

Astral Apostle

Chapter 51: Three Months (2)

Zhou Jing turned to look at the current effects of the two skills.

[Hunter's Breath·Forging]

[Current Level: Lv 4 – (Master)]

[Effect: Physical Fitness +3, Resistance +2]

[Weapon Mastery – Blade Technique]

[Current Level: Lv 4 – (Master)]

[Effect: Possesses exquisite blade skills. Physical Fitness +1]

Most of his training time was spent on these two skills, and the returns were quite good.

Zhou Jing opened Jason·Wood's Ability Profile. The attributes of this had also changed.

[Attributes: Physical Fitness 14, Resistance 11, Perception 5, Spirit 6, Energy 0]

Compared to three months ago, his physical fitness had clearly improved. He had not even been strengthened by the mutant blood, but he already had some signs of approaching the level of superhuman. This was really beyond Zhou Jing's expectations.

“It's mainly thanks to the Hunter's Breathing Technique...”

Zhou Jing thought that it was probably a coincidence that this skill had such an effect on him.

[Hunter's Breath: Forging] had a threshold for cultivation. Even if one knew that this skill was somewhat extraordinary, ordinary people could not practice it since it was extremely difficult to reach the threshold of cultivation and train normally. This became a vicious cycle.

He only managed to reach the threshold of cultivating this skill because of his apostle's high initial physical strength. After though he managed to solve this problem, it would be difficult for others to replicate it.

In the past three months, most of the Astral Points he had saved up had been thrown into these two skills. Among them, [Hunter's Breath·Forging] was the most expensive. He had thrown in 700 Astral Points to upgrade it to Level 4.

If he treated one descent, return, and placement as a shuttle cycle, then the daily benefits brought by Jason·Wood every cycle would be around 300 Astral Points. Other than the few simple achievements triggered by his first shuttle cycle, the next few cycles did not trigger many achievements.

Excluding the expenses from his Accelerated Learning, he still had 460 points left.

"After training to this extent, I should be able to take the blood potion. If I continue to develop like this, the investment will not be worth the returns..."

Just as Zhou Jing was silently calculating, Barong, who was supervising from the side, walked over.

"You've improved again?" Barong came to Zhou Jing and said in a bland voice.

"Yes, that seems to be the case. I feel like my strength has increased again."

Zhou Jing nodded and casually waved his saber, drawing out afterimages as he twirled it. The heavy saber in his hand was as light as a wooden stick.

Barong watched the scene calmly, his face expressionless.

In the past three months, he had constantly witnessed Zhou Jing's unbelievable growth speed. He slowly went from shocked to used to it.

He was already numb.

He could not understand what was going on with this Jason·Wood at all.

He doesn't even have the enhancement of the mutant blood, but with only some training, his physical strength was almost comparable to his?!

Is he actually a mutant beast in human skin!

His worldview was broken again and again. Barong had already given up on using his limited brain cells to think about such a confusing question. He attributed everything to Jason·Wood's extraordinary talent.

He grasped onto the core of contradiction and decided on a principle—as long as this Jason·Wood was planning to be a Mutant Beast Hunter, the more impressive he was, the better. He would not think about anything else.

Seeing that Barong did not answer, Zhou Jing raised his eyebrows and asked, “Do you think I can use the blood potion now?”

Sure, of course. Not to mention using the Mutant Blood Potion, you could even directly go and become a Mutant Blood Warrior without the potion...

Barong resisted the urge to roll his eyes and spoke out.

“Pack your things. We’ll set off for White Plains City at dawn tomorrow. I’ll bring you to get the Mutant Blood Potion!”

“Alright.”

Zhou Jing’s eyes lit up.

After three months of training, he had finally met Barong’s requirements. This time, he could finally come into contact with true supernatural powers!

...

Early the next morning, Zhou Jing brought Ross to meet Barong at the village entrance. They each brought their luggage and equipment.

Barong was still dressed like he had been during the hunt. Because the two-handed battle ax had been lost in the forest, it had probably been picked up by the Subterraneans. Therefore, he had asked the village blacksmith to forge a new ax. The workmanship was much cruder than the original weapon.

Zhou Jing, on the other hand, was wearing a hunter’s uniform. There was a dagger at his waist and a heavy black saber on his back.

This heavy saber was forged by a blacksmith at the east end of the village using the hard iron used to make farm tools. Other than being relatively heavy, it had no other characteristics. It was usually used for training, but of course, it could also be used to chop people... To be precise, it could be used to fling people away.

Ross, on the other hand, was carrying pots and pans on his back, looking like a chef... After being influenced by Zhou Jing for the past few months, he had actually learned how to cook!

Although he was currently limited to heating food, it was already a huge improvement!

Zhou Jing was extremely relieved. He finally did not have to be a nanny anymore. He could finally enjoy the service of a follower!

It was a distance from Frostwood Village to White Plains Town. Other than the ox cart, there were no other transportation tools in the village. They usually entered the city on foot.

However, although they were on foot, with their endurance, they ran even faster than being pulled on ox carts.

