snorted and looked at Li Xiaoyin, who was the center of attention. She did not like her at all.

She should be the one receiving such treatment.

She had asked around before, and Supers Academy did not advocate solo fighting. Without a stable small team, one would suffer in many assessments.

Moreover, most of the Supers in the various cities would form their own groups and produce intense competition. Therefore, it was very important to obtain the support of their fellow Supers.

Huang Wei had long planned to turn the Supers from her hometown in West Sea City into her own team. They would become the foundation for her to wander in an unfamiliar environment and help her obtain a better GPA in the academy.

She was the first person to join the pre-immigration training class. Other than some who did not like to socialize, most of the new Awakened who joined later flocked around her. With her as the leader, she had always enjoyed this feeling.

A few days ago, Zhao He came. He also had Class A potential and the ambition to rope everyone into a team.

However, Huang Wei was not too worried. After all, she had arrived first and had thus long become familiar with everyone. Zhao He was at most at the same level as her, and he had joined later, so it was not easy for him to attack her status.

Moreover, although Zhao He had the same Class A potential as her... she beat him hands down in the looks department!

Everyone still preferred to surround her. Some even wanted to woo her.

However, now that Li Xiaoyin had appeared, not only did she have exaggerated potential, but she was also beautiful. Huang Wei realized that her advantage had instantly collapsed.

Seeing that everyone ignored her and ran over to curry favor, she felt angry and jealous. She couldn't help but feel a strong sense of opposition and regarded Li Xiaoyin as her opponent.

“Hmph, so what if her potential is high? Perhaps if her abilities are not developed well in the future, her class will be demoted.”

Huang Wei muttered unhappily, her tone sour.

“Sister Wei is right. Potential is just the prediction of the Supernatural Bureau. In the end, it still depends on one’s own hard work.” Another person chimed in.

Hearing that someone was supporting her, Huang Wei’s mood improved a little. She snorted and said, “We won’t know who the real talent is until we enter the academy.”

The only person she needed to pay attention to was Li Xiaoyin. As for Zhou Jing and the other two Physical Enhancers, they were just three super soldiers following Li Xiaoyin. There was no need to pay attention to them at all.

To be honest, she really didn’t have any bad intentions. The main reason was that she wasn’t convinced and didn’t want to be outdone... by another woman.

However, most of the classmates present did not think so much.

As they were from the same hometown in West Sea City, so those who were going to the Supers Academy would naturally form their own small clique. Most people were just happy that their clique had an extra backer.

In short... Boss, please carry me!

The group got to know each other and chatted for a while before the door opened, and a mentor in the uniform of the Supers Bureau walked in.

Seeing this, everyone found a seat and sat down again.

The mentor glanced around. Seeing that everyone was there, he began to lecture on the things to take note of when boarding the immigrant spacecraft.

As new students, Zhou Jing and the other three received the newly issued immigration reference manual.

Not only did the manual record the precautions, but it also included information about the new planet.

As Zhou Jing listened to his mentor’s lecture, he flipped to the back of the manual.

The name of the new planet that was migrating this time immediately appeared in his eyes.

Planet Aquamarine!

## **Chapter 151: Planet Aquamarine; New (1)**

“Planet Aquamarine... it really is pretty blue.”

Zhou Jing carefully read the drawings and data in the manual. If nothing went wrong, this would be his home for many years to come.

The current map of human civilization was distributed on a certain spur of a large galaxy. The actual coordinates were the Halo Star System – Golden Emperor Spur.

In the layers of star systems, human civilization was only a tiny speck of dust. Above the Halo Star System, there were still larger galaxies such as Star Clusters, Super Star Clusters, Super Star Cluster Complexes, even Galactic Filaments, and more.

The various colonial planets of the interplanetary system were distributed in dozens or hundreds of Star Systems. Most of them were single Star Systems, while a small number were double or triple Star Systems.

Apart from these Star Systems with colonial planets, many Star Systems were not suitable for living in. The people were used to calling them “empty galaxies.”

The Interstellar Government thus constantly was on the search for colonial planets—habitable planets from the surrounding Star Systems. If they could not find them, they could only let the spacecraft continue to sail to further Star Systems.

According to the location of these colonial planets, they would then be divided into administrative regions. With the mother planet as the center, the colonial planets would then be divided into many cone-shaped regions named “Star Sectors” in all directions. Generally, there were 8 to 22 colonial planets in each Star Sector.

As for the Planet Aquamarine, it was separated from the Silver Wind Planet by three Star Systems, which were empty galaxies. It was already considered very close, and they were all members of the same Star Sector.

Planet Aquamarine was a planet in a single Star System. It had a total area of 580 million square kilometers—36% land and 64% water. The climate was suitable, and the native beasts were all ordinary creatures. The planet’s rotation period was 24 interstellar conventions, 360 days on the Universal Calendar.

Under the coordination and consultation of the Interstellar Government alliance, Planet Aquamarine was currently under the management of ten countries. Out of the members of the Seven Pinnacle States, they occupied three seats, namely Hein, Weiss, and the Scarlet Nation that Zhou Jing was in... Among the countries that managed a colonial planet, there were generally no more than four members of the Seven Pinnacle States managing it.

After the initial construction and the development of the previous batches of immigrants, there was no shortage of infrastructure. The living supplies could be considered self-

sufficient at this point. The ten governing countries had built a large city on Planet Aquamarine, and there were several medium-sized cities and resource collection points.

However, the entire area of development for each country was less than a province at the moment, and they were still in the midst of long-term construction.

With the engineering power of the various countries, it was not difficult to build a new city. However, there were not enough immigrants now, so building a city was not an urgent task. They could wait for the population to grow and slowly expand. If too many cities were built at once, there would be little room for appreciation of the land price. As governments, they had to plan for the future.

Zhou Jing saw in the introduction of the manual that Planet Aquamarine was one of the top five planets that had been discovered by human civilization recently.

“It’s still in the early stages of development. Even the earliest immigrant group has only reproduced for a generation. The total population is only about 100 million. It will be very promising in the future.” Zhang Xiao poked Zhou Jing’s kidney and said excitedly.

From this, he saw an immeasurable investment value. He felt that his choice to emigrate was correct.

Although there were not many people now and the market was relatively small, the Interstellar Government’s fertility welfare system was created to solve this problem of increasing the population. The future was promising!

Even if he had to stay in the Supers Academy for a year or two, there would still be a lot of opportunities after he came out.

It was unlike Silver Wind Planet, where employment was difficult, and jobs were scarce. There was intense competition everywhere... This was also a disadvantage of incentivizing the population to quickly grow. It could quickly transition into early development, but after it was formed, it would quickly become an internal problem.

Silver Wind Planet had only been developed for about 200 years. Some of the older planets had even more terrifying problems... Of course, the “Venomous Gu” that they raised through this process was also more ferocious.

In comparison, the Planet Aquamarine was simply heaven.

There was still more than a month before they set off. All the immigrants in his class had the hope of entering a new environment and starting a new life.

Zhou Jing was also overwhelmed with emotions as he memorized the information about the new planet.

...

In the next few days, Zhou Jing and the other two accompanied Zhang Xiao to the Supers Bureau for observation. At the same time, they attended the pre-immigration training class every day.

Because Li Xiaoyin had an extroverted personality and many of her fellow villagers deliberately tried to curry favor with her, she quickly became familiar with her fellow classmates.

Zhou Jing and the other two had benefited from her and became familiar with their classmates as well.

Zhou Jing was also silently observing these future “classmates.”

Other than Zhao He and Huang Wei, who had Class A potential, he was more concerned about two other people—a ten-year-old child named Shi Qing and a young man named Wang Cheng.

Shi Qing was still a child. He was timid, introverted, and shy. He was unwilling to leave his hometown, but his parents were determined to bring him along to emigrate and seek opportunities.

Under the request of his parents, his assistant spot was also given to his father, Shi Chenhai. To the outside world, his father was the one in charge of socializing, akin to being his manager.

Zhou Jing and the other three didn't like the slick and sociable Shi Chenhai. Instead, they liked to tease Shi Qing. Among the group of adults, there was only this cute child. Everyone treated him as a group pet.

The other person he paid attention to, Wang Cheng, was silent and basically did not participate in socializing. He ignored Li Xiaoyin, Zhao He, and Huang Wei. He was also a new Awakened with Class B potential and was quite a loner.

When Li Xiaoyin went over to chat out of curiosity, Wang Cheng replied in a cold and indifferent way. This made the usually talkative Li Xiaoyin freeze. Only then did Zhou Jing notice him.

Other than these few people, there was nothing special about the other people for the time being. Zhou Jing only remembered these few pieces of information.

... There was no choice. Li Xiaoyin lacked the scheming gene and was too careless. Therefore, she could only leave the job of examining others to him, her “assistant.”

