

# Astral Apostle

## - Chapter 257: Conjecture; Disadvantages (1) |

### Chapter 257: Conjecture; Disadvantages (1)

“Very good. The courses related to Explorers will be opened in your selection programs later. Pay attention to them when the time comes.”

The instructor smiled when he heard this. Seeing that Zhou Jing had calmed down so quickly, he could not help but nod secretly.

This person’s acceptance mindset was not bad, unlike the new students he had interacted with in the past. Most of them were skeptical.

The instructor stood up, not bothering to stay any longer.

“Someone will tell you the other details during class. My work is done.”

Zhou Jing asked curiously, “Then what should I do next?”

“You don’t have to do anything special. Just attend classes in the academy and work hard to complete your studies. After graduation, you’ll be a Preparatory Explorer. This identity won’t affect your daily life. You just have to wait for your enlistment in peace.”

The instructor waved his hand.

Zhou Jing blinked and asked with interest, “Speaking of which, what’s the recruitment condition? Can we only wait passively? Is it possible to take the initiative to apply for exploration?”

The tutor smiled, he was not surprised by this answer.

As expected of a young person, when he heard the truth about the multivariate planes, he had a strong desire to learn. He could not wait to participate and see other worlds.

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He understood this quite well. This was how he had reacted back then.

The instructor was not stingy with his guidance,

“You don’t have to worry about this problem. Planet Aquamarine is a new colonial planet and is very short of people. It’s not like there are many reserve explorers on old planets... On old planets, there are even reserve explorers who wait for more than ten years before they are recruited for service. We definitely don’t have to wait long.

Of course, there’s a standard for recruitment in the Exploration Bureau. It was related to one’s personal resume. The better one’s academic and employment resume are, the higher the chances of being recruited.”

“The Exploration Bureau basically does not require long-term service. They only need you to serve at least once. You can also choose to accept the subsequent recruitments according to your wishes.

If one’s contributions during the military service are outstanding, it will be easier for them to receive the next enlistment. They could even accumulate merits and obtain an official rank in the Exploration Bureau, giving them the authority to become a cadre and form an official shuttle team. These people will have priority in obtaining the qualification to shuttle every time there was a plane intersection.

Therefore, what you need to do now is to improve your GPA and enrich your resume in the academy. This way, after you graduate, you will have a higher chance of being selected by the Exploration Bureau for your first military service.”

“By the way, many official shuttle teams have the authority to check the resume of every year’s academy graduates and choose new members which catches their eye. If you’re chosen, if you have the chance to join the official team directly and obtain the priority qualification to travel — so try your best to make your resume in the academy look better.”

Zhou Jing perked up and remembered it in his heart as he expressed his gratitude.

“Thank you for your guidance.”

“You’re welcome. It’s my duty. I’ll leave first. There are other people whom I have to speak to.”

The instructor nodded and left the room.

Zhou Jing got up and closed the door before sitting back at the table. He no longer kept a straight face, and his expression became quite interesting.

“I really discovered something extraordinary today...”

Zhou Jing’s eyes were bright.

Through the astral travelling device, the main world had traveled through many astral realms over the years. Not only the Mutant World, but there were definitely many other dimensions that had their footprints.

If he could obtain the results of the exploration of these dimensions in the main world during the course, then when the dimensions converged, he would be able to use the Apostle Travel System he had to enter. He would no longer have to slowly figure things out like in the Mutant World and would be able to obtain a large amount of intelligence advantage.

This was definitely much better than fighting and exploring alone.

Moreover, even if the Exploration Bureau did not recruit him, he could still use the Apostle Travel device and did not need to rely on them.

With the intelligence advantage he had, he could even let his apostles come into contact with the Explorers of the main world and obtain some advantages through disguise or deception.

In fact... it was not impossible to let the pretend to be an Explorer!

Many ideas popped up in Zhou Jing's mind, causing him to fall into a state of perpetual excitement.

He could find an opportunity to test it out in the future...

After being happy for a while, he suddenly realized a problem.

*"If many Supers are part-time explorers, then the main world has a lot of manpower. I wonder how many people the main world will send out during each confluence period. If there are many people, it shouldn't be a problem to crush the other dimensions. However, in the Mutant World, they seem to have been hiding in the dark all along and have no intention of jumping out at all. There are also not many signs of activity in history... Could it be that for some reason, they don't interfere in the development of the other dimensions?"*

Zhou Jing pinched his chin and pondered.

The main world did not interfere too much with the other Astral Realms. There must be a special purpose, but he did not know what it was.

However, he felt that although exploring the other dimensions was a cause that all the countries carried out together, their respective policies and plans might not be the same. Therefore, the countries might not be on the same side and not necessarily have a cooperative relationship.

Although the Interstellar Government allowed all the countries to join forces to develop the universe in the main world, and there had been no war for a long time, making it look very peaceful, it was impossible to completely eliminate friction and conflict.

In the distant dimension, outside the public eye, the explorers of the various countries were Supers with powerful combat strength. If they met each other in the other world, without the restrictions of the main world, they might not necessarily be harmonious... To put it in an extreme way, perhaps this was a secret battlefield that would be used as a way to resolve conflicts. They could restrain each other and kill their own explorers without fear that authority could intervene.

"I hope I'm being too extreme."

Zhou Jing shook his head. If there was a hostile relationship between explorers, then this profession was probably not that safe.

In addition, the freedom of being an Explorer was also worth thinking about.

Logically speaking, such secret work would not be carried out in the form of a "part-time job". Since the restrictions of an Explorer were so loose, there must be some drawbacks to the profession itself.

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The first thing he thought of was the difference in the flow of time between the astral realms.

Because he was traveling in his body, the difference in time flow did not affect his main body much.

However, if the explorers entered personally, didn't that mean that they had to endure the problem of their lifespan rapidly decreasing?

He had been sent out on an adventure, but he did not know when he would return.

Perhaps this was the reason why the Explorers were launched in the form of a part-time job. If they continued to serve, perhaps in just a few years in the main world, the Explorers would already be old in the alternate realms... Therefore, other than their first military service, the Exploration Bureau did not force the Explorers to respond to the recruitment.

Most explorers would probably not be willing to waste too much of their life in another dimension after they got tired of the novelty of astral travel. They could not accept such an outcome.

Moreover, if an accident happened and he could not return to the main world, would they not have to die alone in an unfamiliar dimension?

In Zhou Jing's opinion, the frequent rotation of explorers proved that the main world had yet to find a perfect way to deal with this drawback.

In fact, he still had many doubts, such as how the astral travel device could ensure that explorers were placed on living planets, the unknown filters faced by the device, and so on. However, he could only ask about these later. He hoped that he would explain them during his courses.

"It feels like the water is really deep in this area..."

Zhou Jing sighed and opened the selection courses in his academy app. At this moment, there was an additional compulsory course, "Explorer Training".

If he completed the course in advance, he would not have to be like the chosen explorers on the old planet who only received training after being recruited.

"Ding Ling Ling..."

At this moment, the doorbell rang urgently.

Zhou Jing went over to open the door. Li Xiaoyin, Xu Lingyun, and Zhang Xiao rushed in the moment the door was opened, as it turned out, they were here to visit him.

"Jingjing, have you agreed to receive special training?" Li Xiaoyin asked impatiently.

"Yes, I've accepted."

"That's great, so did I!" Li Xiaoyin was overjoyed.

"*I knew it...*"? Zhou Jing was not surprised.

Previously, Li Xiaoyin had also been called to talk alone. It was most likely an invitation to the Explorer training. With Zhou Jing's understanding of her, the chances of her agreeing were basically 100%.

To ordinary people, the fact that the multidimensional plane existed was too impactful. It was impossible for Li Xiaoyin to let go of such a novel thing as exploring the other world... Or rather, no one among the freshmen could resist this opportunity to participate in the truth of the world.

"I didn't expect such a fun thing to happen. I've decided that our main direction of employment in the future will not be civil servants, but explorers!"

Li Xiaoyin was extremely excited.

“What’s going on? What’s an Explorer? Sister Yin dragged us over excitedly. I’m still in a daze.”

Xu Lingyun was puzzled, and Zhang Xiao also scratched his head. The two of them were assistants, so they were not eligible for any private conversations.

Hearing this, Li Xiaoyin immediately explained to them in excitement.

As long as Zhou Jing and Li Xiaoyin agreed to the agreement, Xu Lingyun and Zhang Xiao, as assistants, would be qualified to know. In the future, they would also accept the Explorer course together, and even serve together. This was the rule of the Exploration Bureau.

After hearing the explanation, Xu Lingyun and Zhang Xiao’s eyes widened. The worldview they had established in the past 20 years had been impacted.

“There’s actually such a thing...”

Xu Lingyun’s mouth was agape.

“It’s simply a fantasy.” Zhang Xiao hugged his head with both hands and muttered to himself in a daze.

“You don’t dare to believe it, right? It was the same when I first heard it. You’ll get used to it.” Li Xiaoyin placed her hands on her hips and deliberately spoke in an experienced tone.

“Calm down. What we should consider now is to learn more skills in the academy. At the very least, we have to complete our studies in the academy before we can be recruited by the Exploration Bureau, so there’s no need to be so excited.”

Zhou Jing waved his hand and advised.

Hearing this, Li Xiaoyin immediately gave a thumbs up and teased, “You’re actually so calm even after hearing such a big matter. As expected of Jingjing, you’re really calm.”

This awkward bragging is too unprofessional... Zhou Jing did not react at all.

Xu Lingyun and Zhang Xiao digested it for a while before finally accepting the reality. Seeing that Zhou Jing and Li Xiaoyin had agreed, they could only follow suit. In this manner, they had reached a consensus.

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Due to the special conditions of Planet Aquamarine, many new students were selected for the Explorer training, which gave many of these supernatural immigrants a great shock.

However, after the shock, there was the intense excitement of touching the truth of the world. Many new students accepted the reality, and basically no one refused to become a reserve-duty Explorer.

Zhou Jing did not show any abnormalities, pretending to be like the other freshmen who had learned about this for the first time.

Because there was an additional “Explorer Training” course, Zhou Jing adjusted the direction of his course. It took him another two days to truly determine his course.

Other than various cultural courses and general courses, he only chose to take one course in superpower knowledge. It was a superpower system on the martial path that was used to match his physical enhancement superpowers. It was a common combination that was moderate but very practical.

Most Supers chose this way of thinking. They wanted the Supers system they learned to match their original superpowers and complement each other.

Although Zhou Jing wanted to learn more superpower knowledge, each person could only register for three classes at most. They could not be replaced midway. If they did not practice well, they would be expelled from class and lose a class spot, reducing their overall number of courses.

Because his energy was limited, he chose not to bite off more than he could chew. Therefore, he decided to only go for one course to see the effect first before considering adding other courses in the future.

As the thousands of new students racked their brains to choose a class, seven days passed in a flash.

After this batch of supernatural immigrants passed various physical examinations and confirmed that there was no problem, they were finally released from the quarantine dormitory and officially joined the academy.

The enrollment ceremony allocated by the department also came as scheduled.

## **Chapter 258: Chosen (1)**

The auditorium was where all kinds of collective meetings and major ceremonies were held in the academy. The dome was extremely high and covered a large area, enough

to accommodate more than 10,000 people. The interior color scheme was a simple silver-white.

The entrance ceremony was held today. Nearly 4,000 new students were gathered in the hall. In addition, there were also the higher-ups of the academy and some of the older students.

At this moment, the seats in the hall were divided into three levels from the back. At the front were the instructors of the academy, and in the middle were the seniors' seats. They were divided into a few distinct faculties, and it was obvious at a glance. At the back were all the new students sitting together.

After a noisy search, Zhou Jing and his three best friends finally found their seats. They stayed in their seats and chatted while observing the situation.

Furthermore, amongst the new students, only those that were in the same spaceship were familiar with each other. The other new students were basically strangers to them, and the older students had never come into contact with them before, so they did not know the details. Therefore, the few of them mainly observed the instructors who arrived one after another and identified the Crests on these instructors to see what level of ability they were at.

Not long after, the higher-ups of the academy were basically present. The rostrum was gradually filled with people, including Shen Xinqin, whom the newcomers had seen before.

On the main seat beside her sat a valiant middle-aged man with white hair at his temples. The lines on the wing of his nose were quite deep, making him look very serious. There was also a Rainbow Light Crest representing a Rank 5 Super on his chest, and in front of his seat was an identity card that read "Lu Zhongsu".

"That person is the dean of Planet Aquamarine's Scarlet Academy. There are only four Rank 5 Supers in our academy. They are the dean and the vice dean, as well as two professors."

Xu Lingyun whispered.

"He seems to be a very strict person." Zhang Xiao muttered.

"Speaking of which, I saw on the academy's intranet that other than the dean, the other three Rank 5 Supers all have courses to teach. One of the instructors for the Martial Path Course that we chose is Shen Xinqin. Unfortunately, Rank 5 Supers don't teach basic courses. We can only receive guidance when we enter the advanced course. I wonder if we can meet in the first year." Xu Lingyun's tone was a little regretful.

Hearing this, Zhou Jing shrugged and did not comment.



Xu Lingyun and Zhang Xiao had signed up for the same martial arts course as him. They would attend it together.

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Although there was a dazzling array of courses that made Xu Lingyun and Zhang Xiao envious, as genetic potion enhancers, the two of them only possessed physical enhancement abilities. Thus, might as well choose the same Super Knowledge course. Not only was it suitable for their own strengthening route, but they could also communicate and improve with each other.