Even if he brought Ross along, it wouldn't take long.

However, apart from the three of them, there discovered another uninvited guest at the village entrance.

"Uncle Jason, Uncle Barong, can you take me to the town with you?"

Reiner hugged Zhou Jing's thigh and looked up, blinking his big eyes to act cute, his face full of flattery and pleading.

"I'm going to do something serious. I don't have time to bring you along."

Zhou Jing shook his legs helplessly, wanting to shake Reiner off.

After all, he was Griff's son. He did not beat up the little kid whenever he got annoyed, causing the little kid to stick to him more and more.

"Don't, I'm very obedient. I'll listen to you along the way. If you want me to eat, I'll eat. If you want me to sleep, I'll sleep!"

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"Be good?" Barong snorted. "Did your father say you could go out?"

"He... he agreed!" Reiner replied stiffly.

Zhou Jing suddenly looked up behind Reiner. "Eh, Griff, you're up early too. Are you here to catch your son?"

"Aiya, Dad!"

Startled, Reiner quickly let go and turned to look behind him.

Huu... A gust of cold wind blew past. There was no sign of Griff at all.

“You guys lied to me!”

Reiner turned around angrily, only to see that Zhou Jing and the other two had already fled.

...

From Frostwood Village to White Plains City, the road was one of unpolished natural scenery. The terrain was mostly plains and hills, occasionally dotted with small forests.

The dirt road was sometimes empty, and sometimes there would only be a roadside sign after a long distance. If one was not familiar with the direction, it was easy to get lost. Barong was an old timer, so there was naturally no possibility of him getting lost.

There was no delay along the way. Zhou Jing and Barong ran with all their might, occasionally carrying Ross on their shoulders. It did not take long for the three of them to reach their destination.

After walking out of a small forest, the view in the distance suddenly widened. They caught sight of a town sitting on a small hill.

The gray walls were formed by stone bricks and surrounded the entire town. Some houses in the town were taller than the walls, creating a scene where the roofs emerged from behind the walls in a disorderly manner.

“This is White Plains Town...” Zhou Jing cast his sight out.

He was used to seeing buildings from the interstellar era, so to him, this town had nothing to do with grandeur. In his opinion, it was just a small town with simple ancient city walls. It was at most four to five meters tall.

However, to the residents of this era’s Mutant Beast World, it was already a medium-sized city of considerable scale.

“Let’s go into the town.”

Barong patted Zhou Jing on the shoulder.

They arrived at the city gate, only to see that many people were queuing up to enter the city. There were farmers, merchants, and even Mutant Beast Hunter carrying weapons on their backs.

The fully loaded ox carts crowded together like in a mosh pit. The traveling merchants chatted with people in the Northern dialect, and it was extremely lively.

There were four guards in front of the city gate, all clad in studded leather armor, with a simple round helmet on their heads. The short spears in their hands were knocking on the goods of the ox cart as they interrogated the people entering the city.

There were four fortress cities in the north of the Terra Empire, while there were dozens of towns like White Plains Town. White Plains Town was one of the more remote ones, but it was still considered a town. It was still much more lively than the remote Frostwood Village. The farmers, passers-by, travelers, mercenaries, and mutant beast hunters in the surrounding villages would all congregate here.

Soon, it was Zhou Jing and company's turn.

When the guard saw Barong dressed as a mutant beast hunter, he came up to enquire with a respectful attitude.

After Barong revealed that he was a hunter stationed in Frostwood Village, the guards immediately let him in. The three of them entered the town together.

Just as Barong had said, mutant beast hunters were an honorable profession. They fought against mutant beasts all year round and resolved the threat of human survival. They were indeed very prestigious among the people. Almost no town would reject mutant beast hunters.

Walking on the noisy streets, Barong told Zhou Jing about the situation in the city.

"Including me, there are about 30 mutant beast hunters who have been active around White Plains Town for a long time. Most of the threats from the mutant beasts in the vicinity were dealt with by us. Most of the time, we are scattered in different areas. Some are hunters who are stationed here, while others are hunters who roam around. Usually, it's only in White Plains Town that it's easy to meet the others. This time, I brought you here primarily to strengthen yourself with the blood potion, as well as to let you know the others and let you know how to do things after becoming a Mutant Beast Hunter."

Zhou Jing nodded and observed the medieval-style buildings on the street. He casually asked, "Not counting the hunters, how many troops does White Plains Town have?"

"There should be three to four hundred regulars in the town. They're all Lord Lutt-Crowe's men... Hmph, there should be a few Mutant Blood Warriors among them."

Barong could not help but look disdainful when he said the last sentence.

Zhou Jing looked at him curiously. "You seem to hate this lord?"

"That's not the case. Lord Lutt is actually alright. He's a blood relative of the tribe and has been protecting White Plains Town all these years. The town is not only a

settlement, but also responsible for eliminating the threat of mutant beasts around it. He's never stingy with the bounty to gather hunters. Many times, he has sent his troops to help hunt... Although it's within the scope of the lord's duties, at least he's considered competent."