As for Xu Lingyun and Zhang Xiao, they had been completely immersed in a “Loser vs Loser” fighting match these few days and could not be counted on at all.

Previously, Xu Lingyun did not have a suitable training partner. If he looked for Zhou Jing, he would be tortured. If he looked for Li Xiaoyin, he would be sent to heaven.

Now that Zhang Xiao had been genetically enhanced, the two of them immediately looked at each other— Finally, a worthy opponent!

Both of their standards were about the same, so they were the best training targets.

In the past few days, whenever the two of them were free, they would stay in the training room and wrestle. Zhou Jing watched at first, but later on, he felt that it was disgusting, so he didn't anymore.

Soon, three days passed in a flash. Zhang Xiao finally passed the observation period and was allowed to leave the Supernatural Bureau. The immigration procedures for the four of them were also completed by the Supers Bureau. There were no twists and turns, as they respected their wishes.

With the Supers Bureau handling it, the process was much simpler. As long as they gathered at the West Sea City's Super Branch at the appointed time, they could all take a vehicle and head to the immigration spacecraft together.

After leaving the Supers Bureau, the four of them gathered for a meal before temporarily dispersing and returning to their respective homes.

...

After returning to the rented apartment, Zhou Jing changed into casual clothes and sat by the bed to check the interface.

In the past three days, he did not travel frequently. He mainly placed Jason in the Imperial Hunter Base to slowly develop.

About three months passed in the Mutant World. Jason's life was calm and peaceful. He established himself in the Imperial Hunter community, completed a few courses, mastered three new Hunter Breathing Techniques, and began to learn other things. His progress was not bad.

“Jason is on the right track. I'll just let him develop. After I practice a few more breathing techniques and after a certain interval, I'll enhance him once again depending on the situation... In the meantime, I've saved up a lot of Astral Points. I feel like I can start a new apostle.”

Zhou Jing made up his mind. Seeing that the cooldown time was over, he entered the preparation space.

Swoosh—

His consciousness returned to the space of familiar stars, and a huge interface floated in front of him.

---

[Please select the target.]

[Current option: 1. Jason Wood (No. 002)]

1

Zhou Jing did not hesitate and directly invested 2,000 Astral Points and 40 Information State Particles to expand the Apostle slot.

[Empty slot has been activated.]

[Current Slots: 1/2]

[New Apostle Template can be generated.]

---

“Generate.” Zhou Jing nodded.

Buzz—

The next moment, a waterfall of information appeared on the interface.

---

[Opening a new template...]

[New Model has been generated (No. 003)]

[Current Interface – Trait Profile]

[Name: Bill·Rayson (Changeable)]

[Race Appearance: Terran (Changeable)]

[Identity: NIL]

[Personality: Greedy]

[Style: Practical]

[Alignment: Utilitarian]

[Pursuit: Wealth]

[Synchronized Difficulty Rating: No Difficulty]

[Life Goal: [Become a tycoon], [Build an urban monopoly], [Raise a private army]!]

[Apostle Permanence Standards: 0 / 120]

\*\*\*

[Current Interface – Ability Profile]

[Attributes: Physical Fitness 18, Resistance 12, Perception 9, Spirit 8, Energy 0]

[Aptitude: Eloquence – [Dark Green], Knowledge – [Dark Green], Pharmacology – [Green], Natural Amicability – [Green]... (Expand detailed list)]

[Talent: [Knowledge Seeker] (Increase efficiency when learning knowledge), [empty slot] x1]

[Free Attribute Points: 10]

[Supernatural Power System: x1 [Spare Slot] ]

[Skill: None]

[Support Function: x2 [Spare Slot] ]

[Rarity Rating: Slightly Talented]

[Note: 's initial attributes and rarity range are affected by the Astral Projector Rank and the level of the main body's attributes.]

[Full Interface Free Reset Count: 0]

[Selective Parameters Reset Count: 4]



Zhou Jing looked at the new apostle's characteristics and could not help but blink in confusion.

"Huh??"

## Chapter 152: Friend of Animals (1)

*"Greed, utilitarianism, pragmatic pursuit of wealth... Why is the synchronization rate so easy? It's easier than the previous two apostles? Most people have this personality, right? That must be why it's easier than drinking water."* Zhou Jing was uncertain.

Compared to Will's paranoia, caution, and pursuit of honor... compared to Jason's determination and pursuit of strength... this apostle seemed like an ordinary person with worldly desires.

*"Greed is a bad thing, right? I can't believe I got such a negative personality... Will there be some more extreme personalities and positions in the future?"*

Acting was one thing, but if he encountered a "personality" that he didn't agree with, he wouldn't do it either.

As for his personality of greed this time... Although Zhou Jing didn't think he was too greedy, he had been influenced by it since he was young.

Putting aside the characteristics, the quality of the new apostle model had clearly improved.

Previously, he had already understood that his Astral Projector Rank would affect the initial strength of the Apostle. But it was only at this moment that he realized that his main attributes were also counted into the equation.

The initial strength of an apostle would fluctuate within a certain range. The strength of the main body and the Astral Projector Rank were all factors that would affect the lower and upper limits of the floating range according to a certain ratio.

The initial attributes of this new apostle were already not inferior to the First Enhancement Mutant Blood Warriors. It was much higher than Will and Jason's baseline.

The first two apostles were "Common," while the new apostle was rated as "Slightly Talented."

The increase in rarity also increased his Free Attribute Points from 5 to 10. His talent and support function slots also contained one more than Will and Jason, so his potential was obviously higher.

*“It’s a pity that this one is not a combat-type apostle. All this one has are miscellaneous talents. Eloquence is suitable for communication, and knowledge is suitable for mastering technical skills. Pharmacy and Amicability are not the paths of strength as well... Hmm, the initial apostle’s aptitude should be related to its life objectives. So at the beginning, it will only produce talents suitable for completing life objectives?”*

Zhou Jing pinched his chin as he came up with this hypothesis.

It seemed that not all apostles were suitable for pursuing power cultivation... Clearly, the new apostle’s life goal was to be a businessman.

However, Zhou Jing did not intend to blindly follow the apostle’s life objectives.

He had originally wanted the new apostles to do other industries and enter another social circle. However, being just a businessman didn’t come with high status in the mutant world. After all, their civilization development was limited.

However, the new apostle’s aptitude and talent were both geared towards learning knowledge, so it was more suitable for him to be a technical talent. He could also be a businessman on the side.

At the same time, Zhou Jing also saw an opportunity to use a loophole from his new apostle.

Through the Accelerated Learning of the apostle’s cultivation, he could quickly learn all kinds of knowledge-type abilities and turn knowledge into his own memories. Then, his main body would learn from his memories with half the effort, thereby avoiding the need for a conversion process and allowing him to master knowledge-type abilities easily.

*“I remember the breathing technique that Jason learned. The main body can train on its own, but it has to be upgraded with the newer techniques. Of course, the progress can’t compare to Jason, who has an aptitude for it. The main purpose is to save some fees on my end, so I’ll only train in the techniques when I’m free... And this new apostle is more suitable for this kind of knowledge retention as compared to Jason. He can be a tool.”*

Zhou Jing thought for a while and sketched out a rough plan.

It would be best if the new apostle could clear the level. If not, he would just be a “knowledge transporter” and display his value there.

As long as the main body grasped more knowledge, he could still use them and learn by himself with his memories even if the new apostle did not inherit certain knowledge-type abilities in the future,

Moreover, the knowledge-type abilities that he had painstakingly cultivated would also enter the Records Illustration as a backup. It was equivalent to enriching the other Apostles' abilities. When there was a need, he could spend Astral Points to equip his future Apostles.

*“From the looks of it, the new apostle’s aptitude is still very versatile. His Eloquence can be used to learn the knowledge of languages. It’s just nice that he can learn the language of the Mutant Beast World. In the future, I won’t need to occupy an inheritance slot for language. His Pharmacy aptitude is used to learn the preparation process of blood potions, hunter potions, and so on. If he can reach the level of a master, wouldn’t it be easy for him to earn money?”*

Zhou Jing’s eyes lit up. He had been curious about the mutant blood potion for a long time.

Furthermore, as long as he took the path of a pharmacist, as long as he grew up, his social status would be higher than that of a Mutant Beast Hunter. He would receive the respect and protection of the Mutant Beast Hunters, and even the ruling class of the empire would value him... To a certain extent, he would become a celebrity.

The intelligence of the tribal lords plotting independence was still in his hands, but he never had the chance to come into contact with the core of power in the Mutant World. If he became a potion master, he would have contact with the ruling class.

As for the Natural Amicability aptitude, it was actually considered a magic-type superpower route, but he had yet to encounter this system for the time being. However, it could be used to tame beasts and equip the support function, his [Pet Function].