The two of them planned to cultivate this path first. If they did not have any talent in this aspect, it would not be too late to change their system.

As for Li Xiaoyin, because her superpower was very different from the three of them, she chose another superpower knowledge course and did not attend the Martial Path course with the three of them.

The Supers Knowledge courses were all taught from the basics. Every time a student completed a level of cultivation, they would be taught the next level of knowledge. Therefore, they were divided into basic, advanced, and more courses.

The academy not only taught written knowledge, but the instructors would also personally guide the students' cultivation and answer their doubts. This was the greatest benefit.

The basic courses were usually guided by ordinary substitute teachers. The teacher's rank would not exceed Rank 3, and could even be at Rank 2. Only by entering an advanced course could one obtain the guidance of an associate professor. The course that Zhou Jing and the other two signed up for was like this.

If one trained well in their respective superpower system, they might even be valued by their mentor and have a chance to receive special treatment.

"Sigh, I'm most afraid of having to memorize for the cultural lessons. I hope it won't be too difficult. If I don't pass the assessment in two years, I'll be in trouble."

Li Xiaoyin rubbed her temples in distress.

Her studying ability was only average since she was young. To put it nicely, her hands-on ability was outstanding, but to put it bluntly, she was considered a bad student. She would have a headache just by reading, and could not learn it well even if she braced herself.

On the other hand, her physical education results were outstanding... Unfortunately, her compulsory education was mainly focused on cultural classes, so her results were

never good. Although she was not at the bottom, she was still regarded as a poor student.

“Don’t worry, the Supers Academy’s key cultural courses are not mathematics, physics, and chemistry. As long as you don’t have the inclination to choose a job as a scientific researcher, they will at most test you on some ideological education and Supers laws...”

Zhou Jing smiled.

Xu Lingyun nodded in agreement. “Maybe we won’t have to stay for four semesters before we graduate.”

The Supers Academy usually re-educated the Awakened for two years.

Awakened ones might be born every day. The local enrollment frequency of the Supers Academy was once every half a year, so the students were divided into four semesters, from the first batch of freshmen to the fourth batch of seniors.

Therefore, the academy held a general examination every six months. Those who passed the examination could apply to graduate early and complete the aptitude test to officially step into society.

If one chose to go with the flow, they could study for two years before having to take the final examination.

If one did not pass the final test, they would postpone their graduation according to the situation and take the courses that did not meet the requirements until they passed the final examinations. This was generally limited to the few cultural courses that they had to take and could not be freely chosen. The development of personal superpowers could only determine one’s resume and was not included in the conditions for graduation.

However, there was also another situation where one’s graduation was delayed. That was, their GPA was especially outstanding and they still had deep potential. Such students could continue to study.

In this situation, there was no need to take cultural classes. Instead, those talents were qualified to continue choosing classes and cultivate some of the superpower system courses in depth to continue enjoying the academy’s cultivation resources.

The few of them chatted softly for a while before everyone in the hall finally arrived and gradually quietened down.

Dean Lu Zhongsu coughed and began to speak. The gist of it was to welcome everyone to the school. There was nothing strange about it.

Only after he finished his usual speech did Lu Zhongsu change the topic and talk about the allocation of faculties.

“...The Scarlet Nation Academy advocates good group competition. All students are divided into three faculties: Crown, Banner, and Gem. Every new student has to join one of them and participate in various academy activities in the form of a faculty.

Every faculty will have a Chief Instructor who's in charge of the specific operations of the faculty.

Because there are many new students, we mainly use the system's allocation method to randomly assign most of the students to a faculty. However, students are also allowed to submit the faculties you want to join in the intranet. The academy's artificial intelligence would analyze and make judgments according to their own considerations.

For the news students, you are qualified to change your faculties once. Before the end of the first semester, those who feel that they are not suitable can request to be assigned to another faculty. As long as the reason is legitimate and passes the review of the mentor group, you can change their faculties — but this is limited to the first semester. From the second semester onwards, you cannot change your faculty.”

Zhou Jing nodded inwardly.

This mode was more friendly to new students. There was a chance to “change factions”.

However, from another perspective, they were also encouraging competition between the departments to show their excellence and fight for some powerful new students to enrich their strength.

*“After the new students enter the school, there will probably be a huge battle for talents...”*

Zhou Jing thought to himself.

At this moment, Lu Zhongsu was still talking,

“New students have the right to choose... and every faculty also has the right to choose new students.

At the beginning of a new semester, the three faculties will each have different candidate numbers. The head instructor will choose the new students of the current semester, and the order of selection will be determined by the total score of the previous semester.”

Zhou Jing's heart skipped a beat.

This was probably a system specially designed for high-potential students. To a certain extent, it balanced the number of new students with high potential joining the various faculties...

In addition, the ranking determined the order of the next selection. It was also an incentive for the faculties to compete.

Lu Zhongsu turned to the side and said, "Then please introduce yourself, Head Instructors of the various faculties."

As soon as he finished speaking, the three people came up onto the stage as well.

There were men and women among the three of them. They were all Rank 4 Supers. They first introduced themselves before starting to talk about the situation of their faculty.

Although their names were different, they did not have any specific areas which each faculty focused on.

The details of the strength comparison between the faculty would not be explained in detail here. Only in the future could he ask about it clearly, so Zhou Jing only listened for a while.

Under Lu Zhongsu's lead, it was soon time for the three departments to select their candidates.

There were ten slots for each department. Banner got to choose first, followed by Gem, and the Crown faculty the last.

The big screen displayed the results of the various faculties' candidates — of course, they were not chosen on the spot.

The tutorial team of the faculty was qualified to look at the resume and recommendation list of the new students. They had already decided long ago. At this moment, they played it to let the students know what potential new students the various faculties had.

Everyone looked at the big screen. The first name quickly appeared.

[Li Xiaoyin, Class SS, Banner Faculty]

In the next second, be it the senior students or the new students, there was a commotion.

"Class SS! There's actually such a high potential among the new students this year."

“As expected, the number and quality of the new students who immigrated is much higher than the local enrollment on the new colonial planet.”

“Tsk, the people from Banner have really lucked out this time...”

There was a flurry of discussion.

It was indeed Little Yin...

Zhou Jing was not surprised.

This model was similar to a talent show. Basically, the first person to be chosen was the person with the most outstanding potential among the new students. Class SS would naturally be an extremely high priority choice.

As the selection continued, he realized that other than Li Xiaoyin, there was no other Class SS student in this batch.

Lin Kun, He Changqing, Wu Fan, and the others were all chosen by different departments. Soon, more than ten Class S freshmen were also chosen.

There were still some spots left, and the various departments began to choose Class A potential students.

One by one, familiar or unfamiliar names flashed past. It was not until the last chosen spot that Zhou Jing's name appeared on the big screen.

[Zhou Jing, Class B, Crown Faculty]

*“I was actually the last one being chosen... I thought I would not be selected at all.”*

Zhou Jing was a little surprised.

The logic behind the choosing of these faculty candidates was clearly based on potential. As for those with Class A potential, they were far from exhausting the list, but this faculty had actually selected him instead.

It must be because he had displayed his strength back then and fought Lin Kun to a draw — thus he had been selected as the last choice. It seemed that this Crown Faculty had a gambler's mentality. They would rather forgo a Class A potential and choose to throw their chips inside a “mystery box” like himself.

Although it was the last choice, it was definitely different from the treatment of ordinary students who were randomly assigned. To be able to obtain the special attention of the course mentors, it was definitely not a loss.

*“What a happy problem. I’m actually separated from Xiaoyin now...”*

Zhou Jing shook his head helplessly.

He actually had no one to rely on right now. What a huge loss!

Sigh, there was still a chance to change faculties. He would see when the time came.

He knew why he had been chosen, but the other new and old students who did not know were stunned.

For a moment, the other students present were in an uproar.

Why did they not choose someone with a Class A potential and instead wanted a Class B?!

Everyone knew that there had to be a reason behind the selection, but they still could not help but feel mystified... What sort of virtues did this Class B Super have to be prioritized?

Some people questioned their mentor’s choice, while others were curious about Zhou Jing’s ability...

However, no matter what they thought, more people subconsciously remembered the name “Zhou Jing” and were quite interested in him.

## **Chapter 259: New Students Competition; Advantage (1)**

Thousands of people were shocked by the final choice of the Crown Faculty. Some of the older students were also puzzled. They looked at the Head of their faculty and asked softly,

“President Deng, do you know why the Instructor team chose this Class B?”

“Is there any insider information revealed?”

The main target of everyone’s questions was a young man sitting diagonally with his hands on the back of the chair. He had a roguish aura, but his eyes flickered from time to time.

Deng Yunjie was one of the leaders of the Crown Association.

Students could spontaneously organize a club. As long as they applied for it, they could form it. Every faculty would naturally have a club formed by core faculty members. They were the leaders of the students and acted as the collective decision-makers in large-scale competitions. They enjoyed a portion of the authority of the instructor team in managing the daily operations.

(TL Note: Think Elite Ten Council in Shokugeki.)

This kind of core club was named after the department. The Crown Association was such an example.

As for the leader of a faculty, he had to contribute to various activities and obtain the recognition of the students. He also had to obtain the recognition of the instructor team. Only then could he enter the student leadership association of the faculty. Every member could only enter with their own abilities.

Deng Yunjie smacked his lips and casually explained.

“The new students in this batch were decided by our Crown Association and the mentor team. This young man called Zhou Jing had Class C potential during his first superpower test. Later on, he fought a Class S student and showed extraordinary combat talent, thus being re-evaluated as a Class B potential. The mentor team chose him because of his immediate combat strength. Before the new students cultivate and grow up, his combat strength is very outstanding.”

Hearing this, many of the older students immediately thought of something and suddenly revealed understanding expressions.

“I understand. The instructors chose him for the placement competition a month after the start of each semester. The competition only allows the newcomers to participate. Because the new students have only attended a month of classes, their abilities have not improved much. Therefore, some of the new students with low potential but high combat strength have a chance to defeat some students with higher potential.”

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Deng Yunjie nodded in acknowledgment and curled his lips in displeasure, “Last semester, the fourth-year students of Crown were too disappointing. We were totally suppressed by the fourth-year students of the Banner and Gem. Under their leadership, we actually didn’t win any mid-term competitions or end-of-term competitions. Our total score was at the rock bottom.

Fortunately, the previous batch of fourth-year students in the various faculties had all graduated. To us, the gap between us has narrowed. This time, we can’t drag ourselves down again. The freshmen test is an important activity to accumulate points for the faculties. A freshman with okay potential and good combat strength will have a higher

chance of obtaining results than ordinary Class A students. We might even have a chance to defeat a Class S freshman, so we can take a gamble.”

“So that’s the case...”

The senior students came to a realization, at the same time having a look of resignation on their faces.

Because there were new students joining and older students graduating every year, the difference in strength between the three faculties often changed. However, in the past two semesters, the Crown Department had been at the bottom because the previous two batches of older students were too weak, making it frustrating.

This semester, they had finally managed to get rid of the trash from their own faculties as well as the strong ones from the other faculties. Their strengths could be considered finally balanced again.

However, overall, the situation of the Crown Academy was still not optimistic. After all, they were at the bottom for two consecutive years and could not choose the strongest new students in each batch, causing the average combat strength of the entire faculty to be slightly weaker...

Moreover, there was actually an Class SS Awakened in this batch of new students. It was quite rare for such awakeners to appear, but they were actually snatched up by the highest-ranked Banner.

Although this was not an irreparable gap, after all, there were fast and slow cultivation progresses. Not all high-potential freshmen could become leaders in the end, but the higher the potential, the higher the possibility of them becoming an elite. The growth of a Class SS would usually not disappoint.

“Sigh, I wonder if anyone among our new students can defeat that Class SS...”

Someone shook his head and sighed.

Hearing this, Deng Yunjie clicked his tongue,

“I’ve seen the SS-rank ability file with the instructor team. She’s insanely strong. Before this batch of new students has achieved success in their cultivation, I don’t think anyone is a match for her... However, although she’s strong, the academic competition is not a stage for her to show off alone. As long as we have a good strategy, she won’t be able to get many points.”

Everyone nodded and felt a little relieved.



On the other hand, when they saw the results of the selection, they were not surprised at all.

“Aiya, we’re separated now.” Xu Lingyun was vexed.

Li Xiaoyin scratched her head and looked at Zhou Jing. “Why don’t I apply to transfer to your faculty, or can you change yours?”

“At least those people chose us. Let’s stay for a while and see.”

Zhou Jing shook his head. He felt that it was not appropriate to apply for a change of faculty immediately.

Although he wanted to cozy up to Little Yin, he was not that anxious. He still had some confidence in himself.

He thought for a moment and smiled, “Other than the competition between the faculties, some team activities don’t restrict acquaintances from different faculties. This doesn’t have much impact.”

The academy advocated healthy competition and did not want extreme opposition. It would not restrict the private interactions of students. There was no rule that said that students could not cooperate and participate in other activities.

“Alright, if you need help, remember to ask.” Li Xiaoyin nodded and did not take this matter to heart.

In her eyes, it was only right for friends to take care of each other, but there was no need to rely on anyone. She did not mind protecting her friends, but since Zhou Jing had a plan of his own, she would not interfere.

Although their social status had returned to that of a student, they were still an independent adult after all. There was no need to worry too much about their friends usually. It was enough to provide help when they encountered difficulties.

The gazes of many people from the same hometown lingered between the two of them. In the end, they landed on Li Xiaoyin and decided to apply for the Banner Faculty.