After explaining a little, Barong paused and snorted. "What I hate is the group of Mutant Blood Warriors who are recruited by the lord and are his guards."

"What do you mean? Do they have a conflict with you?" Zhou Jing was interested.

"It's not that they have a conflict with me," Barong said unhappily. "These people have survived the strengthening of the mutant blood, but they don't use this strength to deal with the mutant beasts. Instead, they gather around the lord for power or wealth. When we hunt the mutant beasts, they hide behind in safety. What is this? We hunters have will always look down on such cowards!"

Zhou Jing understood what had happened now.

Both parties had received the enhancement of the mutant blood. But while the Mutant Beast Hunters went to fight the mutant beasts, these people hid at the back and acted as guards for the lord. They did not have to go to the battlefield.

Under the professional tradition of seeking glory, Mutant Beast Hunters would definitely look down on these Mutant Blood Warriors who did not dare to be hunters. This should be a long-standing chain of contempt.

In the tribal era, the pressure to survive was huge. Warriors who successfully strengthened themselves with mutant blood were basically all meant to be Mutant Beast Hunters to protect their tribes.

But in the current era of the empire, those with supernatural powers had different thoughts... Compared to the Mutant Beast Hunters, who were dancing on a knife's edge every other day, it seemed safer and more comfortable to rely on this power to obtain wealth and authority.

In any case, with someone else as the Mutant Beast Hunter, others didn't want to take the risk. It was not easy for them to obtain power, so of course, they should think about their own interests... That was probably what they were thinking.

This is probably the difference between Supers in this world... After people obtain supernatural powers, their thoughts are not as simple as before.

Zhou Jing shook his head. He couldn't help but think of Barong's occasional nagging that hunters nowadays were impure.

He did not think much of it. This was human nature. As the external pressure lessened, the human heart would also become complicated.

However, as this concept slowly spread to the entire society, there might be fewer and fewer orthodox mutant beast hunters who could uphold the glory of Mutant Beast Hunters and take on the responsibility of resisting mutant beasts...

So in the past three months, Barong often talked about the glory of being a Mutant Beast Hunter and instilled it into me... Is he worried that I won't be a Mutant Beast Hunter?? Zhou Jing thought to himself.

He understood Barong's worry, but this 's [Life Objective] was basically related to becoming a Mutant Beast Hunter.

To collect the Information State particles, he needed to clear the level as quickly as possible. Not only did he have to be a hunter, but he also had to achieve some results in this industry.

Chapter 53: Ross: I Really Want To Test The Medicine, Really (1)

When it came to the topic of Mutant Beast Hunters being inferior to the past, Barong sighed. Clearly, he hated this situation.

Zhou Jing suddenly rolled his eyes. "Speaking of which, is it necessary for the lord to recruit Mutant Blood Warriors? If you even need such people to be your guards, who are you guarding against?"

"Who knows." Barong scratched his head, then his expression turned serious. "Don't even think about accepting the lord's recruitment. If you're bribed for a little money, I'll look down on you too."

"That won't happen."

Zhou Jing waved his hand casually, but he was already analyzing his heart.

The lord would definitely not spend money to recruit supernatural beings as guards like collecting stamps.

There seemed to be only a few reasons. They were afraid of the Mutant Beast Hunters themselves, afraid of other lords, wary of people taking the risk to assassinate them, and so on...

He rather suspected that one of the lords had recruited a Mutant Blood Warrior first. When the other lords saw this, then naturally, they would do the same...? *In the first place, why did that lord recruit a supernatural being for no reason? Did he want to mess with them?*

Therefore, the various lords followed suit and started recruiting the Mutant Blood Warriors. They started an “arms race,” and everything snowballed to become the current situation!

“Well, although this world is united, Terra has been established for 40 years. It’s naturally for there to be signs of internal strife.”

Zhou Jing started to connect the dots.

He had asked around. The lords of the Terra Empire usually only ruled over one town and the surrounding villages, but the origins of the lords were divided into two types. If the town was transformed from the tribal settlement, then the lord was most likely a blood relative of this tribe. If the town was newly built after the empire was established, then the lord was most likely an imperial official sent by the empire.

There was both the shadow of the feudal system and the shadow of the county official system present. When Zhao Jing first found out, he felt that it was a little strange, but now that he thought about it, there seemed to be some sort of politics involved.

When the Terra Empire was first established, it was in the form of various tribal alliances and was not unified. Therefore, the forces of the tribes still remained in the empire and eventually turned into county regions with a certain degree of autonomy. They only listened to the orders of the “Royal Family.”

The Lord of White Plains City, Lutt Crowe, was a blood relative of a tribe. The White Plains Town was also originally a tribal settlement. To a certain extent, this city and the surrounding villages first belonged to Lutt’s tribe, then to the city of the empire.

Zhou Jing had already figured out the meaning of blood relatives in the tribe.

In the past, humans had reproduced in the form of tribes. After a long period of development, some of the tribesmen had spread out and formed a huge family network within the tribe. Therefore, they took a surname and passed it down so that it would be easier to recognize each other. This was the origin of the term “blood relatives of the tribe.”