*“It’s a pity. If I can enter the Supers Academy now, I’ll be able to learn all kinds of superpower knowledge in the main world. There’s no lack of spell systems inside. This way, I can give it to the apostles and let them self-learn and master it quickly. If I can obtain a system that doesn’t exist in the Mutant World and then pass the level and convert it to my main body...”*

Zhou Jing shook his head. In his heart, he was looking forward to receiving an education from the Supers of the main world.

—School was the only place where knowledge could be obtained at a very low cost. Unfortunately, most of the time, one did not know how lucky they were.

This was especially true for Supers’ knowledge that was restricted in transmission. They would only teach it for free in the Supers Academy would they teach it for free.

## Chapter 153: Friend of Animals (2)

“I have more resources now than when Jason cleared the level.” Zhou Jing roughly finalized the development plan of the new apostle and looked at the resources.

From the time he had projected himself onto Jason as an Eternal Apostle, he had already passed five travel cycles. The benefits of each cycle were divided into two parts: return settlement and benefit placement. If he did not encounter any incidents, his daily benefits would not skyrocket or plummet.

On average, the daily benefits of these five cycles were around 800 Astral Points each, which was greater than before because after entering the Imperial Hunter base, he often wrestled with others and worked hard to cultivate breathing techniques. The benefits brought about by the two increased his average earnings. Moreover, Jason’s synchronization rate had reached 86%, and the percentage that was above 50% was also counted as an increase in his benefits.

Legendary Points also added value to daily gains. When Jason just cleared the level, his Legendary Points were only 5 points, but after months of grinding, it slowly increased to 10 points... Every 1 Legendary Point represented a 1% increase in daily gains.

However, while Jason’s reputation had clearly spread throughout the entire Terra Empire, his Legendary Points were only considered to be at the city level. Zhou Jing was not sure how this standard operated.

Not counting the daily benefits, three achievements were triggered in the middle. One was achieving the [Empire Hunter], which gave 500 Astral Points, and the other two were the [Traveler] and the [Wrestling Expert]. They were triggered by having explored above a certain area of the world map, as well as finding someone to wrestle a hundred times respectively, giving 1,200 Astral Points in total.

Because Jason’s aptitude had increased, the cost of learning Hunter’s Breathing Technique had decreased. Still, the effect of Accelerated Learning had increased instead.

Previously, he needed 700 Astral Points to master a breathing technique. Now, he only needed 500 Astral Points. In this short period of time, Jason had just achieved proficiency in another three.

*“Apart from the resources Jason spent to learn the Hunter’s Breathing Technique and the cost of opening the Apostle slot, I still have 7,200 Astral Points left.”*

Zhou Jing nodded to himself. This was more than he had expected. It was more than enough to use for his molding.

As for the Information State Particles, he now had 65 points remaining. In the cycle where he killed Lutt, the return settlement gave him 25 Information State Particles, which showed that he had indeed caused a certain impact.

Zhou Jing began to adjust the new apostle model according to his train of thought.

This time, he had four Selective Parameters Reset Counts to use. It was an increase brought about by his Astral Projector Rank.

He thought for a moment and assigned it to the talent slots and attributes. As for his aptitude, it was already quite good, so it was not worth a reset. After all, there was a risk of lowering it.

After spending the four selective reset opportunities, Zhou Jing was satisfied with his second talent and new attributes.

[You have received the talent Apothecary (The success rate and quality of making potions have increased)]

[Attributes: Physical Fitness 18, Resistance 14, Perception 10, Spirit 7, Energy 0]

He had already discovered that the talent reset was not completely random. It would either be related to his personality, aptitude, or attributes.

His attributes did not fluctuate much, only being slightly better than before.

The resetting opportunity was usually the earliest to be used. Only then did Zhou Jing open the interface that utilized Astral Points for template molding. He realized that the new Apostle's point limit was also different.

[Model Template Addition Limit: 0/2100]

*"I have an Astral Projector Rank of Lv3. Since Will and Jason are Common rarity and have a basic limit of 500 points, this means that the new apostle with Slightly Talented rarity has a basic limit of 700 points?"*

Zhou Jing was delighted. After some calculations, he realized that there were enough resources on hand, so he simply dumped them in.

[2100 Astral Points have been converted. You have received 5 Free Points.]

[Current Free Points for Allocation: 31]

“This is the first time I have so many Free Points.”

Zhou Jing felt as if his family background was now that of a nouveau riche.

After thinking for a while, he allocated most of his Free Points to his aptitude.

[Free points allocated]

[Aptitude: Knowledge [Dark Green] → [Blue] ]

[Pharmacology [Green] → [Blue]]

[Craftsmanship [White] → [Green] ]

*“It takes 2 points to upgrade a small tier for [White], 3 points to upgrade those in [Green], and 5 points to upgrade those in [Blue]... I’ve just spent it all.”*

Zhou Jing looked at the 0 beside his Free Points counter and felt like a poor person again.

Knowledge and Pharmacology were the most important to his new apostle’s plans, so they naturally had to be raised. As for Eloquence and Natural Amicability, there was no need to deliberately improve them.

As for his Craftsmanship aptitude, it was a talent geared towards processing raw materials. It was considered a comprehensive aptitude. It could actually be narrowed down to more detailed arms, such as forging, tailoring, and other more targeted aptitudes... Zhou Jing had deliberately raised this aptitude from the [White] tier up because mutant beast materials needed better processing to become high-quality materials.

In addition, he also wanted to take the path of a craftsman and learn how to create all kinds of mutant beast equipment.

As for his combat aptitude, Zhou Jing did not try to obtain any because he did not intend to let the new apostle undergo the enhancement of mutant blood.

There was no need for the new apostle to fight. There was no need to strengthen the mutant blood that carried a risk to his life. If he accidentally died, it would be a pity for the new apostle’s talent in knowledge.

In any case, he could deal with most crises with his initial attributes.

If he could not handle the problem...

Hide, and let Jason loose!

“One is a scholar and one is a martial artist. How reliable.” Zhou Jing grinned.

Although the initial attributes of the new apostles were very high, he had thought it through clearly. In a situation of limited resources, it was best to take advantage of the situation. Since he did not have any combat aptitude, he would not force it.

This time, he had already confirmed that the Astral Projector Rank and strength of his main body affected the initial strength of the apostles... When he became stronger, the subsequent apostles would be even more powerful.

Therefore, he was not in a hurry to let this new apostle walk the Mutant Blood System again. In the future, when he reached a certain level, he would create a powerful template to become a Mutant Blood Warrior!

## Chapter 154: Friend of Animals (3)

Zhou Jing had certain requirements before he would allow the second Mutant Blood Warrior to clear the level. It wouldn't be very valuable if his second Mutant Blood Warrior could not create a large enough gap between itself and Jason. Therefore, he needed a real fierce man... Of course, if there was a safer supernatural system, that would be even better.

After Closing the interface, Zhou Jing opened the interface for the support function.

He had five support functions that could be activated. Among them, Ross was the only follower function Jason had Loaded. There could only be one Ross in the world, and other Apostles couldn't use him.

“There are two slots this time...”

He thought for a moment and quickly configured two functions.

[500 Astral Points have been consumed.]

[ [Pet Function] has been filled into the support function column.]

[700 Astral Points have been consumed.]

[ [Item Analysis Function] has been filled into the support function column.]

*“This should work.”*

Zhou Jing was satisfied.



The pet function was something he had been thinking of long ago. This was not like the immediate creation of a follower. Instead, it required one to actually tame a beast and successfully activate the pet interface on the other party.

Naturally, there was also only one slot available for this, which meant that no matter how many wild beasts were tamed, only one of them could receive the enhancement of the [Pet Function].

There were also inherited attributes for the pets, and there were two situations where this would happen.

If an apostle's pet did not die, then after the next apostle equipped the pet function, they could locate the previous pet and immediately tame it.

If the pet died, there would also be a record. Just like the follower function, every apostle would have a chance to re-summon (resurrect) the pet.

However, the difference was that pets could be changed, unlike Ross, who refused to leave.

After changing pets, it would have to be nurtured again from scratch. This was a natural occurrence.

Zhou Jing chose the [Item Analysis Function] for the second support function. It was comparable to a divine skill in manufacturing, so he definitely had to pick it.

Zhou Jing browsed through the new Apostle interface from the beginning to the end. After confirming that the points had been added, he adjusted his appearance and name.

The new apostle's name was changed to only Bill—because of Jason's actions, the "Wood tribe" was now very popular in the Mutant Beast World. This time, he might as well not add his surname, lest others misunderstand that he was a blood relative of the tribe.

The new apostle's appearance was slightly adjusted. He was a friendly and slightly plump young man.

After doing all this, Zhou Jing started the projection.

[Map Overview Mode activated]

[Please select the delivery mode, [Random Area Delivery / Specified Area Delivery]?)