Although Zhou Jing and Li Xiaoyin were both powerful, in everyone’s eyes, Li Xiaoyin’s legs were definitely thicker and easier to hug.

“Hmph, as expected, someone chose you... Coincidentally, you and Li Xiaoyin are not in the same faculty as me. There will be plenty of opportunities to fight in the future. Sooner or later, I’ll beat you all up.”

Lin Kun sat two rows behind them. He crossed his arms and snorted.

He was the fifth choice and was chosen by the Gem Faculty. His ranking was also very high.

Hearing this, Li Xiaoyin turned around and stuck out her tongue at him provocatively.

Veins popped out on Lin Kun's forehead. In a fit of anger, he decided to spare her for now.

Since he could not defeat this woman, he would endure the humiliation first...

After the faculties had chosen their candidates, Lu Zhongsu spoke in a deep voice.

"The exams at the end of every semester, as well as the final exam two years later, is a test to see if an individual can graduate. As for the important activities of the competition between the departments, there are three competitions every semester. They are the freshmen's placement competition, the mid-term competition, and the End of Semester final competition. It just so happens that a semester is divided into three stages.

The faculties that win in these three activities will obtain a large number of points. These will occupy a large proportion of the semester rankings."

"According to the academy's tradition, a month after the new students enters the school, a faculty competition that only new students could participate in will be held. There will be two forms held, arena and group, with combat as the main focus.

Firstly, this is to test the waters and let the new students display their abilities in front of the entire school. Secondly, it will allow the new students to quickly experience and integrate into the atmosphere of competition between the faculties.

In addition to bringing honor to their faculties, new students who obtained a good ranking in the competition can have their GPA increased. In addition, the academy will also give them additional rewards.

Therefore, I hope that all new students can try their best to get used to life in the academy in a month. Work hard in class, train, and obtain a good ranking."

As soon as he finished speaking, many new students perked up.

Especially the new students with high potential, they were even more confident.

Only the new students could participate. With just a month, they would not be able to master anything. The awakened ones with strong superpowers still had the advantage.

However, in contrast Zhou Jing's eyes lit up brightly.

Indeed, for ordinary freshmen, there was not much improvement in a month. Be it developing superpowers or learning new superpower knowledge, they might have just reached the entry level. Therefore, the difference between the Supers would not change much.

However, he had yet to convert Jason's ability. He could completely obtain a huge increase in combat strength in a short period of time.

If he could get a good ranking in the freshman competition, not only would he get a better GPA, but there would also be a so-called additional reward. With such a prize, he would instantly be motivated.

Moreover, with a month as a buffer, even if his strength had increased exponentially, it could be justified under the fact that he had made some progress in the development of his superpowers. Although it was astonishing, it made others think that he still had a lot of potential to exploit.

It was definitely not enough to keep a low profile in the academy. Zhou Jing had no such intention to begin with — his original goal was to show his strength and enrich his resume at the right time.

Now, he had another goal, which was to understand the information obtained from traveling through the astral world through the hidden Explorer's course.

*"This time, I have to use some true ability to convince the academy to nurture me..."*

Zhou Jing made up his mind.

After Lui Zhongsu finished speaking about these important matters, he gave a small welcoming speech and ended the enrollment ceremony.

Many students filed out and left the auditorium.

However, the 30 new students who were selected by the faculty were specially left behind. They were brought to the three small side halls from the main hall by their instructors.

The new students selected from the top could get to meet the chief instructors of the various faculties. This was a special treatment.

Soon, Zhou Jing followed a teacher into a small conference room. In the next moment, he felt gazes gathering on him.

The instructor team had yet to arrive. At this moment, the other nine chosen freshmen were waiting in the room. They looked over in unison and sized up Zhou Jing with curious and scrutinizing gazes.

Before Zhou Jing could carefully observe the other nine people, he heard a frivolous voice,

“You’re that Class B? Let’s talk. What abilities do you have? Why were you chosen with us?”

## Chapter 260: Meeting (1)

Zhou Jing stopped short, looking in the direction of the voice.

The person who spoke was a 14 or 15-year-old boy. He had thick lips, thin eyes, and an ordinary appearance. He had a head of yin-yang hair that was half green and half blue. He was just short of carving the words “I’m awesome” on his face.

After sizing him up slightly, Zhou Jing knew what to do. He let out a light smile,

“My abilities are alright. Young man, what’s your name? You look like a talent, so your abilities should be very powerful, right?”

“Of course!” This person pressed his thumb against his chest and said proudly, “Tang Liu, Class S. My ability is to move at high speed. The ninth person to be chosen was me!”

“Impressive, impressive. Nice to meet you.”

Zhou Jing coaxed him as if he was a child. He found an empty seat and sat down before sizing up the others.

Among the 10 new students specially selected by the Crown Faculty, there was a huge difference in age. It ranged from teenagers like Tang Liu to middle-aged women in their forties, not a small range.

Other than Tang Liu’s smug look, most of the others gave him a friendly smile and introduced themselves briefly. They only gave him their names and did not report their abilities like Tang Liu.

Only one person did not speak, but it was an acquaintance. It was Wu Fan, who was also on the tail stream. He was the twelfth candidate and had also come to the Crown Faculty.

Although the two of them had known each other on the ship for a few months, they had only nodded and spoken a few words.

Zhou Jing knew that Wu Fan was a taciturn person, so he did not chat with him. He only nodded in greeting.

Seeing this, Wu Fan also nodded at him.

.....

At this moment, a gust of wind suddenly blew.

Whoosh!

A figure flashed in Zhou Jing's eyes. Tang Liu had already disappeared from his seat and suddenly appeared on the seat beside him, as if he had teleported.

"You haven't answered me. What abilities do you have?"

Tang Liu widened his eyes in urging, but his thin eyes were still a slit despite him forcefully opening them as wide as he could.

Zhou Jing looked at the other party in surprise.

High Speed Movement? What a fast speed!

He had increased his speed because of his physical enhancement, but the other party's high speed was purely his superpower. In terms of movement speed, Jason's four enhancements were inferior to the other party. He had never met someone so fast.

*"The combat level of the main world is indeed much higher than that of the Mutant World. A new student who has awakened a powerful superpower can crush the warriors of the Mutant World in the field of attributes."*? Zhou Jing's mind raced.

It seemed that just relying on Jason's four blood enhancements might not necessarily allow him to be able to suppress all the high potential Awakened Supers, but it was hard to say in reality...

Although he was thinking about the question, Zhou Jing did not show it on his face.

"It's just a very ordinary physical enhancement superpower. Of course it can't compare to you."

When Tang Liu heard this, he immediately said in disdain, "What? Your superpower is very ordinary!"

"That's right. I also feel that I'm ordinary. I don't know why I was chosen."

Zhou Jing casually agreed.

Tang Liu rolled his eyes and suddenly patted his chest. He said proudly, "Brother, don't be discouraged. I think you're a good person. As long as you acknowledge me as your boss, I'll protect you in the future!"

"Aiya, isn't that a pity? I already have a boss. He's very powerful. I don't dare to betray him." Zhou Jing shook his head and sighed with a regretful expression.

Tang Liu's interest was piqued.

"Who's your boss?"

Zhou Jing smiled so widely, his eyes were reduced to slits.

"His name is Lin Kun, and he was chosen by the Gem Faculty. I only recognize a strong person like him as my boss... How about this? If you can teach him a lesson, I'll agree to be your lackey, although I don't think you have a chance of winning against him."

"Who said so! Just you wait and see! Lin Kun, right? I'll remember it. If I have the chance, I'll fight him!" Tang Liu was unconvinced and rubbed his palms together.

The others smiled without saying anything as they watched Zhou Jing fool with the middle schooler.

Zhou Jing deliberately tried to get closer to him, and soon, Tang Liu felt that the two of them were much more familiar with each other. His words gradually became casual, and after a while, he managed to pry out Tang Liu's experience.

At the age of 14 or 15, he was at the age of receiving compulsory education. This kid had always been at the bottom of the class. He never studied and liked to cause trouble and form cliques. He was a hooligan in school and was quite rebellious even at home.

He should have had no bright future, but he was lucky to have awakened a powerful superpower.

He was an ignorant and incompetent person since he was young, but just like that, his future potential directly surpassed countless obedient children who studied hard every day. There was nothing fair about this.

After obtaining the superpower, Tang Liu immediately stopped attending compulsory education. Moreover, his rebellious heart caused him to emigrate and leave home... However, he did not cut his ties fully. His parents and siblings simply emigrated as well and came over in the same batch as him, with the reason that they wanted to take care of his life.

Zhou Jing did not comment after hearing this, nor did he have any opinion.

In this era, it was rude to criticize others' family matters. This was because family conflicts were already the norm in society. Everyone had their own difficulties and choices. Not judging others was not only respecting others, but also respecting oneself... After all, there was no point in hurting both parties.

The ten of them waited for a while before they finally saw the instructors of the Crown Faculty and some of the accompanying senior students.

"Everyone, welcome to the Crown Faculty. You're the new students we've chosen. Our Faculty has high hopes for you."

Li Yun's tone was enthusiastic.

This middle-aged man was the Chief Instructor of the Crown Academy and wore a Purple Star Crest on his chest, signifying his Rank 4 Super status.

"Hello, Instructor Li." Zhou Jing and the others stood up to greet him.

"Let me introduce everyone. This is the instructor team of the Crown Faculty..."

Li Yun extended his hand to introduce the team of ten to the new students.

All the courses in the Supers Academy were not limited to the faculties. They were chosen according to the needs of the students. Every instructor's course would allow them to face the students of the three faculties, so for most students, it did not matter what course their instructor was from.

However, to the top students who were focused on nurturing, the instructor team of a faculty was like private tutoring. They would specially train the leaders of their own faculty to deal with the inter-faculty competitions. This was a public benefit and special treatment.

The world of Supers was still very realistic. If one had the ability, there would be special treatment. The cost-effective ratio of nurturing high potential Supers was naturally higher than that of nurturing ordinary Supers. Fairness and equality was only guaranteed for the foundation. One could not expect the strong to have no special privileges at all. This system did not violate any rules.

Ever since human civilization entered the interstellar era, they rarely used ideals to fool people. What should be done was done. After all, the world's understanding of reality was becoming clearer and clearer. They had always hidden the fact that they were distorting reality and treating people as fools. To the interplanetary system that had already colonized hundreds of planets, there was no need to do so. This was because technology and economy were almost expanding endlessly, and material comforts were guaranteed.

“They’re the leaders of the Crown Association, the main force of the competition...”

After getting to know the instructors, Li Yun pointed at a group of senior students and explained the function of the Crown Association.

Deng Yunjie put his hands in his pockets and walked out of the crowd. He scanned the few of them and slowly spoke.

“I’m Deng Yunjie, the president of the Crown Association. You can call me President Deng. In the new student competition in a month, the ten of you will be the absolute main players. Prepare well. At that time, you have to listen to my instructions and arrangements. Whether you participate in the group arena, team competition, or when you go on stage will be decided by us.”

Zhou Jing and the others nodded without saying anything.

However, Tang Liu was a little unhappy.

“Huh? We still have to listen to your commands? Why can’t we choose ourselves?”

Deng Yunjie looked at him and explained unhurriedly,

“Do you think the competition in the department is just for fun? This is not just about you. The results you guys have achieved will also affect the GPA of everyone in the department. This is related to the interests of the group and can’t be played by an individual. Of course, if you have any objections, you can mention it when the time comes. We will consider it carefully, but in the end, you have to listen to our instructions. The team can only have one voice.”

“O-okay.”

Tang Liu shut up resentfully.

Although he was a hooligan, he did not dare to explode when he saw Deng Yunjie, this even more ruffian-like senior.

Li Yun secretly noted down that Tang Liu might be a troublemaker, but his expression did not change. He took over the conversation and smiled,

“In order to deal with the freshmen competition, in this month, our instructors will track your class performance and cultivation progress and give you one-on-one guidance. Therefore, everyone has to cherish this opportunity.”

The few of them nodded. Of course, no one would push the privilege away.

At this moment, Tang Liu spoke up curiously,



“Well, there are thousands of new students this year, and each faculty has recruited at least a thousand people. Are there only ten people from each side participating?”

When Li Yun heard this, he smiled and waved his hand, “Of course not. In this new student competition, every faculty has 20 slots for the group arena, 30 for the team competition. Adding it up, a total of 150 new students from the three faculties will participate. We still have to select some people from the new students to fill the spots, but the 10 of you will definitely participate.”

It was too time-consuming for all the thousands of new students to appear. Only 150 of them had the chance to fight for a spot. The others could only be spectators and would not even have the chance to participate.

This was inevitable. Apart from re-educating all Awakened and maintaining stability, the Supers Academy’s other goal was to choose worthy candidates to nurture and select talents for the various governments and organizations.

However, although they could not perform on stage, in the daily course, ordinary students could still shine for the faculty and earn points. The accumulated points would eventually affect the faculty’s ranking.

Each faculty had to have top students, but their average level could not fall behind.

At this moment, Deng Yunjie glanced at everyone. His gaze paused on Zhou Jing for a second before he suddenly spoke out,

“You all have good potential and don’t have to go through the internal selection process. However, we still need to have a clear understanding of your combat strength... After selecting the other participating freshmen, we will hold an internal spar to understand the comparison of your combat strength. Only then can we decide if you will participate in the group arena or the team competition.”