Each surname represented a large family clan in a certain tribe. They were the majority within the tribe, and they generally had a higher status, which was equivalent to being the main branch of the tribe. However, in the Wilderness Era, because survival was difficult, everyone focused on grouping up for warmth. There was not much difference between those who were blood relatives and other members of the tribe.

However, after Terra was established, the major tribes formed an alliance and merged into the country. The living environment gradually stabilized, and some blood relatives of the tribes began to become active in various fields such as politics, business, and the military.

Relying on the advantages of having many family members and connections and controlling the resources of the tribe, they accumulated power and wealth step by step, gradually separating themselves from ordinary people... In Zhou Jing's opinion, this was the early stage of the origin of this world's nobles.

Barong did not care much about politics and only knew a little about it. However, based on his understanding of the situation, Zhou Jing felt that these blood relatives of the tribe that had gradually formed a nobles-only interest group would most likely be one of the problems the Terra Empire would face in the future.

So this system of having a county versus a feudal lord is probably a deliberate resistance by the ruler of the Terra Empire...? Zhou Jing thought to himself.

Although the mutant beasts were the main threat to humans in this world, and the environment was united against outsiders... he did not believe that there was no internal strife even after many tribes established their own counties. That did not conform to what history showed.

Let's not think about this for now...? Zhou Jing shook his head. He was just used to analyzing things, but he also knew that these things were a little far away from him. Right now, he only wanted to obtain supernatural powers.

...

The town was quite lively. They turned a few streets and quickly arrived at a building. There was a wooden sign of a beast head hanging on the door, and there were two guards beside it.

This was the hunting workshop of White Plains Town.

Compared to the other lively streets, this place was much quieter. The ordinary residents in the city usually would not approach this section.

At this moment, there was a handcart parked in front of the hunting workshop. On the handcart was the corpse of a silver-gray wolf. A Mutant Beast Hunter with a spear on his back was bargaining with a workshop staff.

When he saw Zhou Jing and the other two walking over, the Mutant Beast Hunter subconsciously turned his head and sized them up. Suddenly, he smiled and raised his hand to greet them.

“Hey, Barong, we meet again.”

“Haha, it’s you, Weiss.”

Barong laughed. They obviously knew each other well.

Walking to the side of the cart, Barong glanced at the wolf’s corpse.

“Another gain? Crescent Toothed Wolf... not bad prey.”

The Mutant Beast Hunter called Weiss laughed when he heard that. “I was lucky. This monster wanted to kill me, but I lowered my head to avoid it and stabbed its balls. Then it was easy to take it down.”

As he spoke, Weiss glanced at Zhou Jing and asked curiously, “Who is this? Is he a new Mutant Beast Hunter from White Plains Town?”

Barong shook his head. “His name is Jason Wood. He’s a genius I met. He’s been training with me for the past few months. I came to the town this time to bring him here to strengthen himself through the Mutant Blood Potion.”

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“Genius?”

Weiss was very interested and sized up Zhou Jing.

“I...” Zhou Jing had just opened his mouth to say hello.

However, all of a sudden, Weiss lowered his body and disappeared from sight.

In the next moment, Zhou Jing realized that a pair of muscular arms had grabbed his waist from behind. A huge force erupted, wanting to uproot him and throw him out.

He wants to perform a suplex on me? Is this how hunters greet each other?

Zhou Jing subconsciously pressed down on the arms around his waist with both hands. Then, he crossed his legs and took a horse stance. One of his legs was wrapped around Weiss’ feet behind him, preventing him from being lifted up.

The two of them fell into a wrestling position.

Weiss could not help but laugh. "Aiyo, kid, you have guts. How dare you compete in strength with a proper Mutant Beast Hunter like me. You..."

He was halfway through his sentence when his expression changed.

He suddenly realized that with his strength, he could not move Zhou Jing at all!

Although he was not a strength-type, his strength still belonged to the realm of the supernaturals. He should still be able to suppress an ordinary person?!

Zhou Jing held Weiss's arm tightly and slowly but steadily pried it open from his waist.

As soon as he broke free from the hug, he suddenly let go. His body exploded backward, and his shoulder and back hit Weiss's chest.

Peng!

Thick muscles collided with a muffled sound.

Weiss staggered back a few steps before he stabilized himself. He grimaced and looked at Zhou Jing in surprise.

Barong had been watching from the side and did not stop him. Only now did he gloat.

"How is it, Weiss? Suffered a loss, didn't you? Don't think that Jason is weak just because he doesn't have the enhancement of Mutant blood. You might not be as strong as him."

"...What's with this guy?"

Weiss rubbed his chest as he let out a yelp of surprise.

He had wanted to test the physical fitness of the "genius" that Barong mentioned. It would be best if he knocked him to the ground before encouraging and educating him with words like "the future belongs to your generation." He did not expect this outcome.

An ordinary person was almost stronger than him!