"Specified Area, start in the capital. I can take care of Jason there, and it's a good opportunity to see what's going on when we contact and place the apostles."



Zhou Jing did not hesitate.

[Designated location: Tarn City]

[Delivery to this location will consume 100 Astral Points... Points deducted.]

[Beginning Projection]

Whoosh!

A cracking sound rang out as the rift opened again, sucking Zhou Jing in.

...

In the day at the Mutant World.

In the distant suburbs of Tarn City, in an uninhabited field.

The weather was clear, with a light breeze and waves of grass.

In the grass, hungry beasts were wandering around for food— hyenas.

Suddenly, a faint light appeared in the grass, emitting a suction force. The surrounding grass seemed to be torn apart as it was pulled towards the light spot.

Silently, the leaves shattered and turned into dust, quickly condensing into the body of the .

Zhou Jing suddenly opened his eyes and sat up on the grass. At a glance, he saw that the surrounding area had turned into a mess.

“Not bad this time. I’m made of grass... At most, it’s just stained with mud.”

He pondered for a while and suddenly realized that his range of acceptance about what he was composed of was getting lower and lower.

“This should be near the capital. Let’s find a water source to take a look.”

Zhou Jing had traveled many times and was already familiar with the situation. He quickly controlled his body.

However, just as he got up, he suddenly heard the sound of grass rustling behind him, as if some creature was quickly approaching.

Zhou Jing turned around.

Swoosh!

Suddenly, a hyena-like beast pounced out from the grass behind him.

It happened to be wandering around and smelled an abnormal smell. It thought that it had discovered prey.

The beast soared into the air and attacked, biting his neck.

The bloody mouth approached quickly, and the yellowed teeth quickly enlarged in his vision.

Peng!

The hyena beast's head was shattered by a punch!

Its entire body hung on Zhou Jing's seemingly thin arm, swaying under the inertia.

With a fling of his arm, Zhou Jing threw the hyena aside and rolled his eyes.

Good lord, the first two times he created an apostle, at least the system provided him with a safe enough area. This time, he actually landed headfirst in danger.

If not for the fact that the strength of the new apostle was not inferior to that of Mutant Blood Warriors, he might have donated all his points back to the system!

Zhou Jing looked at the hyena's twitching corpse and could not help but feel a little resigned.

*"I killed a cute little animal as soon as I came in... What's going on? I was planning to be friendly with animals this time round!"*

## **Chapter 155: What? I'm Still Very Talented In Beast Taming (1)**

He did not even need to blink to kill a hyena that was not even a mutant beast. His heart remained unruffled.

Zhou Jing casually grabbed a bunch of weeds to wipe the blood off his hands. Suddenly, he realized that the [Item Analysis Function] on the Apostle interface had lit up.

Looking at the interface information, an item introduction popped up.

[A clump of bloody grass]

[Type: Plant, Weeds]

[Rarity: Common—seen everywhere]

[Introduction: It's a common weed that grows in the wild. Someone used it to wipe their hands, stained with blood. If you don't mind, you can use it to fill your stomach.]

[Crafting Value: Extremely low. Can be used for medicinal purposes, weaving, combustion...]

*"It's not like we're cows or horses. Who would eat grass for no reason?"*

Zhou Jing complained in his heart. He fiddled with the grass he used to test the [Item Analysis Function].

This support function could directly display the information of an object. Apart from a brief introduction, it could also show him more detailed parameters, such as weight, density, volume, and so on.

Not only could he quickly understand the product's composition, but he also had a unique advantage in crafting. He could directly reach the level of a Rank 8 technician that was not inferior to machines.

(TL Note: Not sure if Rank is the correct term, but in China, their technicians are graded by numbers, with 8 being the highest. There's a saying that it takes 3 years to learn the lathe and another 10 years to become a lousy technician/mechanic. Hence this shows how godly a Rank 8 technician is.)

"This function is too suitable for a mechanic. In this world of black technology, it's simply a divine skill."

Zhou Jing looked curious. He grabbed the grass and soil, not letting go of the hyena's corpse. He wreaked havoc on the surrounding things, playing and picking everything for a while before giving up.

His nose twitched as he smelled the tang of blood spreading out. He did not stay where he was anymore but instead identified the sun's direction and walked forward. He opened the interface and looked at his current attributes.

[: Bill (No. 003)]

[Attributes: Physical Fitness 18, Resistance 14, Perception 10, Spirit 7, Energy 0]

[Aptitude: Knowledge [Blue], Pharmacology [Blue], Eloquence [Dark Green], Craftsmanship [Green], Natural Amicability [Green]...]

[Talent: Knowledge Seeker, Apothecary]

[Support Function: [Pet Function], [Item Analysis Function] ]

“The starting attributes and aptitudes of this apostle are much better. I already know how this world works this time around, so I shouldn’t encounter too many difficulties in the early stages of development... At most, I have to learn the language and some dialects. Although I don’t have any skills to support me, I’ve basically grasped the northern dialect of the Terra Empire. I’ve deliberately spoken a lot of words, so it’s not a problem for me to converse in a day-to-day scenario. This time, I can also learn the southern dialect since I have the Eloquence aptitude.

“This place shouldn’t be far from the capital. I’ll look for Jason first and see what it’s like to come into contact with an apostle. Then, I’ll think of a way to become an apprentice pharmacist in the capital.”

Zhou Jing thought about his plan as he walked.

The third , Bill, took the technical route. One of his life goals was to “build an industry and monopolize it.” In this regard, his biggest competitor was actually the lord. The bigger the city, the harder it was to complete. It would naturally be most difficult in the capital.

He chose to start here because he did not have any plans to complete the life objective in the short term. His main purpose was to come to the capital to learn... If one wished to earn money, they had to first have skills.

It would be best if he could join the Empire Workshop. However, he had used Jason to investigate the situation much earlier and discovered that most of the apprentices in the Empire Workshop were nurtured from a young age. If they were hired from outside, they would only recruit elites who were already at the level of an elite pharmacist.

However, the good thing was that the capital was prosperous. There were many pharmaceutical shops in the region that he could approach to go under tutelage. As long as the teacher’s level was passable, he could rely on his own aptitude and advantage to quickly master it.

“As an outsider, it’s not easy for me to be an apprentice to someone else. Apothecaries don’t easily teach others their rice bowl, so I have to use money to clear the way... It seems that I have to borrow some money from Jason.”

Zhou Jing was thinking when his ears suddenly twitched. He heard a creature approaching from the side. He turned around and saw another hyena in the grass.

There were really a lot of wild beasts in the vicinity... Speaking of which, it was quite a coincidence. Mutant beast hunters only hunted mutant beasts. This sort of wild beast was not their target, so they would not specially make a trip here.

Therefore, wild beasts would occasionally appear on the capital's outskirts and threaten the town's residents or pedestrians. Usually, they would only be exterminated when ordinary hunters or guards were mobilized.

The hyena-like beast bared its teeth and let out a low growl. It did not pounce on Zhou Jing immediately but circled behind him vigilantly as it approached.

"You want to poke my ass?"

Zhou Jing subconsciously tightened his muscles as he felt a chill.

Not only did this beast look like a hyena from his world, but its habits were also as perverted.

Although he was a little disgusted... he could use it to test the [Pet Function].

Without another word, he turned around and pounced.

The hyena was already on guard and wanted to dodge, but its speed was much slower than Zhou Jing's. In the next moment, a large hand grabbed its neck and pressed it to the ground.

Wuwuwu—

The hyena couldn't help but whimper in panic.

Zhou Jing controlled his strength and slapped the hyena twice before revealing a kind smile.

"Little baby, lie down obediently and don't struggle. Otherwise, I have to kill you."

He had yet to learn the technical method of taming creatures.

However, everyone was self-taught in the ways of physical taming.

It was unknown if it was because of his Natural Amicability or fear, but the hyena indeed seemed to understand.

It stopped moving.

Seeing this, Zhou Jing let go.

The hyena sat up and squatted on the spot with its tail between its legs. It looked around and kept licking its lips. From time to time, it would glance pitifully at Zhou Jing, not daring to escape.

If it was a pet dog, it would be quite cute. Unfortunately, this was a hyena... No matter how he looked at it, it was still pretty undesirable.

## Chapter 156: What? I'm Still Very Talented In Beast Taming (2)

Zhou Jing held back his disdain and smiled as he opened his palm.

"That's more like it. Let's shake hands and be good friends."

The hyena looked at the proffered palm, trying its best to understand.

After thinking for a few seconds, it turned around and prepared to poop on Zhou Jing's hand to provide food for him.

Zhou Jing: "..."

*You MF! Demon, take this palm of mine!*

Pak!

"Wuwuwu!"