Tang Liu’s eyes lit up as he looked at the other nine people excitedly,

“So we have to fight then? That’s great! I’m definitely the strongest.”

Hearing this, the few of them looked at each other without any reaction.

Zhou Jing shook his head secretly.

It seemed that this was also an assessment. Although he was a designated candidate, if he was defeated in actual combat by a new student selected, not only would it be embarrassing, but it might also cause the department to shift their focus away from nurturing him.

Therefore, the participating freshmen would most likely try their best to defeat the 10 of them.

*"Competition is really everywhere..."*? Zhou Jing finally understood the atmosphere of the academy.

## Chapter 261: Martial Path Aura System (1)

After chatting about the arrangements, Li Yun encouraged them again and gave them his contact information before letting everyone disperse.

After leaving the conference hall, the ten specially selected freshmen formed a small group to facilitate communication. Zhou Jing also joined in.

After bidding farewell to the other students, Zhou Jing walked out of the hall and saw Xu Lingyun and Zhang Xiao at a glance. The two of them were waiting for their "bosses" at the door.

"Yo, you're out."

Zhang Xiao raised his hand to greet him.

"What did you talk about?" Xu Lingyun was curious.

Hearing this, Zhou Jing casually explained what went on.

When Xu Lingyun heard this, he immediately looked envious, "That's great. You specially chosen ones have personal one-on-one guidance from your instructors. I want it too."

"You're Xiaoyin's assistant. You might even be able to get some special treatment. What's there to be envious about?" Zhang Xiao curled his lips. "You're really lucky."

Xu Lingyun snorted and puffed out his chest. "What's wrong with comparing chickens and dogs? As long as I'm happy!"

The faculty of the Supers' assistant was the same as the boss. Zhang Xiao would be assigned to the Crown Faculty with Zhou Jing, while Xu Lingyun would follow Li Xiaoyin to Banner.

The three of them chatted and waited, but even after they saw all the specially selected new students leave, Li Xiaoyin did not come out.

After waiting for a while, Li Xiaoyin finally appeared.

"You're here? I saw that the others had left. Why did you take so long?" Xu Lingyun was puzzled.

Li Xiaoyin scratched her head and said helplessly, "I didn't want to either. I wanted to leave after meeting the instructor of the Banner Department, but the Dean and Vice Dean came to talk to me in private and said that they wanted to focus on nurturing me and give me resources."

Hearing this, the three of them looked at each other.

"Sigh, the dean personally received her. Perhaps this is the power of the Class SS."

"Sister Yin, do you smell the jealousy in my heart?"

"Indeed, how hateful."

Zhou Jing and the other two shook their heads repeatedly as they commented.

"Annoying." Li Xiaoyin slapped the three of them in mock anger.

Today was the entrance ceremony, and classes would officially start tomorrow. It was still early, so after the four of them joked around for a while, they swiped their cards and sat on a small levitating device in the academy.

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Although they had seen the map of the academy on the intranet, the restrictions had only been lifted today. Other than not being able to walk out of the sensing barrier that enveloped the academy, they could basically go anywhere else and walk freely in the academy. Therefore, they agreed to familiarize themselves with the campus together so that they would not get lost in class in the future.

The academy occupied a large area. Other than the dormitory building, cultural teaching building, and other basic facilities, there was also a training ground for various courses.

Common examples were the combat hall, shooting hall, shooting range, vehicle driving training ground, simulation combat training ground, and so on.

The special ones were the teaching areas for different Supers. There was a martial arts training environment, a gravity training room, a superpower testing ground, a mental meditation room, a mechanical modification room, a mage tower, and so on. The facilities were complete, and it could provide a venue for various Supers to cultivate.

There was no restriction on the use of superpowers in the academy. In order to prevent the buildings from being accidentally destroyed, all the facilities had been enhanced with multiple protective abilities, such as energy shields, rune secret techniques, mental

countermeasures, and so on. Ordinary attacks could not cause any damage, and there were surveillance cameras all around. Anyone who deliberately destroyed them would be quickly discovered.

Most of the students who headed to the different academy areas relied on technological vehicles. One could constantly encounter small hovercrafts controlled by others everywhere in the sky, as if the sky was filled with mechanical flying saucers.

However, on the way, Zhou Jing and the other three also encountered some students who were using their superpowers to travel. Some used secret techniques to grow magic wings and soar into the sky, some used a levitation spell on themselves to slowly fly, some jumped between the buildings like large fleas, and some were covered in martial auras that streaked across the sky like meteors.

There were all kinds of abilities, which could broaden their horizons.

Since the Planet Aquamarine's rotation cycle was following the convention of 24 hours a day, Zhou Jing and the other three strolled from day to night before returning to the dormitory to rest.

The students could choose to stay in one room each, or apply to share a room with a friend and stay in a large suite.

Zhou Jing chose to live alone. After all, he had some secrets, so it was best not to be disturbed.

In addition, the Supers Academy had all kinds of living conditions. There were all kinds of living supplies provided 24 hours a day, but not all of them were free. They had to spend money.

With the subsidies given by the Supers Bureau, life was naturally not a problem. However, it might not be enough to buy better food, medicine, supplements, and exercise tools.

Therefore, there would be some daily activities and topics discussed in the academy from time to time. Different material rewards would be given to encourage students to participate.

Zhou Jing now had a subsidy of 9,000 Nassau every month, and he still had more than 100,000 savings in his account. For the time being, he did not need to worry about money.

At night, he had a rare luxury of buying himself a sumptuous meal. As long as it was not a protected animal, he could choose any sort of dish with money.

The culinary skills of the academy's chefs were outstanding. Their looks, fragrance, and taste were all delicious.

After Zhou Jing finished eating, he burped in satisfaction. He felt that this was the first time he had eaten such a sumptuous meal since he was young.

His body felt warm. There were probably a lot of nourishing herbs in the dish that would help with his physical growth.

As usual, he looked at the interface to confirm that it was not connected to the Astral Realm. Zhou Jing lay on the bed with his hands behind his head. He was in a good mood as he muttered to himself.

“A new life has finally begun...”

...

The next day.

The academy became lively. All the students woke up early to attend the first class of the semester.

## **Chapter 262: Martial Path Aura System (2)**

Small hovercrafts formed different teams in the air and drove towards different areas like floating gray snakes.

After a good rest during the night, Zhou Jing came to an open square.

The first class of the day was regarding the Supers Knowledge course. The basic courses he had chosen were all filled with freshmen.

There were many people who chose this course because most of the Supers' assistants strengthened their bodies with genetic potions. Martial arts was the path with the highest compatibility, thus this was the first choice for most assistants. As for which martial arts system they chose, it depended on their interest.

When Zhou Jing arrived at the square, there were already hundreds of new students here. After waiting for a while, Xu Lingyun and Zhang Xiao arrived. They had also chosen this class.

It was not until everyone arrived that the tutor appeared.

It was actually someone they were acquainted with, Wang Wu.

Wang Wu stood in front of all the students and glanced around. Seeing that everyone had fallen silent, he slowly spoke,

“Martial arts is a broad term that everyone is familiar with, but they might not necessarily have a deep understanding of it. Military boxing and grappling techniques can be considered martial arts, and releasing energy waves is also considered martial arts. Internal strength, true qi, astral force, martial arts aura, essence energy... There are all kinds of different systems, and different energy foundations are cultivated. All kinds of things are considered martial arts, so how do you define it?”

Putting aside the various systems and theories, there are actually only two core definitions of the Martial Path. One is to explore the limits of one’s physique and refine all kinds of derived energy with one’s physique as the foundation. The other is to study all kinds of combat techniques that use the body to unleash one’s physique more efficiently.

As long as these two definitions are met, it can be considered a martial path.”

All the students present perked up as they silently listened to Wang Wu.

Wang Wu paced around and examined everyone.

“As technology advances, the role of martial arts becomes smaller and smaller. In terms of lethality, it’s inferior to many technological weapons. In terms of comprehensiveness, it’s inferior to magic and secret techniques. In terms of richness, it’s inferior to superpowers. Even when it comes to moving bricks, we can’t compare to all kinds of engineering machinery...”

We seem to only know how to destroy purely. Other than fighting, we can’t do anything else. In the old society, we could rely on force to hunt wild beasts and protect our families, but now that the world is peaceful, it’s illegal for us to fight anyone. In this era, there seems to be no place for martial arts.

So why are we still practicing martial arts? Because its meaning is not simple. It’s akin to exploring the limits of the human body... No matter how far technology has developed, as long as a person still has a physical body and needs to use it to maintain their life, the development of the body will never stop.

Everyone grew from a cell into a human body and was born from nothing. Your body underwent countless transformations before becoming what it is today. It carries your spirit, soul, will, and thoughts. It is the foundation of your existence in this world.”

“As for us, we can recognize this world through the feedback of our physical senses. It is like a keyhole, and we can see the world through it.

As technology developed, we developed all kinds of instruments and tools to pry into the laws of the world, but none of these could replace the physical body, because it's your most basic tool and also the most precise instrument. No matter how much you probe through other instruments, it cannot compare to the "feeling" of the physical body. It contains wisdom that leads directly to the truth.

Martial arts are not reckless. It also involves research. Tempering the body is to widen the keyhole, increase our understanding, and let life sublimate to a new level. Step by step, we can see ourselves, all living beings, the world, space, and time... To this day, we still have not unlocked all the mysteries of the body, and this is the ultimate goal of martial arts.

And this will be the summary of our series of courses. Only by having a clear understanding of martial arts will we know what we are pursuing."

Many students stirred and whispered to each other.

Some people's eyes lit up when they heard this, while others disapproved and reacted differently.

Zhang Xiao muttered softly, "Why do I feel like I'm being tricked..."

Xu Lingyun, on the other hand, was quite excited, "His lecture was very good. He's pursuing the limits of his body and increasing his senses to understand more natural laws. It's reasonable."

Zhou Jing scratched his head.

He was not moved by it. Although Wang Wu made it sound high and mighty, in his opinion, martial arts was only to temper the body into a weapon. Even if there was a great goal, the basic requirement was still to strengthen the body for combat and use various martial arts techniques to maximize the lethality of this weapon.

Wang Wu waited for more than ten seconds for everyone to digest before changing the topic.

"Of course, these are still very far away from you. It's enough to just listen and have a concept. Moreover, no matter how far away your goal is, you have to achieve it step by step. Currently, what you have to do is to temper your bodies. You don't have to think too much about it.

Those who signed up for my course are basically physical enhancement-type superhumans. While cultivating this martial arts ability, it is also a process of developing your own superpowers. It's killing two birds with one stone."



The course introduction was mainly to let the students have a positive view of martial arts. After Wang Wu finished speaking, he began to impart practical martial arts knowledge.

This course was a martial arts system summarized by the main world after summarizing many martial arts systems. It could be said to be the current mainstream of martial arts. The energy foundation of cultivation was an ability called the “Martial Path Aura”.

Through tempering the body, while increasing the strength of the body, the cells would also slowly produce energy, producing the Martial Path Auras and obtaining all kinds of magical effects.

According to Wang Wu’s simple explanation, Zhou Jing roughly knew that the main world’s accumulated martial system was roughly divided into three levels: low, medium, and high.

Although Wang Wu did not explain, Zhou Jing knew that many of the martial arts systems in the main world were actually obtained from other dimensions. Some of them were not at a high level, and the limit of strength one could obtain through cultivating it was limited.

As for the Martial Path Aura system, it was a high-level martial system summarized by the main world. Its destructive power, energy intensity, and growth limit were on average the highest.

In addition, because it was of a path of similar abilities, the source of its energy foundation was often the same thing, such as physique and spirit. Therefore, the energy produced had a certain similarity.

Therefore, in the various systems of similar abilities, there was the concept of “energy universality”. The feasibility, multiplier, loss rate, and so on of the energy base of the same system could be shared, and it was often converted from low-level energy to high-level energy.

As for the Martial Path Aura, not only was it a high-level system, but it was also the most versatile.

The efficiency of other martial arts energies, such as internal energy, true energy, and essence energy, was far lower than the efficiency of converting them into Martial Path Aura.

In other words, the Martial Path Aura could “contain” most low and mid-level martial arts... Therefore, the Martial Path Aura had become the mainstream route for martial artists in the main world.



The new students were all taking basic courses. Wang Wu naturally taught everyone the basic training methods of the Martial Path Aura. After that, other than the simple guidance in every class, the rest would depend on their own cultivation.

The master introduced the course, and cultivation depended on the person. Only when the person became proficient could he then learn the next course.

The initial cultivation method of the Martial Path Aura was nothing special as well. It was just a method to temper the body in a specific way, accompanied by breathing. To a certain extent, it could be called an “initial cultivation technique”.

However, this set of “Initial Cultivation Technique” did not have any fancy names. It was called the “Basic Tempering Technique”. All the new students practiced this.

However, although the name was simple, the content was quite rich. Since it could be used to teach all the students, it was most likely a product of the main world.

As for whether there were any more powerful “Initial Cultivation Techniques”, Zhou Jing was not sure. However, this was his first time coming into contact with martial arts cultivation, so he could not be too ambitious. He decided to properly understand and master the “Basic Tempering Technique” first.

## **Chapter 263: Savage “Native” (1)**

During the class, everyone used the time to familiarize themselves with the basic tempering method. Their learning progress was different. A few of them were quite talented and gradually became proficient, while most of them did not get the hang of it. Their movements were all out of shape.