If such a talented person received the enhancement of the mutant blood, he would be able to catch up to the combat power of those at the second enhancement.

Weiss's scalp felt numb. Only then did he understand what Barong meant by the term "genius."

At this moment, Zhou Jing shook his hand and stared at Weiss. "Your way of greeting is quite unique."

He didn't really mind. Mutant beast hunters mostly valued martial arts. Although it was a little strange for them to test him the moment they met, it might be a common situation in this primitive world's hunter culture.

In the past few months, Zhou Jing had already learned to do as the Romans did. He tried his best not to use the concept of the interstellar era to evaluate their style of doing things.

Weiss rubbed his chest muscles and grinned. "Haha, don't mind me. I just want to see how strong you are to see if you can withstand the enhancement of the mutant blood... It seems like you're definitely fine. You almost flattened my chest."

After saying that, he paused and pressed his thumb against his chest.

"I'm Weiss, an old friend of Barong's. I'm also one of the hunters active around White Plains Town for a long time. Perhaps we can hunt side by side in the future."

"Maybe."

Zhou Jing nodded.

Barong raised his chin. "We'll stay in the city for the next few days. I'll see you at the Hunter's Tavern."

"Alright, then you guys go ahead. I'll continue selling my prey."

Weiss nodded and turned back to continue bargaining with the workshop staff.

"Come, let's go in."

Barong patted Zhou Jing and walked toward the hunting workshop.

...

The two of them entered the workshop, walking into a large hall. There were mutant beast specimens hanging on the walls and equipment made from different mutant beast materials placed on the shelves.

The job of the hunting workshop was to process the prey submitted by the Mutant Beast Hunters, create the mutant blood potion, and make all kinds of equipment. Then, it would be provided back to the hunters.

According to the laws of the Terra Empire, every town had to have a hunter's workshop. The empire's central government would allocate funds, but the lord would also have the responsibility to maintain it and be responsible for a portion of the funds.

The Empire's most important support for the workshop was actually to provide technicians.

Since not every town could recruit qualified mutant blood pharmacists and craftsmen, thus, the important technicians of the various workshops were trained or deployed by the empire to be assigned to them... In other words, their standards were guaranteed.

Seeing that someone had come, the workshop staff behind the counter immediately walked up and greeted them with a smile.

"Hunters, do you need anything?"

Barong nodded. "I'm Barong from Frostwood Village. I've submitted my prey here many times, and have my records here. I plan to use them to exchange for the blood potion."

Hearing this, the workshop staff asked them to wait for a moment before he went to the inner room to report.

A short while later, a thin man walked out. He was wearing an exquisite robe and seemed to have an extraordinary status.

"Barong, we meet again. I almost can't remember the last time you visited." As soon as the thin man saw Barong, he opened his arms and made a welcoming gesture, his tone smiling.

"I was injured some time ago and was recuperating."

Barong then explained in a low voice to Zhou Jing, saying that the person in front of him was the person in charge of the White Plains Town Hunter Workshop.

"I see." The person in charge of the workshop nodded. Then, he changed the topic. "You said that you wanted a new blood potion. Are you finally ready to try the second enhancement?"

"It's not me. It's to strengthen him." Barong pointed at Zhou Jing.

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The person in charge of the workshop looked at Zhou Jing before asking curiously.

"Who is this?"

"Jason Wood..." Zhou Jing had no choice but to introduce himself again.

The person in charge of the workshop sized up Zhou Jing curiously but did not say anything. After a simple introduction, he agreed to Barong's request.

"Barong, you have seven recorded entries in the workshop. You can take the potion whenever you want. Come with me. I'll show you the inventory and see which potion you want to choose."

With that, the person in charge of the workshop made an inviting gesture and led the group into the workshop's warehouse.

After passing through a winding corridor, they arrived at a warehouse filled with boxes.

The person in charge of the workshop picked up a thick notebook from the shelf by the door and flipped to one of the pages before handing it to Barong and Zhou Jing.

"We have 11 sets of blood potions in our inventory now. The materials used and the possible direction of enhancement are all written on it. Take a look at which one you want."

The Mutant Blood Potion that one could exchange for mainly depended on what inventory the Hunter's Workshop had. Of course, if they were not to one's liking, he could make an appointment and come back to get them when the workshop had more stock.

Or, to be more direct, one could hunt down the mutant beasts they liked and bring them over for the workshop to process.

Zhou Jing's eyes swept through the list.

Iron-armored Beast Potion, Ridgeback Dragon Potion, Bizarre Bird Potion...

In addition to physical training, he had also learned some knowledge about mutant beasts from Barong. At this moment, he could recognize most of the mutant beasts that were being used for the potions.

"How's the quality of this batch?" Barong asked casually as he looked through the catalog as well.

The person in charge of the workshop said, "Three of them are new works, seven are the works of skilled pharmacists, and one is the work of a pharmacist who performed exceptionally well."

"Then we're in luck." Barong laughed and turned to look at Zhou Jing. "Take a look. Is that high-quality mutant blood potion the strengthening direction you want? If there's no problem, I'll choose it."