Three seconds later, the hyena returned to its original sitting position. It trembled as it squatted in front of Zhou Jing, a large tuft of fur missing from its head.

"Claw." Zhou Jing's smile remained unchanged, but the veins on his forehead bulged.

The hyena was lost in thought again.

In the end, its survival instinct overcame its desire to bite Zhou Jing. It raised its claws hesitantly and obediently placed them in Zhou Jing's palm.

At this moment, the interface reacted.

[Do you want to designate this beast as a pet?]

"Let's accept it and see." Zhou Jing did not hesitate.

In any case, he could change pets, so he decided to make do with this first.

[Designation success... Current number of pets: 1/1]

[Pet: Black Spotted Hyena]

[Talent: Eating Carrion, Sharp Nose]

[Advantages: Teeth, Nose, Endurance]

[Skills: Bite Lv3, Rectal Disembowelment Lv3]

[Cultivation Potential: Extremely low]

[Cultivation Growth: 0]

[Rapport: 6/100]

[Training Level: 0/5]

[Total combat power: First Order]

“It’s out.” Zhou Jing was delighted. He carefully scrutinized the pet interface, and he quickly understood the process.

As the name suggested, there was no need to say much about talent. As for its advantages, it was the outstanding body parts and the direction of expertise it could grow in. If one trained in these directions, they could increase the level of the relevant skills or learn new skills.

[Cultivation Potential] represented the value and rarity of this creature, as well as the efficiency of raising its cultivation.

[Cultivation Growth] was increased through daily training, fighting, killing enemies, and other activities. It was equivalent to general experience points that could be used to increase the level of skills, strengthen its advantage, improve a certain talent, and so on. It was one of the most important sections to take note of.

The [Rapport] tab was similar to favorability. The maximum was 100 points. The higher the rapport, the more cooperative the pet. It would be able to execute more complicated instructions and train more efficiently.

The [Training Level] indicated the “personal level” of a pet. The higher this level, the stronger the pet’s basic attributes... The pet’s specific attributes were not displayed on the interface. Instead, it was replaced by the tab [Total Combat Power]. It calculated skills, talent, attributes, and other factors to determine the current combat strength of the pet.

The level of a pet's total combat power was the same as the Order of an ordinary person's attributes. The Black-Spotted Hyena's comprehensive combat power was in the First Order, which meant that its combat power did not exceed the level of a person whose attributes were in the First Order.

*"It's not impossible to see the exact value. I just need to spend 10 Astral Points to detect it."*

Zhou Jing nodded to himself. He had basically figured out the mechanism of the [Pet Function].

He then sized up the hyena and realized that after being designated as a pet, the hyena was no longer restless to escape, but it still did not dare to look at him directly.

It was probably because they did not have much rapport at the moment.

"Ahem, it's a little ugly, but I'll make do with it for the time being. I'll call you Little Black... Uh, Little Black #1. I feel that you won't live long."

Zhou Jing touched his chin and casually came up with a name.

He got up and took a few steps forward before turning around. He saw that Little Black #1 was following him hesitantly, albeit looking scared.

"Heh, this is really you beginning the life of a dog."

Seeing that his pet would follow him, Zhou Jing stopped paying attention and continued on his way.

After walking for a while, the man and dog quickly arrived at the edge of the wilderness. The main road was in sight, and they could reach the Royal City of Tarn if they followed it.

Zhou Jing was about to walk onto the main road when he heard the sound of grass rustling once more.

Swish swish swish...

He looked toward the source of the sound. It seemed that three Black Spotted Hyenas wandering nearby had sensed his scent and rushed over.

"No way, is the environment in the distant suburbs of the capital so bad now? Or did the hyenas just migrate?"

The corners of Zhou Jing's mouth twitched, and he turned to face the enemy.



Soon, the three hyenas stopped not far away and confronted Zhou Jing from afar. They circled around and growled.

Little Black #1 seemed to have been provoked as well. It took a few steps forward and stood in front of Zhou Jing, letting out a threatening roar at the three enemies.

The three hyenas stopped barking, dumbfounded.

*... What's going on? We're all hyenas. Why are you growling at us instead?*

Seeing this, Zhou Jing's eyes suddenly lit up.

Right, pets seemed to be able to obtain experience when they killed enemies.

"I choose you, Little Black #1! One against three!"

Zhou Jing casually pointed at the three hyenas in high spirits.

Little Black #1 could not help but turn to look at Zhou Jing.

Although it was only a dog, its eyes revealed human-like disbelief, as if it was saying, "You serious, bro?"

At this moment, a hyena on the side saw the flaw it revealed and charged forward.

"Here it comes, Little Black #1, use tackle!"

*"What tackle? Why do I not know how to do it?!"*

Little Black #1 was in a daze when it suddenly felt its body lighten. Zhou Jing had grabbed him by the waist.

Before its dog brain could think carefully, it realized that it had been thrown by a huge force.

Bam!

The two dogs collided, and the result was that one died and one was injured.

[Your pet has killed an enemy. Obtained 2 Growth Points.]

"It works!"

Zhou Jing's eyes lit up.

He ran to Little Black #1, who was struggling to stand up and grabbed its leg without a word.

“Wuwuwu!”

*What! Are! You! Trying! To! Do!*

## Chapter 157

Amidst Little Black #1’s terrifying howl, Zhou Jing picked it up.

The other two hyenas were so frightened by this strange scene that they wanted to escape... Anyone who saw their own kind being used as weapons by the enemy would panic.

However, they did not manage to escape. Zhou Jing caught up to the two hyenas and killed them with his new “Black #1” hammer.

Pak! Pak!

[Your pet has received 4 Growth Points]

Zhou Jing looked at the three hyena corpses with his hands on his hips and nodded in satisfaction.

*Look at this, whaaaat? I’m indeed very talented in beast taming.*

*As long as I help it farm, wouldn’t it be able to quickly increase the strength of my pets? Wonderful!*

Of course, the effects of force collision were mutual.

Even though Zhou Jing had held back, Little Black #1 was still severely injured and on the verge of death.

[Your rapport has decreased. Current level: 1/100]

“Eh, your rapport hasn’t reached zero yet? Are you a bootlicker at heart?”

Zhou Jing looked at Little Black #1’s miserable state, but he felt calm, not sorry.

...This was a beast that wanted to dig out his an\*s. If not for the fact that he was strong enough, he would have already been scooped out internally. He couldn’t feel guilty. It was already good enough that he did not kill this thing directly.

“Alright, since you’re not dead, I’ll bring you along first. When I’m successful in my studies, I’ll treat you.”

Zhou Jing shrugged and casually did some emergency first aid on Little Black #1. Then, he carried it on his shoulder and continued on his way.

Little Black #1’s dog face was entirely numb at this point.

*I beg of you, let me go!*

...

After trekking for a long time, Zhou Jing carried the hyena that was vomiting blood under the strange gazes of the passers-by and passed by one town after another before finally arriving at the Imperial Hunter Base.

The third apostle, Bill, was an unfamiliar face. He was naturally stopped by the guards at the entrance.

“Who are you and what are you doing here?”

The guard questioned Zhou Jing as usual and could not help but size up Zhou Jing... especially the hyena he was carrying on his shoulder.

*What kind of fashion is this?*

Zhou Jing said politely, “I just came to the capital to find a hunter I know. Can you help me find him?”

“Sure. I’ll get someone to inform whoever you want to meet.” The guard nodded.

“I’m looking for Jace. Do you have this person here? He should be an Imperial Hunter now, right?”

“I know of that person. Wait a moment,” The guard readily agreed without any doubt.

After all, he was just a messenger. It was normal for the hunter to affirm the identity instead.

Zhou Jing suppressed his nervousness and waited. Not long after, three figures walked out of the base.

In addition to Jason and his inseparable Ross, Cole followed curiously.

Zhou Jing paused... There were actually outsiders here. He had to be more cautious.

This was the first time he came into contact with another one of his apostles. At the moment, he was still unsure of the mechanism and was uncertain about his success.

Soon, the three of them arrived in front of Zhou Jing.

“Jace, he’s the one who wants to talk to you,” the guard said respectfully.

Jason nodded and looked at Zhou Jing without saying anything.

Zhou Jing blinked and probed, “Um... Do you still remember me?”

“I remember.” Jason nodded.

“This is your friend?” Cole was curious.

After spending a few months together, his understanding of Jason’s past was limited. However, today was the first time someone had come looking for him, so he put down his training and ran over to accompany him.

Jason remained silent.

“Yes!” Seeing this, Zhou Jing took over the conversation and said, “I’m from a place further away, and have met with Jace before.”

After that, he paused. When he saw Jason did not respond, he continued tentatively.

“Do you remember? One time, you were injured during a hunt and fainted in the wilderness. I was the one who picked you up and brought you home for treatment. We lived under the same roof for a period of time...”