Although the initial cultivation of the Martial Path was not difficult, it still depended on one’s talent. Zhou Jing’s understanding of the Martial Path was quite high, and he had a foundation. He quickly found the trick and gradually entered in a certain state.

He made a slight comparison and realized that practicing the basic tempering technique was not as wasteful as using the Hunter’s Breath·Forging. Moreover, the effect on the tempering of the body was much better. After practicing the entire set, it was as if all the muscles and bones in his body had been trained at a high intensity.

Moreover, it was not as draining as completing Hunter’s Breath: Forging. There was still a lot of energy left, which meant that he could practice many times a day. It was much more efficient.

With this in mind, he did not hide anything and turned to guide his two best friends.

Zhang Xiao's aptitude in this aspect seemed to be ordinary. He had spent a lot of effort to barely practice the basic tempering method. Although he remembered it quite clearly, he always made mistakes when he practiced it. Although he had already completed the genetic enhancement for a few months, there was still a huge problem with his coordination.

What Zhou Jing was a little surprised about was Xu Lingyun. This kid was learning quite quickly. He didn't even receive much guidance before he got the hang of it.

However, when he was on the ship, Zhou Jing realized that Xu Lingyun's physical talent was far higher than Zhang Xiao's. He had already grasped the strengthened body of a Super very well.

In the beginning, the two of them were noobs and were in a deadlock. However, after practicing for a period of time, Xu Lingyun's close combat skills were already far stronger than Zhang Xiao's. It was obvious that he was better than Zhang Xiao in terms of martial arts.

The process of martial arts cultivation was recorded year after year, so naturally, there would not be any results after a class. Everyone only learned the basic tempering method and practiced for a while before class ended.

Because Zhou Jing and the other two had similar abilities, many classes overlapped and they rushed to the various classes according to the class schedule.

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On the first day, there were many classes. The three of them even took firearms lessons, driving lessons, and a cultural lesson on the self-awareness and social positioning of Supers. They obtained a pile of textbooks that they had to memorize.

The courses in the Supers Academy were basically special knowledge that could not be learned through compulsory education. Most of the new students were filled with a sense of novelty and enthusiasm, and all of them appeared as if they were all good students who were working hard.

After a day of classes, Zhou Jing received another message asking him to go to the Crown Faculty hall to receive private guidance from a mentor.

The three faculties had their own venues and halls that were used to hold various activities within the department or provide some facilities for the students to use first. It was quite grand.

Tang Liu, Wu Fan, and the other nine special freshmen also came here to give special lessons. They received guidance from different mentors according to their abilities.

Because it was only the first day, the instructors of the Crown Faculty did not teach anything profound. They only helped the new students familiarize themselves with the introductory training methods of the various systems as soon as possible.

Zhou Jing had learned some cultivation insights from his mentor, which was quite beneficial.

After dinner, Zhou Jing returned to the dormitory. He even practiced the Basic Tempering Technique a few more times to consolidate what he had learned today.

With a powerful physique as support, his abundant stamina was enough to support his cultivation many times a day.

*“It’s a pity that my main body only can train like a normal person. If only I had the Accelerated Learning function of an ...”*

After practicing the last set of movements, Zhou Jing slowly exhaled, feeling a little regretful.

Now that he had learned the cultivation method of the main world, it meant that his apostles could also cultivate in this way in other dimensions. They would have one more power system route compared to the natives.

If Jason could practice the Martial Path Aura System in the Mutant World, his combat strength would probably have already soared... Of course, the system of the main world was generally advantageous to the natives, but if he was discovered by an Explorer, it would also cause a chain reaction. There were pros and cons.

Moreover, the *Interface* had the ability to accelerate their learning, and its training efficiency was extremely high. If he could transform into an Eternal Apostle and convert the cultivation results to his main body, he could completely obtain the benefits of accelerated learning that others did not have through the difference in the flow of time in the Astral Realm.

Unfortunately, the interface was not connected to any Astral Realm at the moment, so he could not travel through it. He could only temporarily suppress this rather useful idea.

*“However, although the basic tempering method won’t have any effect in the short term, it can be used as an excuse for me to convert my abilities. After practicing for ten days to half a month, I’ll say that during the process of training my martial arts, my superpower had been catalyzed and raised to a new level.”*

As Zhou Jing thought, he got up and wiped his sweat with a towel.

He picked up his phone and scrolled through the group chat. Soon, he saw that his best friend was spamming stickers in the group chat with some others.

After thinking for a while, Zhou Jing asked Li Xiaoyin, “How was your training today?”

Li Xiaoyin immediately replied, “Not bad. The teacher in class today pointed out a cultivation direction for me. He said that my shock wave is very destructive, and it’s very penetrative and permeable. Its initial strength is considered extremely rare, but when it’s released in a range attack, a large portion of its power will be exhausted. He feels that I have to train my control, learn to compress and condense the shock wave, and develop all kinds of new uses, such as releasing it through close contact.”

The superpower course she attended was superpower development. Because the potential of superpowers was extremely high, deep development of her own superpowers was currently the most cost-effective for her. It was not practical for her to attend the Physical Enhancement class that required other supernatural systems to increase her combat strength.

## Chapter 264: Savage “Native” (2)

The cultivation path of superpowers was actually quite simple in general. It was to increase the strength, develop the usage, and increase control. Most superpowers trained in these three directions before developing the overall qualities, such as release speed, cooldown time, distance, and so on.

“Release a close-range attack...”

Zhou Jing muttered softly.

If that terrifying shock wave was compressed and erupted in a small area, without any loss, it would enter the enemy’s body directly...

The image of a human body exploding like a balloon appeared in Zhou Jing’s mind, and he shivered.

This was what it meant to die when touched and be injured when grazed?

Zhou Jing could not help but send a message over,

“Yin, promise me. If you master this move, please try it on Lin Kun first.”

“That goes without saying!”

...

In the next few days, Zhou Jing and the others attended classes, took his special one to one mentoring treatment, and trained every day. The days were simple and fulfilling, as if he had returned to a life of being a model student. He felt as though he were a sponge, were absorbing nutrition every day and growing every day.

Soon, the academy's hidden course, Explorer Training, finally welcomed its first class.

.....

Zhou Jing and the other three walked into the classroom and saw many familiar faces at a glance. Many of the new supers with high potential had come. They were all new students who had signed a treaty and agreed to become reserve explorers.

"The number of people in this class is not small." Zhang Xiao clicked his tongue.

*"If I really become an Explorer in the future, I might be able to meet someone I know in the other world."* Xu Lingyun was excited and had a sudden sense of yearning for the other world.

Zhou Jing however did not add on to Zhang Xiao's comment. After observing the surroundings, he realized that the chuunibyouth, Tang Liu, was not present. Those who came were basically all adults.

After waiting for a while, a tall figure walked in and slowly walked to the podium. It was actually Vice President Shen Xinqin!

The students below stirred slightly.

Shen Xinqin looked at everyone with a smile and raised her hand to signal for everyone to be quiet.

"Everyone should know me. I'm the deputy dean of the Scarlet Academy, but I'm also an official member of the Exploration Bureau. I have a military rank and have once served in many dimensions. I'll be taking the class this semester."

Hearing this, everyone was in an uproar. Countless curious gazes gathered on her.

Zhou Jing's heart skipped a beat.

With the combat strength of a Rank 5 Super, she had actually also served in a different dimension. However, it was probably not the Astral Realm where the Mutant World was located...

"This is everyone's first time coming into contact with the profession of alternate world exploration. Today's class is mainly to let everyone have a proper understanding of this."

Shen Xinqin operated the controls on the podium a few times, and the screen behind immediately revealed the scene of today's lesson.

She tapped her fingers on the screen before looking up at the curious faces.

“The history of alternate world exploration goes back hundreds of years. Only when scientists discovered the truth of the world where planes intersected did we know about the world beyond the universe.

Scientists developed all kinds of technology and mapped the patterns of the confluence of planes for decades. With the birth of the shuttle device, the exploration of the alternate world was officially launched. The profession of explorer was thus born. In order to manage it, the Exploration Bureau of the various countries was established one after another.”

The people below the stage listened attentively.

However, from the first sentence, Zhou Jing felt that something was wrong. He felt that some key elements were missing.

Scientists discovered the intersection of planes... but they were still scientists from a certain country, right?

He felt that any country who made the discovery would probably not share such a major discovery easily.

The sentence “The exploration bureau of the various countries is established one after another” seemed normal, but there might be a huge amount of information lost in between...

However, Shen Xinqin had no intention of explaining in detail. She only brushed it off and continued.

“The Interstellar Joint Government has planned the basic principles of alternate realms exploration. It mainly focuses on lurking and exploring, as well as establishing friendly contact. It can interfere with the development of the alternate realms to a certain extent, but it cannot take the lead. It has to try its best to hide its activities in the other party's history.

The Exploration Bureau basically abided by these basic principles, but in terms of specific actions, the ideas of the Exploration Bureau were not uniform. Sometimes, they would work together, and sometimes, there would be conflicts. However, they did not always live in harmony... While the explorers of the various countries adhered to the exploration principles, they mainly focused on the interests of their own Exploration Bureau. Occasionally, there would be bloodshed.

I understand everyone's curiosity about the exploration of the alternate world, but I have to make everyone understand the risks and understand that this is not a profession that only exists as a fantasy."

When everyone heard this, they quickly calmed down.

Zhang Xiao blinked and muttered, "Why does it sound so similar to an agent?"

"It feels like you're an agent, but the target is another world." Xu Lingyun replied in a low voice.

At this moment, Shen Xinqin looked around at everyone and spoke solemnly.

"Moreover, the challenges faced by explorers are not limited to this. Due to the restrictions of the shuttle device to transport resources, explorers often have to face the pressure of survival in other worlds.

In fact, one might even get into a conflict with the natives during the mission.

One should not underestimate the natives of other worlds. Some of the worlds also possess superpowers. If you're not careful, you might die in an unfamiliar world.

For example, nearly half a year ago, there was a primitive civilization plane that intersected with the main world. That world had a superpower similar to genetic enhancement, and there were also many wild beasts with strange abilities. The natives called them 'Mutant Beasts'. The main world had once interacted with them, and it was not the first time they had entered this world.

Because the threat level and value of that plane were very low, and they were familiar with the environment, the explorers sent by the various countries were all Rank 1 and 2 Explorers. They hid and collected intelligence, so there should not be any casualties.

However, I didn't expect that a male explorer from another country would actually be killed by the natives head-on. His death was quite tragic. It was said that his lower body was minced by someone with a sharp weapon, to the point that its shape couldn't be seen anymore. In the end, he was killed by the native... From this, it can be seen how ferocious and dangerous the natives are."

At this point, Shen Xinqin sighed and shook her head.

Everyone felt a chill in their hearts.

"What a tragic death. The natives are too ruthless. They're simply 'egg' hunters!" Xu Lingyun gasped.



Zhang Xiao swallowed a mouthful of saliva and muttered, "So it's that dangerous? Why didn't they say anything before asking us to sign the agreement? I feel like I've been tricked... I wonder if I can go back on my word?"

Li Xiaoyin rolled her eyes, "Look at how useless you are. I knew that it was dangerous when I signed it! Otherwise, why would we Superhumans need to go over? We can just find some ordinary people."

The three of them whispered and discussed softly.

Beside him, Zhou Jing's expression gradually turned strange.

Why did this matter... sound so familiar?

He was 80% sure that the "native" Shen Xinqin mentioned was his apostle, Jason...

Good lord, this matter had not only spread in the Mutant World, but also in the main world?!

At this moment, Xu Lingyun poked Zhou Jing's kidney and asked curiously, "Why don't you have any reaction? In the future, we might have to face such heartless natives. Aren't you afraid?"

The corners of Zhou Jing's mouth twitched, and his tone was complicated as he replied, "... Oh, I'm too afraid to talk."

## **Chapter 265: Rules of Astral Travel;**

Hearing his "great achievements", Zhou Jing's mood was pretty subtle.

On the stage, Shen Xinqin naturally did not notice anything.

"When explorers come into contact with the natives, they will usually use fake identities. What we advocate is to communicate with them with a rational and equal attitude. However, there will always be explorers who feel superior and think that they are outsiders who have descended like gods. The natives are uncivilized creatures, so they look down on them..."

This is a very wrong way of thinking. Many bloody conflicts start from such inconspicuous places. If you have a chance to serve in the future, you must remember this."

"Indeed." Zhou Jing nodded seriously.



At this moment, a student raised his hand and asked curiously, “As for that native killed the Explorer, what should we do? Fight back or ignore him?”

Shen Xinqin gestured for the student to put down his hand as she nodded.

“Good question... This depends on the specific situation. First of all, everyone has to be clear that the Exploration Bureau’s restrictions on the explorers in the other dimensions are limited. This will cause some people’s desires to swell and they might not be able to discover it in time. Under such circumstances, if the explorers get into a conflict with the natives, even if they are killed, the Exploration Bureau will not care. They will not organize a counterattack to take revenge.”

“Even if you manage to survive, the bureau will still punish you. They usually won’t let such people continue to serve.”

“And if it’s an Explorer who sacrificed himself to carry out a mission, the Exploration Bureau will try its best to collect the bones and carry out a limited counterattack and revenge. They won’t implicate unrelated people and will only destroy the murderer physically... For example, the ferocious native I just mentioned had died with the Explorer, so everything ended there. If the native had not died, the explorers from other countries will definitely counterattack until they destroyed the native.”

*“Fortunately, Jason ‘died’. Otherwise, he would probably be hunted down from thousands of miles away. If that was the case, it would be very difficult for him to grow up steadily...”*?Zhou Jing scratched his head and felt a little lucky.