Over the past few days, Zhou Jing had already heard Barong talk about the mechanism of strengthening through the mutant blood potion. Choosing the first mutant blood potion was very important, and it almost determined one's path of strengthening in the future.

The first potion that Barong used was mainly focused on strength and defense. It was good at fighting head-on and was suitable for being an MT1.

In addition, the better the quality of the medicine, the harder it was to inherit the weakness of the mutated beasts used.

Zhou Jing looked at the materials for this high-quality potion—Lightning Strike Leopard Potion.

This was a type of mutated beast that specialized in speed and explosive power. It also had a special ability to discharge electricity. It belonged to the category of high-risk mutated beasts. Its strengthening direction was Agility, reaction speed, explosive power, and a certain level of electric resistance.

A high Agility, highly explosive route... Seems good.

Zhou Jing was a little tempted.

Compared to pure strength, agility and reaction speed in battle might be more useful.

However...

Zhou Jing pondered for a few seconds before suddenly speaking.

"Barong, this request might be a little sudden, but... can I take two potions? Just take it as I'm taking out a loan from you."

Barong froze.

"You want two blood potions? What for?"

It's useless to take too much of this thing. He can only use one... does he want to strengthen himself twice in a row immediately? Does he want to die?

Even if you're talented, you can't do that!

Seeing Barong's expression, Zhou Jing knew that he had misunderstood. He immediately waved his hand and explained.

"I don't intend to strengthen myself continuously. I just want to have another option... I already owe you a favor for your help in exchanging a bottle of potion for me. I definitely can't use your second potion for nothing. Just think that I borrowed it."

He had indeed taken a fancy to the Lightning Strike Leopard Potion, but he did not intend to use it directly.

The danger of the blood potion was still unknown. He decided to take another blood potion to satisfy Ross's wishes and let this loyal follower obtain the opportunity to test the potion he had always dreamed of so as to contribute to the organization.

On the other hand, he would watch from the side to see how the effect was and what kind of performance one would display after taking the potion. Only then would he have an idea.

Although Jason Wood's abilities could be inherited even if he died, Zhou Jing felt that it was better to be careful when facing the strengthening of the mutant blood for the first time.

Barong touched his bald head, still not understanding Zhou Jing's reason.

What's the point of having another choice? In any case, he still has to use the best potion in the end.

However, he did not probe further. Ever since his worldview had been overturned by Zhou Jing, this had become his habit.

"Alright, I'll take it that you borrowed it... Although I still don't quite understand what you mean, it's fine as long as you don't use the potion continuously." Barong agreed.

Actually, he didn't care. Instead, he had accumulated a lot of records, and he didn't intend to strengthen himself a second time in a short while, so it wasn't a problem to give Zhou Jing another one.

Moreover, since he said that he would return it in the future, Barong had no objections.

Zhou Jing was not sure if Barong would agree. Seeing that he did not refuse, he was relieved.

He looked at the list again before saying, "Then give me this Lightning Strike Leopard Potion and... the Black-Handed Fox Potion."

Most of the strengthening aspects of the Mutant Blood Potion were strength, endurance, agility, and so on. As for the Black-Handed Fox, it was a mutated beast that was good at concealment and stealth, so its strengthening direction was special.

The workshop manager quickly took out two wooden boxes from the warehouse and opened them.

There was a bottle of bright red potion in each box, and the name of the potion was marked on the bottles.

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“These are the two bottles of blood potion you wanted.” The workshop manager handed the box to Zhou Jing and asked, “Are you going to strengthen yourself now? We can provide a room.”

“No need. I’ll go back and prepare.”

Zhou Jing shook his head in response.

He only needed to drink the blood potion. There was no other process, so there was not much difference between using it in private and using it here... If there was no problem, he naturally would not need any assistance, but if there was a problem, no amount of assistance would save him either.

He would go back and test the medicine on Ross. There was no need to let Barong know about this for the time being.

The person in charge of the workshop smiled and said, “Alright, then I look forward to seeing you again... Of course, it will be a you who has already become a Mutant Beast Hunter.”

“Thank you.” Zhou Jing nodded.

He looked down at the blood potion in the box, his heart pounding.

The “key” was already in his hands.

Next, he had to see if he could use this “key” to open the door to the supernatural world.

...

It was already afternoon by the time they finished changing the potions. The two of them left the workshop and found an inn in the city.

Barong paid for the room for three days and turned to look at Zhou Jing.

“Rest first. I’m going out to meet a few friends. You’d better wait for me to come back before using the medicine. That way, I can help you keep an eye on things so that no one will disturb you.”

“Alright, I need some time to think about it and adjust my state.”

Zhou Jing nodded and spoke as if it was a serious matter.

After watching Barong leave, Zhou Jing brought Ross back to his room. He rejected the special service that the inn maid hinted at and closed the door.

For a moment, only the two of them were left in the room.

After Zhou Jing confirmed that the doors and windows were all closed, he took out the Black-Handed Fox Potion and handed it to Ross.