“Yes, I remember you.”

Jason continued to nod. He spoke very little, but he did not refute anything Zhou Jing said.

Seeing this, Zhou Jing became slightly bolder. He remembered the characteristics of the new apostle and pretended to be unscrupulous. He rubbed his fingers and chuckled.

“You told me that there are many opportunities in the capital, so I came to the capital to make a fortune here. This time, I came to look for you to borrow some funds...”

“How much do you want?” Jason asked calmly.

“Hehe, of course the more the merrier!”

*Isn't this blackmail...?* Cole looked at Zhou Jing's greedy face and was instantly displeased. However, as an outsider, he could not say anything.

Cole had thought that it was Jason's friend, so he had followed him out of curiosity. Now that he realized that it was just a shameless person asking for money, he had no interest in watching further.

"You guys chat first. I'm going back to train."

Cole greeted Jason. After Jason nodded in response, he returned to the base.

Seeing that the others had left, Zhou Jing put away his deliberately unscrupulous expression and pulled Jason to the side.

Jason did not refuse and let Zhou Jing lead the way.

When he reached a secluded place where no one was paying attention, Zhou Jing heaved a sigh of relief. He began to study the situation of the apostles' placement.

He discovered that an apostle controlled by oneself could command the other apostles through verbal commands as long as they were in close contact with them. The placed apostle would basically function as a follower in front of his own projection.

When he came into contact with an apostle, he could also read the other party's experience log, similar to when he touched his follower.

However, the difference was that Jason was still displaying the procedures set during placement to the outside world. He was not as stiff and rigid as his follower.

There was also a connection between the s, which was reflected in his minimap. The s in the same world could see their respective positions on the map and send out a summoning signal, allowing the other apostles to automatically move towards them. However, they could not give detailed instructions from afar... This meant that he could only call people over and could not command the others remotely.

During the projection period, he also could not directly switch the apostles he controlled and could only return to the preparatory space and choose the body that their consciousness would project himself.

*"It's like a special follower with higher intelligence to being able execute complicated plans. He's usually independent, but when he's in close contact, he's completely obedient..."*

Zhou Jing was overjoyed.

Although he could not command the apostles from afar and could only give verbal instructions like ordinary people, it was already very useful.

After all, they were essentially him. The priority of listening to his orders would override the placement plan.

This would make things a lot easier...

Zhou Jing relaxed. A lot of thoughts flashed through his mind before he smiled.

“Let’s go. Give me 300 silver coins and help me enter the capital!”

## **Chapter 158: Quick Success (1)**

The group passed through the town and followed the line that snaked into the city. They passed the guard’s inspection before entering the outer city of the capital.

Jason had been an Imperial Hunter for a few months and was qualified to enter the city. Zhou Jing had long explored the terrain of the capital.

With Jason’s identity as a guarantor, Zhou Jing’s new apostle successfully entered the outer city. The main street was wide, and many people were coming and going.

However, the houses were too densely packed. From the main road, many lanes forked out on both sides of the road, leading to alleys separated by various houses. They were like spider webs, and the routes were complicated and cramped, like the capillaries of the entire city.

The landmark buildings in the outer city were only the few guard castles, where a portion of the soldiers was stationed there to act as constables and control the city’s security. The capital city was essentially an entire fortress on its own. With the guard castles as the boundary, the outer city was divided into several districts. To a certain extent, the people living within were distinguished based on their functionality through the districts, but this could also ensure the normal lives of ordinary people.

Zhou Jing led Jason through the streets and alleys, through the dirty shantytown, past the bustling market district, and quickly arrived at the district where a large number of craftsmen lived... The street’s proper name was the Furnace District.

The various districts had the complete infrastructure, such as apothecaries, blacksmiths, tailors, and so on. This was made so that it was convenient for the residents to live in that area. However, many of the managers of these shops only consisted of ordinary craftsmen from the Furnace District. They crossed the city to work every morning and returned to their residences to rest at night.

High-quality products could usually only be bought in the Furnace District. Therefore, many wealthy residents of the capital would rather travel through the city to buy them, while ordinary residents wanted to live in the Furnace District to live... Unfortunately, they could not afford to buy a house in that district.

After all, people were divided into groups. These craftsmen were the intellectuals of the Mutant Beast World. Those who lived in the Furnace District were generally high-income groups. Moreover, there were many high-level craftsmen who worked for the Empire Workshop here, so the security was good.

For example, one could stroll around the slums and market areas, but if they tried to do the same in Furnace District, they would be chased away by the guards.

Zhou Jing had only walked for a while in the Furnace District before he was noticed by the patrolling guards and questioned.

The third apostle, Bill, was an “outsider” who had arrived in the capital for the first time. By right, he could not casually come to the Furnace District, but Jason, a proper Imperial Hunter, vouched for him. Then, the guard allowed the two of them to stroll around. He only warned them not to approach the inner wall.

*“Right now, Jason’s identity is more useful.”*

Zhou Jing watched the guard leave and could not help but glance toward the center of the city.

The high inner wall blocked their vision, and they could only vaguely see the towering palace castle.

The inner city was the core of the Terra Empire’s power. The walls were heavily guarded. In addition to the guard garrison, there were also many royal guards guarding the city walls—all of them were Mutant Blood Warriors.

It was quite difficult to sneak in silently.

*“Speaking of which, why did I subconsciously think of sneaking into a heavily guarded place? Could it be the aftereffects of my incursion at White Plains Town...”*

Zhou Jing composed himself and searched for a while on the road. He found an apothecary and immediately walked in.

After a while, he walked out again. There were already many apprentices in this shop, and they had no intention of accepting any more.

He tried one shop after another along the street. None of them were looking for apprentices. The capital was not a small place. There were many hunters there. Even if

Jason decided to show his identity, if the other party did not have the intention to accept apprentices, even his status would not be effective.

Zhou Jing tried patiently. He only changed after visiting the 13th shop.

This was a small apothecary, and its shelves were cold and empty. Only the potion labels and prices were placed in obvious places, but not a single bottle of potion could be seen.

There was only a middle-aged man in the shop. He was lean, had a long beard, and was clad in a robe. At this moment, he was sitting behind the counter, reading a book.

Hearing someone enter, the middle-aged man slowly looked up and said unhurriedly, "Take your time to look around. What do you want to buy?"

"Are you hiring pharmacists here?" Zhou Jing went straight to the point.

The middle-aged man sized up Zhou Jing, and his eyes lit up. "A foreigner? Are you rich?"

Hearing this, Zhou Jing perked up. He took out his heavy money bag and shook it. The silver coins swayed and clinked, producing a pleasant sound.

The middle-aged man's attitude immediately became enthusiastic. He stroked his long beard and smiled.

"It's easy if you have money. I'm a pharmacist. You can call me Marley. If you pay me, you can be my apprentice..."

Zhou Jing blinked.

Usually, when a craftsman picked an apprentice, he would have to test their character and ability to see if they had the talent in this aspect and had to be responsible for them. However, this pharmacist only cared about money and did not reject anyone. He did not seem very reliable...

However, he did not mind. As long as someone could teach him the basics, he would be able to master it quickly with his own learning advantage.

At this moment, Jason walked in with a majestic gait. His strong body seemed to have its own aura.

Marley's expression changed slightly when he saw Jason's Imperial Hunter outfit. "This hunter is your friend?"

"Yes, I saved him once..."



Zhou Jing explained his previous words and introduced himself.

“Alright, I understand.” Marley seemed unhappy. His tone became a little more indifferent as he said, “If you want to be my apprentice, 50 silver coins every 10 days.”

Zhou Jing was stunned.

*Good lord, why don't you rob a bank?*

50 silver coins was something that a farmer's family might not even be able to earn in a year. Even for high-income hunters, it was a sum that could not be ignored. It was more than enough to buy a set of equipment... And this was only the price of being an apprentice for 10 days?!

Ordinary people wouldn't even think about accepting! Knowledge in this world was very expensive, but not to this extent. Otherwise, there wouldn't be so many pharmacists.

## Chapter 159: Quick Success (2)

Zhou Jing suspected this person was making things difficult for him because of Jason's existence. This was the first time he had encountered a situation where having a hunter around was useless.

Because he knew a high-income friend, he wanted to cheat him? No, this did not make sense. He could have gone to another pharmacist to learn.

*If it wasn't personal... Maybe he wants to scare me away with a high price.*

Thinking about how different Marley's attitude had been before and after Jason appeared...

Zhou Jing rolled his eyes and suddenly understood what was going on.

Wonderful, this was the place!

“It's a little expensive. Can it be cheaper? How about 20 silver coins?”

“No, 50 means 50.” Marley didn't backtrack.

Zhou Jing refused to give up. After much persuasion, he finally reduced the price to 40 silver coins for 10 days. Marley agreed with a dark expression.