Shen Xinqin changed the scene of the lesson and continued.

“Other than that, explorers also face a huge problem, which is time. The flow of time between the various dimensions is different. Sometimes, if you stay in the other world for a few months, only a few days will pass in the main world. After many explorers return from their military service, they will have psychological problems such as cognitive confusion and a lost sense of time. In a sense, the price of an explorer’s military service is their own lifespan.”

.....

“Scientists have been thinking of ways to solve it. Although there are some methods now, such as using technology to extend one’s lifespan, injecting telomerase that can be absorbed by the human body, using secret techniques to increase one’s lifespan, or trying to make high-level Supers with longer natural lifespans serve in the army as much as possible.

However, they can’t solve the root of the problem. These life-extending methods have limits, and there’s no way to fundamentally solve the problem of the difference in the flow of time.

That's why explorers serve part-time. Only a small number of willing people will stay in the alternate dimension for decades. They won't even return when the dimension leaves. Instead, they will continue to guard the alternate dimension and take care of the results of the last exploration. They will silently wait for the next intersection period to arrive. They are worthy of respect."

Hearing this, everyone became restless, and many people fell into hesitation.

Zhou Jing's heart skipped a beat. As expected, he had guessed that there would be such a problem when he signed the confidentiality agreement.

However, what surprised him was that there were actually Explorers who did not return and would continue to wait in other dimensions. After living for decades or centuries, they were probably no different from natives themselves.

Could this be the legendary deep-diving double agent?

*"Such a death warrior must be very precious. The Mutant World is so backward, so it shouldn't have such a huge investment. I guess the main world will only arrange such a person in the more important astral realms."*

Zhou Jing muttered to himself.

Shen Xinqin had no intention of persuading everyone to accept it. She only told the truth and waited patiently for everyone to calm down before continuing,

"In addition, due to the difference in the natural laws of the astral realms, this will cause some supernatural power systems to conflict with certain astral realms, resulting in some explorers being unable to unleash their original strength.

.

For example, those with mechanical prosthetics. They are the type of people who have the most frequent conflicts of power. Because of the magical filtering phenomenon when they travel, many technological products and resources can't enter the astral world. Therefore, the Mechanical Explorers rarely serve in the military. Only certain planes will consider them.

In comparison, those who strengthen their bodies have the least conflict of strength. Most planes will not have any problems. Even if there is a conflict, causing them to be unable to use certain martial arts energy, their tempered bodies will still not disappear. Therefore, among the explorers who serve, the proportion of martial artists is the highest."

Zhou Jing was enlightened.

No wonder the academy attached so much importance to the martial arts course. It turned out that boorish people were the most suitable...

No wonder in this era where technology and magic were quite advanced, Wang Wu still looked proud of the Martial Way in class. He did not expect the martial artists to actually have such a desirable position!

Shen Xinqin picked up the thermos cup and took a sip to moisten her throat.

Seeing everyone's ears perked up, she smiled,

"According to the scientists' speculation, the older the plane, the more tolerant it is of various supernatural powers. The filtering rules for technology and supplies are most likely related to it."

"In the theory of scientists, every plane is wrapped in a layer of spatial membrane that only intersects but doesn't fuse. This layer of membrane is also called the Astral Membrane."

## **Chapter 266: Rules of Astral Travel; Approaching Confluence Period (2)**

"The principle of the shuttle device is to pass through the Astral Membrane and send things into another universe. The Astral Membrane is a little similar to a different kind of supermarket barcode. Its function is to filter everything from the outside world and restrict abnormal information that doesn't belong to one's own plane. Therefore, many technologies and items can't travel through it..."

On the other hand, living beings don't seem to be in the filtering category. However, if the superpower system conflicts, although the abilities that they already have will not be deprived, the related abilities will be suppressed and might even be unable to activate."

"Scientists believe that planes are the universe, and the universe is expanding endlessly. Therefore, the longer a plane lives, the larger its volume will be, causing this membrane to become thinner and thinner, so the filtering effect will slowly decrease... Therefore, the filtering intensity of the older planes will decrease."

"For example, the alternate realms are like the human body. The Astral Membrane is an immune system, and the thing that enters through it is an external virus. As a person gets older, their immunity will decrease, and they will be more likely to be invaded by a virus and fall sick."

Hearing this, many people revealed strange expressions.

Although the example was very straightforward, it felt strange to compare oneself to a virus...

At this moment, Xu Lingyun suddenly raised his hand.

“Teacher, if the plane is a universe, then based on probability, it’s very easy to travel to an uninhabited deep space instead, right? Wouldn’t that be equivalent to dying on the spot?”

“Good question.”

Shen Xinqin smiled gently.

“This is a problem that scientists haven’t figured out yet. Transmigration seems to have the effect of tracking and locating life signals. When explorers travel over, they will always land on living planets. There seems to be some kind of magnet-like pattern. The probability of falling into deep space is almost zero...”

“Therefore, the movement path and location of the explorers from all countries are usually on the same planet. Because the Astral Membrane filters a lot of technology, we can’t develop the other party’s universe. As for the Exploration Bureau, they typically name the other dimension based on the civilization of this planet.”

Hearing this, Zhou Jing couldn’t help but pinch his chin. He felt that his previous guess was right, and his heart couldn’t help but tremble.

.....

*“They didn’t know this, nor did they know that... Then how did you create that shuttle device?”*

*“It was not developed by us at all, right!”*

... Of course, it was also possible that this was confidential and they would not be told about it.

Shen Xinqin did not say much about this question. Before anyone could ask further, she changed the topic,

“For the various planes that have been explored, the various countries have an evaluation system — by taking into account the level of civilization, technology, resources, filtering intensity, power conflict, danger, potential threat, and so on, the value of traveling and exploring the world is divided into three levels.

According to the value of the exploration, the manpower and resources invested by the explorers of the various countries will be different. There are also differences in the

exploration plans... For example, there's no point in interfering too much in a low-value plane. Usually, the explorers will only gather intelligence and knowledge, a short-term exploration."

"As for the high-value planes, the Exploration Bureau will formulate a long-term development plan. They will establish a foundation there, plan to develop, and lurk deep inside."

"For example, the primitive civilization plane we previously mentioned. We call it the 'Mutant Beast Civilization Plane'. It's a typical low-value Astral Realm. The countries will only invest very little in it. They won't let anyone stay there for a long time at all. Once the time is up, they will all retreat. Under such circumstances, there naturally won't be a long-term plan."

*"That's great..."*?Zhou Jing grinned to himself.

Jason and Bill had finally made a name for themselves and were moving towards the peak of their lives. He did not want too much external interference.

"Teacher, when will the next plane convergence happen then?"

Suddenly, someone in the crowd asked curiously.

Zhou Jing perked up and pricked up his ears.

Shen Xinqin did not mind and replied casually,

"According to the Exploration Bureau's map of the plane's gravitational tide, a plane that has been explored before is approaching. The gravitational strength will reach the threshold of the shuttle device activation in three months and enter a new confluence period."

Everyone immediately looked forward to it.

Although everyone had yet to graduate and was far from being in the military, they could not help but fantasize.

*"Three months!"*

Meanwhile, Zhou Jing lowered his head slightly to hide the glint in his eyes.

As long as there was a confluence of planes, his interface would be able to connect to the Astral Realm.

Between his travel interface and the main world's travel device, although he did not know who had the higher threshold of gravitational strength, it would be obvious in three months.

At that time, he would most likely be able to activate Astral Travel again!

This was the best news he had heard today.

Shen Xinqin looked at everyone's yearning expressions and smiled,

"The Exploration Bureau has a lot of known planes and is quite rich in information. Moreover, many of them are confidential. Some of them can only be accessed after joining the Exploration Bureau. Therefore, our course is mainly based on the study of popular science to increase everyone's understanding of otherworld exploration."

(TL Note: Popular science (also called pop-science or popsci) is an interpretation of science intended for a general audience. While science journalism focuses on recent scientific developments, popular science is more broad-ranging. It may be written by professional science journalists or by scientists themselves.)

"Also, the learning process of the course is adjusted according to the results of the mapping... In other words, the plane we will be studying in will only be about planes that have just passed the confluence period, about to enter the confluence period, and those already in the confluence period. The other temporarily unrelated planes will not be mentioned.

Everyone's luck is good, since there'll be a confluence period this semester. At that time, I'll get some real-time action reports from the Exploration Bureau that aren't considered confidential. They'll be used as lesson materials for everyone to study and understand the actions of the explorers in the astral world."

## **Chapter 267: Rules of Astral Travel;**

"That's the general situation. What we'll learn next is the basic information of the previous Mutant Beast Civilization plane."

With that, Shen Xinqin fiddled with something on the rostrum.

In the next moment, the sound of electronic beeping filled the air. Virtual projections popped up on the multi-purpose desk in front of every student. It was the same map.

Zhou Jing took a closer look and his heart skipped a beat.

This map was actually a map of the Mutant World.

The products drawn in the main world were much more detailed than the local maps of the Mutant World. After searching carefully for a while, he could actually find the location of Frostwood Village.

Moreover, the area of this map was larger. Many areas outside the Terra Empire had been explored.

It showcased an entire continent, surrounded by a blue sea.

There was only one civilized regime in the Terra Empire on the continent, and the territory of the Terra Empire was only a small inland area north of the center of the continent. It was still far from the coastline.

In the areas around the Terra Empire that had yet to be explored, there were many large settlements of humans and Subterraneans. There were even a few wilderness areas with skull symbols. They were actually the nests of different Mutant Beast Kings. They had also been investigated by the explorers of the main world.

This map was clearly a product specially provided by the explorers and would not be revealed to the natives.

*“Good lord, compared with the poor geographical knowledge of the Terra Empire, this map is practically as good as holding the world map in my hands...”*

Zhou Jing was at a loss for words.

.....

Buzz—

At this moment, the astral interface that had been silent for a long time suddenly reacted.

[A physical map has been discovered. It can be matched to the Astral Realm — [Mutant Beast World] (No. 001). Do you want to accept it?]

Zhou Jing was stunned for a moment before he smiled in delight.

“Record!”

[Recording complete. The known area has been refreshed.]

[Remark: If you obtain a map of the same area, you will be able to complement the details and perfect the map.]

He quickly controlled the interface with his mind and opened the map mode of the Mutant World. Although he could not travel after breaking off the connection, it was not a problem to check the existing Astral Realm information.

In the next second, he realized that the map of the Mutant World on the interface had already been switched to the detailed map drawn by the main world.

*“A huge profit!”*

Zhou Jing perked up.

The information collected in the main world could also be recorded. As for the information on the interface... Other than being able to read it at any time, these areas could also be used as landing points when traveling.

The Explorer course was practically a custom made channel for him to continue preparing for the next time he could travel.

“Before the next confluence period, I’ll rely on this class to accumulate initial intelligence...” Zhou Jing subconsciously clenched his fists, suppressing the excitement in his heart.

...

In the blink of an eye, ten days had passed since school started.

Many new students were almost familiar with the class schedule. They attended class on time every day and interacted with their classmates or seniors in their free time.

Zhou Jing lived his life step by step. Every day, he would absorb knowledge and nutrients from different courses and secretly train hard in the basic tempering method.

Time was needed to properly master the Martial Way. There was no way he could hope to activate the Martial Path Aura after just a night of training.

However, with this period of cultivation as an excuse, even if people were to say that his “unlocked abilities” were astonishing, it was still within the scope of ordinary people’s understanding. He felt that the time was right.

On this day, after the entire day of lessons, Zhou Jing returned to his room and decided to spend his Astral Points to convert all four of Jason’s mutant blood enhancements to his main body.

Opening the interface, Zhou Jing took a deep breath.

*“It’s today. Come on!”*



## Chapter 268: Transformation and 'Mutation' (1)

Jason and Bill, the two apostles, had broken off their connection. It was unknown how they were faring in the Mutant World, but they had yet to die even now. Therefore, the benefits from placing them had never been recycled to the interface.

However, after mastering the Level 8 Saber Technique last time, he still had 27,400 Astral Points and 224 Information State Particles left.

Zhou Jing switched to the ability library that had stopped updating when Jason broke the connection, immediately investing 7,000 Astral Points and 70 Information State Particles as fuel to convert the third and fourth enhancements of the Mutant Blood Warrior system to his main body.

[Transforming the supernatural system – [Mutant Blood Warrior (Third Enhancement), [Mutant Blood Warrior (Fourth Enhancement)]...]

[Conversion complete]

A familiar feeling of strength suddenly surged, quickly spreading through his limbs and bones. His strength, speed, and stamina continued to increase without any pause.

Zhou Jing thought that it would be very painful and was mentally prepared, but at this moment, he realized that he did not feel uncomfortable at all.

It was as if he was soaking in warm water. It was comfortable, and there was no pain like when he first got strengthened by the mutant blood.

At the same time, the increase in strength did not bring about any unfamiliarity or loss of control. It was as natural as taking back the power that originally belonged to him.

At the same time, the interface popped up the special choices for when one's Physical Fitness and Resistance attributes broke through the First Order.

[Physical Fitness increased to Second Order]

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

1

.....

1

1

“It’s actually a little different from Jason’s attributes when he advanced. It seems that the characteristics that can be obtained during advancement are random.”

Zhou Jing raised his eyebrows. Without hesitation, he chose the same [Nimble Disposition] as Jason.