“Brother, now is the time for you to contribute to the organization.”

Ross glanced at Zhou Jing before looking down at the potion in his hand. He did not move.

He did not object, so it meant that he agreed!

Zhou Jing pressed Ross’s shoulder hard and said in a solemn tone.

“Be good and drink it all.”

Ross nodded silently, pulled out the cork, raised his head, and drank the Black-Handed Fox Potion in one gulp.

Zhou Jing stared at the side, watching for his next reaction.

However, after waiting for more than ten minutes, Ross still stood rooted to the ground. Nothing happened.

Zhou Jing: (☹_☹)

Ross: (o _ O)

The two of them stared at each other. Ross’s eyes appeared quite innocent.

No reaction? Was the potion expired, or is his follower’s physique special?

Zhou Jing scratched his head.

Just as he was about to check to see if something was wrong...

Crack, crack, crack—

A series of crackling noises came from Ross’ bones.

Black blood vessels quickly bulged on his face, twisting like small snakes. His body twitched from time to time as if it was an unconscious reflex.

However, Ross remained expressionless as he stared at Zhou Jing.

If he didn't know better, Zhou Jing would have thought that this was a cold-blooded killer who didn't feel pain or emotions.

"Looks like the potion takes a certain amount of time to metabolize! The finale is coming!"

Zhou Jing immediately perked up.

He quickly carried the mentality of doing research and carefully observed the changes in Ross's body.

In the past three months, he had grown rapidly, but Ross' attributes did not increase at all. Just like at the beginning, he was completely at the level of an ordinary person.

The stronger one's body was, the higher the success rate of using the blood potion. As for ordinary people, although there was a chance of success, the success rate was very slim.

However, with Ross's aptitude, how long would it take for him to improve his attributes to an acceptable level?

Therefore, it would be a waste not to use a supernatural item like the Mutant Blood Potion!

Zhou Jing let Ross be the first to undergo the blood enhancement. Other than testing the medicine, he also wanted Ross to take a gamble.

In any case, every had a chance to revive its followers for free. If Ross died because of this, he could also pull him back.

And if Ross succeeded, it would be very beneficial for Zhou Jing.

If his gamble paid off, he would gain a powerful follower. If he failed, the follower would just be as stupid as before.

If he didn't gamble now, he would never have a chance again.

...

As time passed, the dim sky outside the window was gradually replaced by the night.

The bulging veins on Ross's face gradually calmed, and his body stopped twitching.

During this process, the muscles on his body vaguely enlarged, but they did not swell too much. If one did not look carefully, it was not easy to notice.

Zhou Jing poked Ross's chest. It was different from the previous dry feeling he got. It was now very elastic.

"Is this a success?"

Ross's gaze was still following Zhou Jing as he nodded imperceptibly.

Zhou Jing was pleasantly surprised. He opened the follower's attribute panel to take a look.

[Ross (Apprentice) has obtained the Extraordinary Power System: Mutant Blood Warrior!]

[Mutant Blood Warrior: First Enhancement (Black-Handed Fox)]

[Effect: +9 Physical Fitness, +7 Resistance, +6 Perception]

[Attributes: Physical Fitness 14, Resistance 12, Perception 10, Spirit 5, Energy 0]

[Additional Traits: [Night Vision], [Lithe Movement], [Night Camouflage].]

Chapter 57: Mutant Blood Strengthening (1)

"Wow, this dumbass's luck is not bad. An ordinary person has such a low success rate, but he somehow managed to get enhanced."

Zhou Jing clicked his tongue.

He had heard from Barong that among the 50 ordinary people who had not undergone training, only two or three of them had managed to successfully strengthen themselves with mutant blood. Ross' luck attribute was really a little good.

Could the heavens really favor idiots?

Zhou Jing shook his head and ordered, "Take off your clothes and give them to me."

Ross took off his shirt without expression.

His originally ordinary body now had streamlined muscles. It was a muscular but lean figure.

“Good figure... put it on.”

Zhou Jing nodded and noted down the obvious changes in Ross's body.

The change was not big. It was fine so long as he was covered. He would not be discovered so easily.

He watched the entire process and had a rough idea of the process of strengthening the mutant blood. After the potion began to metabolize, the body would begin to change. There would be a certain amount of pain in the process, but one would still retain their mobility. One's strength would continue to increase in this state until the potion's effect was fully utilized. The entire process would take about three to four hours.

This time, Ross won the bet. Zhou Jing was quite excited about the result.

Now that Ross had obtained supernatural power, his follower was finally useful.

Although the enhancement was limited, and he was a whiteboard without any other combat skills, he could still more or less be considered a combatant now. At the very least, it was not a problem to bully ordinary people...

“Night vision, lithe movements, night camouflage... Suitable for stealth, reconnaissance, and concealment. This is indeed the direction of enhancement.”

Zhou Jing looked at the introduction on the interface.

The super system of the [Mutant Blood Warrior] would bring about some characteristics every time it was strengthened, depending on the potion used and the effect of this enhancement.