“So be it. Pay up and learn.” Marley glanced at Jason, who stood there with a powerful aura, and his face twitched slightly.

“Then you’ll teach me well after I pay, right? This is a huge sum of money!” Zhou Jing pretended to be hesitant and rubbed his hands together.

Marley’s expression darkened even more. “Of course!” he said unhappily.

Seeing this, Zhou Jing stopped teasing him.

Bargaining was just a characteristic of deliberately behaving according to his apostle. He actually did not care about money.

Of course, the tuition fees were still too expensive, but he did not want to waste time asking around. Since he could learn here, he would take what he could get.

Marley’s change in attitude was either because he was squeezing his apprentices dry or because he was teaching and cutting corners typically. He was squeezing others’ wallets dry and bullying outsiders who had no one to rely on. This was not a good person at all.

However, Jason’s existence served as a guarantee. If Marley did not teach him well and still charged him much money, Zhou Jing would have someone backing him!

There was no consumer protection association in this world. Only those with power and influence could protect their rights.

That was why Marley’s attitude became completely different.

A foreigner with a backer was not easy to deal with!

However, Zhou Jing felt that this place was suitable for him. Instead of finding a responsible teacher, he would rather engage in monetary trade.

He was just looking for a place to learn the basics and begin his studies. It would not take long.

In this way, the relationship between money and goods was simple. Therefore, he did not have to owe Barong a favor like he did in the past.

Moreover, he was not a good person. There was no psychological pressure for him if he went overboard.

After finalizing the agreement, Zhou Jing first paid for 10 days. Then, he rented a house nearby at a high price. After that, he returned to the apothecary and requested to start learning immediately.

He had just received the money, and with Jason’s deterrence, Marley did not dare to use a night off to push it to the next day like he usually did. He could only take out two

rough books with a sullen expression. They were the Herbal Illustrated Handbook and the Basic Theory of Pharmacology, and he used these two books to start teaching.

[Learning [Herbal Knowledge] ]

[Minimum Cost for Accelerated Learning: 20 Astral Points]

[Learning [Pharmacology] ]

[Minimum Cost for Accelerated Learning: 50 Astral Points]

“Activate them all.”

Zhou Jing did not hesitate at all. He listened attentively to Marley’s explanation of the art of potion-making and entered a learning state that was even more efficient than the zone.

...

A month passed in a flash.

In front of the pharmaceutical table at the back of the pharmacy, Zhou Jing was busying himself while Marley watched from the side.

Zhou Jing skillfully handled the various herbs and used various tools to prepare the herbs into the required form. He boiled them in order, mixed them, and finally poured the formed medicine into a bottle.

The final yellow potion was like beer, even bubbling from time to time.

“Come and try.”

Zhou Jing kicked Little Black #1, who was lying by his feet and forcefully opened its mouth to pour the potion in.

“Wuwuwu—”

Little Black #1 struggled violently, but it was useless.

After the potion entered its mouth, the originally sickly Little Black #1 suddenly became full of energy. It suddenly became very lively, and the room was filled with joy.

It had been Zhou Jing’s main test subject in the past month. It had drunk countless potions, and his previous injuries had long recovered. The main problem now was its endocrine imbalance.

Zhou Jing did not have high expectations of it. It was fine as long as it was alive. He had been focused on studying pharmacology and did not have the time to tame beasts for the time being.

Coincidentally, he realized that the cultivation progress of this Black Spotted Hyena, which had drunk a lot of potions, had increased.

After physically taming a beast, he had now developed the drug-taking method to cultivate the beast... Although it was unorthodox, it was really useful.

“Looks like the energy potion is quite effective this time.”

Zhou Jing observed the experimental subject and revealed a satisfied smile.

Beside him, the corners of Marley’s mouth twitched, and his expression conflicted.

*How did this guy... learn so quickly?*

Under normal circumstances, he would hold back when teaching his apprentices and teach them perfunctorily. However, because of Jason, Marley did not plan to try and trick him too much this time.

However, it was not a problem to dawdle. Marley deliberately slowed down the teaching progress, planning to let Zhou Jing spend more money.

Even if he couldn’t cheat others, the tuition fees that he deliberately raised this time were still very good. Marley didn’t expect him to really be willing to pay. In that case, he would fleece him as much as he could.

However, he did not expect this guy to learn so quickly. His progress was even increasing day by day!

It took Marley three months to learn the basics to make his first effective potion... but this foreigner named Bill only took 20 days to achieve the same results.

And in another 10 days, he could already make a potion with a quality comparable to his.

Looking at the remaining high-efficiency medicine in the pot, Marley’s stomach was filled with regret.

If he had known that this person would learn so quickly, he would have increased the price by a few times. He had lost out!

Fortunately... he only taught this person two potion formulas. They were also the most commonly known healing potion and energy potions. He did not teach him anything else.

At this moment, Zhou Jing turned to look at Marley and asked with a smile, "How's my potion this time? Can I learn the new formula yet?"

Marley came back to his senses and coughed. "Not bad. You're improving quickly. It's all because I taught you well, but you still have to practice more. Learning a new formula is too early for you."

With that, Marley was afraid that Zhou Jing would continue asking, so he quickly walked out of the room with a long face.

Zhou Jing looked at his back and curled his lips playfully.

He had long sensed that this person was dawdling. However, in the face of Accelerated Learning, as long as he stepped past the threshold of learning, he could master everything at lightning speed.

Furthermore, pharmacology was not like those abilities that required physical training. Most of them required brain work, and the proficiency increased very quickly. With the addition of his own talent and aptitude, his learning efficiency was simply akin to flying.

In just a month, [Herbal Knowledge] and [Pharmacology] had both reached Lv4 (Proficient), which was not inferior to Marley.

This person was just an ordinary pharmacist, who took the crooked path to cheat outsiders, so his level was naturally not too high.

In a month, Marley had only taught him these two potion formulas. He guarded the other formulas that he knew, like guarding against thieves. Obviously, he wanted to earn more money from him in this way.

Of course, it was also possible that he was afraid that his disciple would starve himself to death if he passed on all his skills. Not every industry had the tradition of beast hunters enthusiastically educating newcomers.

*"Practice more? In your dreams."*

Zhou Jing secretly curled his lips.

If it was truly a normal method of teaching, he would have paid the tuition fees readily. However, it was obvious that this guy was scamming others. He did not want to continue being a fool. He might as well save time and money.

“There’s nothing else Marley can teach me except the formulas... Looks like I’m going to have to do some barbaric, primitive accumulation.”

Zhou Jing stroked his chin thoughtfully.

Speaking of which, as a greedy apostle, he should not have handed over the money obediently.

It was indeed a synchronization without any difficulty... The system was really good at judging people!

## **Chapter 160: Invade One’s Home To Loot... Knowledge? (1)**

The next afternoon, Zhou Jing took the initiative to invite Marley for a meal.

Marley had originally planned to drag out the teaching and earn Zhou Jing’s money. Then, everyone would part ways happily. He did not expect Zhou Jing to treat him so enthusiastically.

To be honest, he was a little surprised and flattered.

All his previous apprentices who had been scammed... no, taught by him grew angry with him and parted on bad terms. If not for the fact that they were in the Furnace District, which had good public security, and the fact that he only scammed outsiders without any backing, Marley would probably have been put in a gunny sack and beaten up long ago.

He did not expect that, with his character, he would be able to enjoy such treatment one day... However, his self-awareness was still very clear.

Since someone was treating him, it would be a waste not to eat. Marley closed the shop and followed Zhou Jing to a local tavern with a good reputation.

The two of them ordered a lot of food and drinks. They ate and drank at the same time. Soon, Marley got a little inebriated.

However, Bill’s stamina was not as bad as his—remaining sober. Seeing that Marley was almost drunk, Zhou Jing asked about the formula indirectly.

Marley immediately became instinctively vigilant, brushing it off without revealing anything.

Even when he was drunk, his psychological defense was still strong. He was stingy by nature and sneered to himself as he thought.

*“Little brat, so you’re treating me to a meal because you want to get my formula. Hmph, don’t even think about it...”*

Although the formulas Marley had were all common potions, and there were many pharmacists who knew about them, he just didn’t want to give them out unless the other party had real money.

Seeing that Marley was tight-lipped, Zhou Jing did not ask further. He continued to pour wine into Marley’s mouth before generously paying the bill, making the other party happy.

Zhou Jing only helped the drunk Marley out of the tavern when it was close to curfew.

“Where’s your house? I’ll take you back.”

Zhou Jing asked in a low voice.

After learning from this person for a month, Marley had never invited an apprentice to his house. Zhou Jing had to ask around himself to know the way.

Marley swayed as he walked, so he could only accept Zhou Jing’s support. He opened his sleepy eyes to determine the direction and casually pointed the way.