On one hand, it was the most convenient to use. On the other hand, speed would increase one’s combat strength more than the other two. After all, only speed was invincible in actual combat. It was basically not wrong to choose this.

[Resistance increased to Second Order]

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

1

1

1

Zhou Jing was stunned.

The resistance characteristics that he could choose when his main body advanced were actually completely different from when Jason advanced. He did not know if he was lucky or unlucky.

Without the [Elemental Resistance] that Jason had chosen for his advancement, he would not be able to be immune to the side effects of the subsequent enhancement of [Internal Electric Discharge], [Electrical Perception], and [Lightning Release].

However, there was a trait that made his heart race, that of [Rapid Restoration].

He only had one main body, unlike the *who* could constantly reassemble. In fact, in Zhou Jing’s opinion, [Rapid Restoration] was a must for him to obtain. Even if he obtained [Elemental Resistance] at the same time, he would not have chosen it in the end.

After all, there were many ways to be immune to the side effects of electric shocks. By constantly increasing his Resistance attribute, he could also reach his goal. Compared to this simple combination of resistance to electric shocks, self-healing was clearly more valuable.

[Selection complete. Trait generated.]

[Physical Fitness Trait: Nimble Disposition]

[Resistance Trait: [Rapid Restoration] ]

Waves of power surged out, and in a short while, the transformation was completed.

Hooomph!

Zhou Jing's breath was like an arrow as he curiously tested his movements.

He had long used Jason to familiarize himself with such physical fitness. Without any additional practice, he could easily control his explosive strength. It was as if his physical strength was already like this, and he inexplicably felt a sense of freedom, as though his shackles had been released.

"It's been a long time since I felt so relaxed. This is the power I'm familiar with..."

Zhou Jing was in a good mood. He stretched his neck left and right, before opening the interface to take a look at his attributes.

---

[Supernatural Power System: [Mutant Blood Warrior] – Fourth Enhancement (Lightning Strike Leopard, Howling Wind Tiger, Golden Lightning Dragon, Aurora Dragon)]

[Accumulated Bonus: Physical Fitness +59, Resistance +47, Perception +33, Spirit +6, Energy +20]

[Skill: [Weapon Mastery – Blade Technique] – Lv8 (Harmony), [Hunter's Breath – Forging] – Lv5 (Instinct), [Hunter's Breath – Swift] – Lv4 (Proficient)]

[Current Attributes: Physical Fitness 70, Resistance 55, Perception 38, Spirit 17, Energy 20]

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"I'm still slightly weaker compared to Jason's attributes. Only my Spirit attribute is higher than his." Zhou Jing nodded to himself, not surprised.

After all, the difference in the number of skills between his main body and Jason was too great. He did not convert more than ten breathing techniques and lacked some attribute bonuses.

Moreover, his main body was originally a normal person, unlike the s who had a high initial strength.

“However, they’re all at the same level of combat strength. There’s no fundamental difference. Even if he’s slightly weaker, his attributes are still among the best among the four enhancements... Tsk tsk, looking at it this way, Jason is really quite fierce.”

Zhou Jing was in a good mood.

After converting the main supernatural system, he did not intend to convert the other breathing techniques. This was because the attributes of more than ten breathing techniques did not increase much, but the cost of conversion was quite high, causing the cost-effective ratio to be low.

Now that he did not have any income and the next inter-realm convergence was coming, he wanted to save more resources as a backup.

With his current attributes and Lv8 saber techniques, his combat strength was already comparable to Jason.

“Let’s see how good my self-healing ability is currently.”

Zhou Jing composed himself and ran to the kitchen to get a fruit knife. Without batting an eyelid, he cut deep into his palm.

Now that his resistance was not low, it was not easy for sharp weapons to break through his tough skin, he used quite a bit of strength before managing to pull open a wound, and fine blood beads seeped out.

He counted the time silently. Not long after, the wound on his palm stopped bleeding and slowly closed. After about ten minutes, there were no more traces.

“Well, although it’s much faster than ordinary people, its recovery speed hasn’t reached the level of instantaneous healing.”

Zhou Jing roughly understood his limits.

The main world had superpowers such as super regeneration and instant restoration. At that level of healing speed, any injuries could basically be recovered in a few seconds. It could be directly used in battle and the user could be said to be an unkillable cockroach.

As for the [Rapid Restoration] resistance trait he had obtained, it was clearly still far from that level... Unless he fought a protracted battle, he could only use it to recover faster after escaping battle. He would not die easily from heavy injuries.

Zhou Jing was however quite satisfied, “It’s not bad. At least it’s a life-saving ability. Perhaps when my resistance is high in the future, my healing speed will continue to increase.”

...

Two days later.

In the instructor's office of the Crown Faculty.

An internal meeting was being held. In addition to the instructors, Deng Yunjie and the other leading students of the Crown Association were also participating in the meeting.

"These are the participating new students we've chosen during this period of time. Including the ten specially selected people, there are a total of 50 of them. There are five Class S, 31 Class A, and 14 Class Bs."

Li Yun flipped through the files of the 50 people and frowned.

He put down the information and looked around at everyone.

"This is the selection this time. Let's discuss how to distribute the slots for the arena and team competition. Who should go where?"

As soon as he finished speaking, everyone immediately started discussing.

The only consensus was that the team competition was more random and not easy to control. The group arena depended on one's own ability... And the ten specially selected freshmen were suitable for the arena according to their past experience.

Li Yun pondered for a moment before saying, "Speaking of which, how's the special training of the ten specially selected freshmen going? Have they improved?"

Hearing this, the mentor in charge of the special training shook his head and said, "Even if there's special training, it's only been 10 days. Of course, they haven't changed much."

Deng Yunjie leaned back in his chair and said casually, "How did that Class B Zhou Jing perform? Did you figure out his background and what his combat strength is?"

Among the ten special selections, the other nine were all conventional choices with high potential. Only Zhou Jing was an exception, so everyone paid extra attention to him. They were afraid that the mystery box they chosen would turn out to be dud rather than a high roller.

The special training instructor scratched his forehead and said helplessly,

"This... It's hard to say. In terms of ability strength, Zhou Jing's physical fitness is actually not very strong. Among all the Physical Enhancers this year, he can't even be ranked in the first tier. At most, he's above average."

However, his combat talent and insight are outstanding. His skills are superb, which is why his actual combat is very powerful... However, this way, the flow is too great. If you fight an opponent whose ability is not outstanding enough, you can easily win. However, if you encounter a powerful enemy, you can only use your techniques to deal with them. Whether you can win depends on your state and performance. The margin of error is very low for him..."

Hearing this, Deng Yunjie fell into deep thought, "In other words, he's good at bullying noobs, but he can't fight a head-on battle. He can only slowly wear down powerful enemies. If he makes a mistake during this period, he will likely lose?"

The special training instructor nodded and gave his evaluation,

"That's about it. I think that if Zhou Jing wants to fight in the arena, he has to pay attention to avoiding powerful enemies. He can only eat some that are not outstanding, so he can't become the core."

"If it's ideal, we can place him with the seeded experts of the other faculties. If he doesn't perform well, he can only be used as cannon fodder to control the rounds."

Deng Yunjie touched his chin, "That makes sense..."

Li Yun thought for a moment and threw out a suggestion,

"From the looks of it, it's very difficult for Zhou Jing to achieve much in the arena. Perhaps we should change our minds and consider transferring him to the team competition? This way, we won't waste his special selection and can also unleash his advantage. After all, most of the people in the team competition are Class A and Class B. Not many of them have outstanding abilities."

Hearing this, many people nodded in agreement.

"I think it's fine. Anyway, he's good at bullying noobs."

"Yes, with Zhou Jing's style, he's only suitable to show off when the freshmen's actual combat level is still very weak. When everyone's skills grow in the future, his advantage will slowly disappear. In the future, he'll probably not be able to use it in the competition between departments... Therefore, the freshmen competition is a rare stage for him. It's better to consider him and let him go to a suitable stage to have a chance to show off."

Everyone spoke one after another. Be it out of goodwill or rationality, they all felt that this arrangement was not bad.

At this moment, a phone rang.

Everyone turned around and realized that Zhou Jing's special training instructor's phone was ringing.

"Sorry, I'm going out to take a call."

The special training instructor waved his hand and went out with his phone, closing the office door behind him.

Everyone retracted their gazes and did not mind. They continued to discuss the allocation of the spots.

However, after only a minute, the door was suddenly knocked open.

Pang!!

Everyone was shocked. They turned around and saw the special training instructor, who had only been out for a short while, rushing in excitedly.

"What are you doing? Why are you so shocked?" Li Yun was dissatisfied.

"Everyone, the coach of the Association just told me a piece of good news!"

The special training instructor raised his phone with a surprised expression.

"Just now, Zhou Jing came to report that for some reason, his physical fitness has suddenly increased greatly. It's very likely that his superpower has advanced or mutated!"

Everyone stopped short in their movements.

Superpower mutation?

This was a rare thing. Most superpowers could be trained and strengthened, but mutation was a superpower that sublimated from the basic level. Not only would the basic strength increase, but there was also a possibility of new functions being born. This usually meant a qualitative change.

As for advancement... It had only been ten days. Even if it was a physical enhancement ability, it shouldn't have advanced so quickly, right?

Could it be that Zhou Jing's physical enhancement ability had some hidden effect and unknown potential?

"Let's go take a look!"

Li Yun stood up without hesitation, paused the meeting, and led everyone out.

## Chapter 269: Crooked Mouth Youth (1)

(TL Note: Basically meaning that nothing good comes out of his mouth.)

Superpower Testing Ground.

Zhou Jing was bare-chested, and there were a few sensors stuck to his muscles. He was doing some simple tests under the guidance of the staff.

After a while, messy footsteps sounded. As they got closer, Li Yun and the others rushed over.

“Zhou Jing, you said that your superpower suddenly changed? What happened?”

Li Yun asked curiously.

“It’s like this. Recently, I’ve been practicing the basic tempering methods of the Supers Martial Arts class every day. Gradually, I realized that every time I finish training, my body would feel strange and hot. Last night, I finished one set as usual and suddenly fainted. When I woke up again, I realized that my physical fitness had increased by a notch. I don’t know what happened...”

Zhou Jing’s tone was honest, and a hint of confusion was on his face.

The instructors looked at each other in surprise.

Li Yun suppressed his surprise and instructed, “Test the changes in your superpower first. Let’s see the situation.”

“Alright, Teacher.”

Zhou Jing nodded obediently and tested his body according to the instructions from the team. Soon, he obtained the parameters of his current physical fitness.

Li Yun and the other mentors gathered in front of the test results to take a look. From time to time, they would gasp. As they watched, some of them looked up at Zhou Jing in shock.

“It’s really unbelievable. He actually crossed such a huge stage so easily, and his physical control is almost unaffected...”

Li Yun muttered to himself as he looked over.



Zhou Jing seemed to be nervous, like a patient waiting for a doctor's diagnosis. He looked uneasy and could not help but ask.

"Um... Do you know what happened to me?"

Hearing this, Li Yun finally came back to his senses. His eyes flickered with excitement as he sized up Zhou Jing, as if he had seen a precious jade.

"I think I understand..."

Li Yun coughed lightly and said seriously.

"In your situation, your superpower should have mutated... No, evolved!"

"Evolved?!"

Zhou Jing was "shocked".

"Yes!"

Li Yun nodded steadily and explained patiently, "The abilities that are awakened naturally will occasionally mutate, but the results are not always good. The negative mutation is called degeneration, and the positive mutation is called evolution. However, once it evolves, the basic strength of the ability will greatly increase.

"There are usually four ways to achieve evolution. One is purely based on luck. In principle, every superpower can mutate, but the probability is slim. The second is to constantly train your superpower until it reaches a certain level before there is a chance of it happening. The third is to be stimulated by the outside world, such as injecting drugs. The fourth is because of the superpower itself. This means that the superpower also possesses an unfulfilled potential that has an extremely high growth rate."

Zhou Jing blinked, his face full of curiosity, "Then which one am I?"

"Obviously, the third doesn't match your situation. It can only be the first, second, and fourth. Therefore, you're either lucky, or your short-term martial arts cultivation happened to stimulate your superpower, or your awakened ability still has hidden special potential that can't be tested. If it's the fourth, then you have the aptitude of a genius!"

Li Yun made a firm judgment.

"I see. Teacher knows so much."

Zhou Jing seemed to be embarrassed by the praise. He scratched his head and gave a clumsy flattery in return.

The corners of Li Yun's mouth curled up wryly. It soon morphed into a full smile, "In short, this is a good thing for you. No matter what the situation is, your future growth potential has increased. Although it's still a Physical Enhancement ability, I think you're qualified to apply for an evaluation of Class A potential."

Hearing this, Zhou Jing blinked and suddenly raised his hand to his chest, his palm facing the sky.

"Speaking of which... It seems like it's not just Physical Enhancement any longer."

With that, the buzzing sound of a high voltage electric current sounded.

Sizzle — Crackle!

The electricity suddenly lit up and condensed in his palm, illuminating the shocked faces around him.

"He, he can even discharge electricity?"

Everyone's eyes widened.

Li Yun was also shocked as he muttered, "Is this a new ability produced by a mutation, or is it a natural energy after the physique has greatly increased?"

Everyone hurriedly pulled Zhou Jing along and tested the specific parameters of the discharge ability again. The discharge power, attack range, duration, and so on.

Zhou Jing was quite cooperative and did as he was told.

After the test, the mentor team surrounded his test results and started an intense discussion. Zhou Jing watched from the side, his heart calm as he nodded to himself.

*"Looks like the effect is not bad. The mentors really think that my superpower has mutated..."*

He had to undergo targeted training every day, so the change in his abilities could not be hidden. He had long thought of a reason to take the initiative to report.

With his identity as a "new student" as a cover and pretending to be confused, his mentor would not suspect him. He gave his acting skills an 80 points and felt that he had performed well.

He did not intend to hide the discharge ability brought about by the four enhancements. He would definitely use it in the future. Instead of thinking of a reason at that time, it was better to stuff it into the excuse of this "mutation".

Moreover, there was no point in hiding it. Only by telling the mentor team would they be able to specially plan a cultivation plan for him and think of ways to help him increase his discharge ability.

Although his main body did not have an acceleration function in cultivation, and his efficiency was not as good as the s, Zhou Jing did not expect to completely rely on the apostle conversion to increase his strength. After all, there would occasionally be a realm connection severed.

He did not underestimate the training effects of the main world just because he had the Apostle Conversion. The mature superpower development course in the main world had nurtured many Supers, and his main body could also benefit from it.

After a while, Li Yun and the others finally finished their discussion and walked over.

“Zhou Jing, your superpower has changed a lot. You have to train more frequently and practice your control. We will also come up with a new training plan for you, especially your discharge ability. We all agree that your potential is extraordinary.

“In addition, regarding your potential evaluation, we will apply for Class A for you, but we will announce it to you after the new student competition. We will let you continue to maintain Class B for now. This way, you can reduce suspicion and make the opponent make the wrong decision in the lineup.”

“I understand. There’s no problem.”

Zhou Jing nodded. Since the other party’s reason was practical, he would naturally cooperate.

At this moment, Deng Yunjie suddenly spoke with interest.

“I have high hopes for you. I look forward to your performance in the freshman competition.”

“Uh, thank you.”

Zhou Jing replied politely.

Li Yun reminded him again before letting Zhou Jing leave the testing ground. He then returned to the office with many mentors to continue the meeting that he had yet to finish.

Everyone took their seats.

Li Yun looked around and suddenly spoke out,

“I’ve decided. I’ll let Zhou Jing participate in the arena. Just now, I saw his mutated physical fitness parameters. He’s already ranked in the first tier. He’s even one of the best in the first tier. If his control and technique hasn’t changed, he might be a surprise soldier and shine brightly!”

Hearing this, everyone was stunned for a moment before nodding in agreement. No one objected.

Although Zhou Jing’s actual combat skills were astonishing, because his physical fitness was not too strong previously, he could only deal with weaker enemies, and his margin for error was low for powerful ones.

However, no one expected his ability to mutate and his physical strength to increase. This way, the disadvantage of having a low tolerance for mistakes was made up for.

Everyone still felt that Zhou Jing’s combat style was suitable for bullying noobs... However, after his ability evolved, the range of “noobs” had now expanded!

Li Yun knocked on the table and made a decision, “It depends on the outcome of this internal spar. If his performance is as good as we think, we can also consider him as the core!”

...

Three days later.

There was still half a month before the new student competition. Today was the day of the internal sparring between the faculties. The 50 selected new students of the Crown Faculty would compete with each other to let the instructors understand their strengths and judge the importance of every student in the competition in half a month. They would also provide the idea of arranging the troops.

Crown Faculty Hall, actual combat training ground.

It was a rest day today, and all the students had no classes. The 50 Crown participating students came to the venue early to spar, forming small groups of two or three. They chatted noisily as they waited for their instructors to organize them.

Zhou Jing moved a chair to the side and sat down. He held a bag of dried fruits and ate his snack as he waited.

Tang Liu followed beside him and kept reaching for Zhou Jing’s snacks, chattering non-stop the whole time.

“Hmph, there will only be one main character today, and that is me, Tang Liu! I can defeat all of them!”

Tang Liu chewed on the dried fruit and spoke vaguely, but he did not lower his voice at all. He did not bother to hide his arrogance, causing many new students to glare at him.

“Kids nowadays are really asking for a beating!”

“What are you being so arrogant for? If you get beaten up on stage, don’t cry to your mother.”

Someone snorted.

Tang Liu wiped his neck with his finger and sneered, “Am I arrogant? With me around, you people can only fight for second place. You’re all my stepping stones. There’s only one outcome for you, and that’s to be beaten up by me!”

“F\*ck, my hands are itchy!”

“These specially chosen ones are too arrogant!”

Many people were furious.

Zhou Jing couldn’t help but cover his face. He regretted teasing the middle schooler back then. If he had known earlier, he wouldn’t have spoken so much and become so close to him.

Right now, he only wanted to sit further away from Tang Liu to avoid being implicated.

After Tang Liu finished speaking, he turned to look at Zhou Jing and patted his chest. “You don’t have to be afraid. If you’re afraid of the pain, just admit defeat. Anyway, I’ll protect you in the future. You’re going to be my little brother. Just watch me show off my might.”

“Ah, right, right.”

Zhou Jing nodded weakly. He grabbed a handful of hard dried fruits and stuffed them into Tang Liu’s mouth, force feeding him and helping him grind his teeth.

Only after his move did the noise pollution beside him cease. Only then did Zhou Jing have the mood to size up everyone present.

Soon, he realized that many of the other 40 freshmen who had been selected were looking at him with ill intentions.

... It could not be said to be malicious. It could only be said to be eager to challenge him.

Zhou Jing pursed his lips, understanding the thoughts of these new students.

Even without Tang Liu's arrogant statement, most of the new students who were selected later were unwilling to accept it. They all wanted to defeat the ten people in the special selection to prove their strength.

Their mentality was nothing more than the cliched "Why were you specially chosen? How are we inferior?" thoughts. It was not strange for him to have such a way of thinking.

In addition, by defeating those ten people who had been specially selected, they would be able to step on them to climb up the ranks. They might even be able to replace the other party and obtain further focus training from the faculty. Therefore, these new students were filled with motivation. This was a real benefit.

As the only Class B among the specially selected ten, he was naturally seen as the most useless. These people all wanted to squeeze him, the only "soft persimmon" among the ten.

*"Sigh, everyone thinks that I'm the easiest to bully. Who asked me to still be a Class B..."*

Zhou Jing shook his head calmly, unbothered by their looks.

At this moment, Wu Fan suddenly walked over and looked at Zhou Jing.

"I look forward to fighting you."

Zhou Jing was stunned for a moment before he nodded in response, "Alright."

Wu Fan nodded and left without saying anything else.

Tang Liu swallowed the dried fruit and looked at the two of them in confusion.

"Why does he want to fight you? Is he also very lousy?"

"... How funny. In the future, you have to communicate with people in this way. Everyone will definitely like you."

Zhou Jing gave him a thumbs up.

At this moment, Li Yun and the other mentors finally arrived and organized everyone.

"You're the contestants for the new student competition in half a month. Today is to test your strength. There aren't many rules... Let's skip the pointless chatter. Other than not being able to challenge the same person repeatedly, no matter who wins or loses, as long as you have the strength, you can keep going on stage to challenge others. The more you fight, the better..."

Before Li Yun could finish speaking, a figure that was almost impossible to catch suddenly flashed past.

Whoosh!

In the next moment, Tang Liu used his High Speed Movement and appeared on the stage in the blink of an eye. He raised his hand and pointed at the many students below who had yet to react.

“I, Tang Liu, am standing here. Who dares to fight me?!”

As soon as he finished speaking, there was silence.

One youth with a yin-yang hairdo stood on the stage and arrogantly pointed at the 49 dumbfounded people below the stage. Beside him were his instructor and the referee, who had a look of “What are you doing?” on their faces. The scene was oddly similar to a world famous painting.

(TL Note: Seems like author is describing “The Creation of Adam” by Michelangelo. Let me know in the comments if you have a more accurate depiction!)

The scene was too beautiful. Zhou Jing’s entire body was covered in goosebumps, and his toes were tensed up, almost digging out of his shoes and into the flooring of the hall.

## **Chapter 270: Overwhelming Strength (1)**

The people below the stage were speechless. Looking at the arrogant Tang Liu, they felt their eyes hurt and hands itch.

Li Yun’s face tensed up, before putting on a stern teacher’s expression.

“Don’t interrupt me. Wait beside me. I’m not done.”

He adjusted his mentality very quickly. After all, he had been a mentor for a long time and had seen all kinds of Supers of all ages. He was used to it.

It was just a young man with a higher concentration of chuunibyuu. It was not rare...

Li Yun shook his head and temporarily ignored Tang Liu. He continued to talk about things like not being able to hurt people maliciously and that everyone had to go on stage. Meanwhile, Tang Liu did not dare to disobey his teacher. He quickly put away his arrogance and waited obediently at the side.

After a few words, Li Yun handed the arena to everyone and brought the instructors to the viewing platform, preparing to record and analyze everyone's performance.

At this moment, Tang Liu puffed out his chest again and placed his hands on his hips, "Come on, who wants to be the first to be beaten?"

"I'll go! I've always wanted to beat you up!"

As soon as he finished speaking, a new student could not wait to go on stage. He had an unfriendly expression as he rubbed his palms together.

Tang Liu snorted coldly and assumed a posture. He said in a clear voice, "Are you willing to leave your name?"

The corners of this freshman's mouth twitched. He endured the shame in his heart and introduced himself. Turns out, he actually possessed Class A potential.

After hearing this, Tang Liu glared at him and said proudly,

"Hmph, you traitorous scum, watch me kill you in three moves!"

"Where did the traitorous come from... you know what, hurry up and start. Please don't speak anymore!"

The freshman subconsciously wanted to complain, but he suddenly realized that he had been led astray by the little kid. He could not take it anymore.

As soon as he finished speaking...

Whoosh!

Tang Liu disappeared in the blink of an eye.

The freshman was shocked and was about to activate his ability when a huge force suddenly came from his ankle. He instantly lost his balance and toppled over, totally out of control.

However, halfway through his fall, when he was diagonally in midair, he suddenly felt a push on his chest. His body immediately rose into the air and flew horizontally out of the arena. He was caught by a few people.

"W-What happened?" The freshman was still in a daze as he looked around in a daze. Before he could react, he had already fallen off the stage.



He looked back at the stage and saw that Tang Liu had already returned to his original position. It was as if he had not moved from the beginning to the end. There was a smug expression on his face.

Everyone was also shocked. Before they could see clearly, they felt their eyes blur, and the battle ended.

“What’s going on?” “What kind of ability is that?” “Is it teleportation?”

Many people stirred and discussed in surprise.

Seeing this, Tang Liu did not hide anything. Instead, he said proudly, “My ability is High Speed Movement. Even if you guys attack together, you won’t be my match!”

Everyone’s expressions froze in shock and anger.

Although they were angry at this arrogant youth, everyone had to admit that his superpower was outstanding and terrifying.

*“He’s indeed fast...”*

Zhou Jing secretly observed the situation.

This was not the first time he had seen Tang Liu use his ability. Previously, he could not see it clearly like the others. However, after converting four enhancements, he could already see Tang Liu’s figure clearly and make a rough prediction of his position.

“Who else dares to challenge me?!”

Tang Liu shouted.

A few more people did not believe it and went up to spar. All of them were thrown down by Tang Liu. No one saw his movements clearly. Some people were even defeated without even using their abilities. It was a complete wipe.

Soon, no one went up to challenge him again. The 40 participating new students could tell that Tang Liu was definitely a tough nut to crack among the specially selected ten.

At this moment, another freshman went on stage, but he did not attack. Instead, he looked at Zhou Jing below the stage and spoke out,

“I want to challenge you, Zhou Jing. Do you dare to come up?”

Hearing this, Tang Liu was immediately unhappy.

"I'm still on the stage. You didn't even defeat me, so what right do you have to challenge the others?"

"I'm not interested in fighting you." The man's eyes flickered as he looked away.

"Do you think you can stop just because you say so?" Tang Liu snorted. "Zhou Jing is my younger brother. If you want to bully him, you're not giving me face. I have to teach you a lesson!"

Little brother? Everyone was stunned, as if they understood something and looked at Zhou Jing with disdain.

You, a 20-year-old adult, actually acknowledged a 14-year-old middle schooler as your "big brother"? Good lord, you don't even want your face anymore!

It seemed that this Class B knew that his standards were not good, so he found a child who was easy to fool as his backer. He was indeed the most useless... Many people thought about it and felt that they had guessed the reason. They could not help but feel envious... and disdainful.

However, Tang Liu did not think much of it. He even "quietly" gave Zhou Jing a look on the stage with a tacit understanding that he would protect him.

*"... I actually don't find it strange that they would think that way."* Zhou Jing held his forehead. However, despite being stared at by everyone in disdain, his mood was calm.

At this moment, Li Yun's serious voice sounded from the spectator stand.

"Tang Liu, you can go down first."

The goal of the mentor group was to observe everyone's combat strength. Everyone had to go on stage. No matter if they won or lost, they could fight a few more rounds and challenge others at will.

The speed at which Tang Liu instantly killed his opponent gave others almost no chance to perform. The instructors could not observe anything at all, so they naturally did not allow Tang Liu to continue dominating the arena.

Hearing this, Tang Liu immediately felt depressed. He felt that this was being biased and not letting him help his "little brother". He wanted to give the teacher the middle finger, but he did not dare to. He could only leave the stage gloomily.

The new student on the stage was overjoyed. He hooked his finger at Zhou Jing and urged, "Don't be in a daze. Come up. I'll choose to challenge you."