The two of them passed through the winding alley and quickly arrived at a small house. Marley took out his key and opened the door before he suddenly held the door frame to block the way, not intending to invite Zhou Jing in.

“I’m here. You can go back by yourself,” Marley stuttered out.

“Alright.”

Zhou Jing nodded. However, he suddenly reached out and grabbed Marley’s shoulder, pushing him into the house. He hooked the door with his foot and closed it.

Marley was shocked. He wanted to pull Zhou Jing’s arm away with both hands, but he could not move his seemingly thin arm at all. He panicked, “You... What are you doing? Hurry up and get out. I’m going to shout!”

With that, he pretended to shout to attract the guards patrolling the street.

However, in the next moment, a large hand grabbed his neck and blocked any sound from coming out.

Zhou Jing lifted Marley with one hand and let him flail in the air.

“Don’t shout, or your neck will break if my hand shakes.”

Marley felt the gradually tightening force on his neck, and his face turned purple. He quickly compromised like a frightened quail.

Seeing this, Zhou Jing put him down and brushed the dust off Marley’s clothes with a smile.

“Yes, cooperate obediently. This will be good for you. Once I get what I want, I won’t hurt you.”

“Don’t... don’t do anything rash.”

Marley sobered up immediately. His lips trembled like a sieve. There was no trace of his previous arrogance.

He did not expect this stinky foreigner to have the guts to break in and rob him!

Marley couldn’t help but touch his neck, which had a red mark from the strangulation. At this moment, he was extremely flustered.

*Why is this thin and weak guy so strong?!*

Because of Jason’s relationship, Marley had a preconceived notion that the Bill in front of him was an “intellectual” and would not easily break the law. At least he was a decent person.

As long as he did not go overboard, it would be an economic dispute at most. It would not escalate to violence. At most, they would part ways unhappily. The other party would scold him and then look for other pharmacists to learn from.

After all, this was the capital. Even Imperial hunters had to follow the rules. Marley only felt that it was troublesome for Zhou Jing to know a hunter, but he was actually not afraid... He wouldn’t be afraid of a group whose duty was to protect the people.

Therefore, Marley did not expect Zhou Jing to do such a thing. However, now that he realized that Zhou Jing seemed to be a villain, he was really afraid.

Zhou Jing pulled Marley around the house. After confirming that there was only one person in the house, he put his arm around his shoulder and chuckled.

“I don’t mean anything else. I’m just curious about the potion formula in your hand. Show it to me, okay?”



“Alright...”

Marley did not dare to say anything else. In fear, he took out a tattered notebook from the bookcase and handed it to Zhou Jing.

Zhou Jing flipped it open and took a look. It recorded Marley’s experiences making potions over the years and the appendices of more than ten formulas.

Most of these formulas were common general-purpose potions, such as healing potions, invigorating potions, insecticide potions, and so on. In addition, there were two types of hunter potions, respectively, to increase heart and lung functions and reduce pain.

“Yo, you know quite a lot. No wonder you didn’t want to teach me.” Zhou Jing read it carefully a few times and silently noted it down. Then, he stuffed the notebook back into the bookshelf.

Marley did not dare answer and smiled sheepishly.

“Alright, don’t be so afraid. I won’t kill anyone casually.” Zhou Jing patted his shoulder and chuckled. “Remember, I only sent you home today to take care of the drunk you. Nothing else happened.”

“Understood, understood...”

Marley, of course, had no objections. He nodded repeatedly.

Zhou Jing smacked his lips before continuing, “Even if you want to report this case to the guards, there’s no evidence. Besides, you used a ridiculous price to recruit me as an apprentice. If others know that you’ve took so much money, who do you think will have the moral high ground?”

“I... I didn’t think that way.”

“If that’s the case, then all’s good. You’ve cheated me of a lot of money, but seeing that you’ve indeed taught me the basics, I won’t ask you for this sum back. The potions I’ve been making these past few days are also yours, so you’ll still earn quite a sum from it. Just treat it as having gotten a good deal and stop while you’re ahead. If you don’t know how to be satisfied and still want to cause trouble, I might get into trouble, but you’ll definitely understand how much your life is.”

Hearing this, Marley calmed down and suddenly realized it made sense.

In essence, he had still earned money, but it was just that he could no longer cheat this person.

Although the value of those formulas exceeded Zhou Jing's efforts in the past month, if they were learned by others, they would not deprive him of the knowledge he had grasped. There would not be much substantial loss.

Seeing that Marley had sincerely agreed, Zhou Jing patted his shoulder in satisfaction and gave him a warning before leaving.

Marley immediately collapsed into a chair. His chest heaved, and his heart pounded. He felt like he had wandered around the edge of death.

He could not help but recall the past month. Zhou Jing had acted like an obedient apprentice, making him let down his guard. It was only tonight that he revealed his fierce side.

If he had known, he would have been more determined a month ago and shouted a higher price to scare this person away... Marley was vexed, feeling as though he had invited a wolf into his house.

Although he was depressed, he definitely did not have the courage to do anything else.

If he provoked this evil person again, he would only be even more unlucky. If he accepted this loss, he could still continue to enjoy life. Right now, Marley only wanted to quickly end this relationship and not get involved with Zhou Jing anymore.

...

The next day, the two of them met again at the apothecary, and Zhou Jing smiled as if nothing had happened last night.

However, Marley's expression was stiff. He could only force a smile and did not dare to treat Zhou Jing with the same attitude as before.

After spending a day in a strange atmosphere, Zhou Jing finally made a request to end their apprenticeship. Marley felt as if he had been pardoned and could not wait to agree. He was just short of chasing him away with a broom.

Zhou Jing walked out of the apothecary with the hyena. He turned around and saw Marley standing by the door, watching him leave.

Sensing Zhou Jing's gaze, Marley quickly retracted his head, not daring to look at him again.

Zhou Jing retracted his gaze, his lips curling up.

His Pharmacology level had already reached Lv4 mastery. Coupled with more than ten formulas, he could already be considered a qualified pharmacist. He only spent a month

learning to this stage. The benefits of adding the relevant qualifications for one's role were indeed astonishing.

Actually, according to normal methods, it was very difficult to learn more than ten formulas so quickly. Even if his learning efficiency was high, it was impossible for ordinary pharmacists to teach apprentices without a long period of observation. It would take at least a year or two to learn more than ten formulas. He did not want to wait so long as well.

It was not suitable to do anything overboard to normal teachers. Even for someone like Marley, Zhou Jing's methods were not too harsh. Although Marley was a greedy person, his teaching was real.

He only used force to avoid the twists and turns of normal methods and quickly obtained the knowledge he wanted. He did not do anything else to Marley. In the Mutant World, fists were more practical and convenient.

"I already have the standards of a pharmacist. I shouldn't be rejected at the Empire Workshop now."

Zhou Jing walked on the street and calculated for a while. Soon, he turned to the office of the Empire Workshop. That was his goal, the gathering place of the entire Terra Empire's "high-quality techniques."

...

At the same time, somewhere in the royal palace.

Roman strolled through the garden.

A trusted aide followed beside him and reported in a low voice.

"...The tribal lords have replied. As long as there's a need, we can carry out the plan at any time."

Roman nodded and plucked a leaf from the grass by the side of the road. He flipped it between his fingers and casually said, "Let them wait a little longer. The time is not ripe yet. It's not yet a good opportunity to fall out with them. The empire has the energy to send troops to suppress them now."

The trusted aide nodded, then said, "There's one more thing. Recently, the people we planted in the Empire Workshop have sent news that they seem to have made new progress in the development of the mutant beasts' special abilities."

Roman paused, "Oh?"

“The Empire Workshop has been researching special mutated beast equipment and trying to use its special abilities. Recently, they seem to have made a semi-finished product. The royal family of Tarn personally went to take a look and even blocked the news... We only heard that they named this equipment the Miraculous Armament.”

“I want to know the details. Find out for me.” Roman’s tone was unquestionable.

“Understood.”

Roman paused for a moment, as if he had remembered something, then asked, “How’s the progress of the research and development of the special blood potion in the Empire Workshop?”

“There’s no improvement. They haven’t been able to overcome the technical difficulties, so they are still unable to inherit the special abilities of the mutant beasts through the blood potion.”

“Well, continue to pay attention. As soon as they make any progress, let me know... especially to find out which craftsman is driving the progress. That person is definitely a talent.”

Roman slowly replied.

At this moment, a few well-dressed young men and women walked over from the other end of the garden path. They were laughing and playing along the way.

“He’s a direct blood relative of the royal family of Tarn.”

Roman secretly gestured for his trusted aide to retreat.

Immediately after, he controlled the fat on his face and smiled warmly.

After three sentences, Roman naturally blended into the group of young people from the royal family of Tarn and started chatting happily. He seemed to be quite the social butterfly.