Ross's three characteristics were all suitable for stealth. Coupled with his common face, his presence diminished even further.

He had chosen this blood potion for Ross because he wanted Ross to take the stealth route. Ross would definitely need to do some things that were inconvenient for him to do personally.

He was kind-hearted and did not want Ross to lose the chance to “contribute.”

For example, surveillance and stalking, as well as the thrilling art of monster luring... He knew that Ross liked this kind of work the most, and his face full of willingness showed his desire.

Such an ability was not suitable for a head-on battle. At most, it could serve as a distraction. Zhou Jing was also well aware of this point.

He did not expect his follower to be able to withstand the mutated beasts even after the strengthening. After all, his followers only had an ordinary person's initial attributes. Without the foundation of the 's attribute, even if the enhancement succeeded, his direct combat strength would still be limited.

Moreover, with Ross's rigidity towards following instructions, Zhou Jing did not dare to let him take charge. It was better for him to be an assistant.

"Ross is suitable for night operations. Although he has the foundation of a Super now, he doesn't have many skills at the moment. He still needs to practice before he can enter actual combat."

"Next, it's my turn to strengthen... Hmm, let's wait for Barong to come back first."

Zhou Jing composed himself as he remembered Barong's instructions.

He asked Ross to keep a low profile while he silently adjusted his mental state.

...

It was only when the guards outside rang the bell and began the routine curfew did Barong then return to his hotel room.

Zhou Jing opened his eyes and shook his head. "Why are you only back now? I've been waiting for you for a long time."

Barong rubbed the back of his head and smiled in embarrassment.

"Haha, sorry, sorry. I met a few friends and chatted for a while... Are you ready?"

"I'm fine. I can use the blood potion now."

"Then I'll watch from the side. If anything goes wrong, I'll... Uh, I can't do anything if something goes wrong. I can only help you guard the door."

Or collect a corpse... Barong did not finish the sentence. It was not auspicious to start off such a major task by saying such things.

He took a chair and sat by the door with his arms crossed. His eyes were wide open. From this angle, he looked like a door deity.

Zhou Jing retracted his gaze and took a deep breath. He picked up the Lightning Strike Leopard Potion and drank it in one gulp.

Boom!!!

It was as if he had swallowed a mouthful of lightning, and his body shook as if he had been electrocuted.

After a while, the medicine slowly took effect. The veins on his face bulged. He felt his flesh and bones being twisted like a towel, and waves of pain surged out.

“Hiss...”

Zhou Jing took a deep breath and gritted his teeth as he endured the pain.

Waves of power were born along with the pain. He could feel his body slowly becoming stronger with the pain. His physical fitness seemed to have broken through some kind of boundary and rose steadily.

But, even though it felt very painful, it didn't seem to be that difficult to endure. Could this body's talent... [Tenacity] be taking effect?

Barong could not take his eyes off him, watching worriedly from the side.

He felt that with Zhou Jing's exaggerated physique, it was impossible for him to fail in strengthening. But, before it became a fact, he could not help but feel nervous and worried.

After all, this was the first time he had seen such a case. He did not know what would happen if an ordinary person, who was no weaker than a Mutant Blood Warrior, enhanced his basic body.

Time passed minute by minute. Zhou Jing's entire body trembled slightly, and his sweat drenched the floor.

About three hours later, the pain gradually subsided and turned into a scalding numbness.

Zhou Jing felt as if he had been reborn, and his entire body was filled with a powerful aura.

He could not help but clench his fists. He had the illusion that he could smash anything he saw at this moment.

“There are no symptoms of discomfort... The enhancement was successful, right?”

He took a deep breath and glanced at the interface. The message had already flooded the screen.

[Obtained Extraordinary Power System (Mutant Blood Warrior)]

[Mutant Blood Warrior: First Enhancement (Lightning Strike Leopard)]

Chapter 58: Mutant Blood Strengthening (2)

[Effect: +12 Physical Fitness, +9 Resistance, +6 Perception]

[Attributes: Physical Fitness 26 (Level 1), Resistance 20 (Level 1), Perception 11 (Level 1), Spirit 6 (Level 1), Energy 0 (Level 0)]

[Additional Traits: [High Speed Stance], [Lightning Reflexes], [Low-level Lightning Resistance], [Thunder Strike] (Special)]

[High Speed Stance]

[Effect: Your movements are more agile. Attack, parry, and movement speeds all increase.]

[Lightning Reflexes]

[Effect: Your nerve conduction speed is faster, and your reaction speed is quicker.]

[Low-level Lightning Resistance]

[Effect: You have some slight resistance to electric shocks.]

[Thunder Strike (Special)]

[Effect: Your instantaneous explosive power will be greatly increased. When holding your breath, you can enter the “Thunder Strike” state, consuming a large amount of stamina to obtain further explosive power for a short period of time.]

“With four characteristics, the enhancement effect should be very outstanding.”

Zhou Jing was delighted.

The characteristics granted by the enhancement of the mutant blood depended on the mutant beast from which the potion came. One could technically get as many abilities as the mutant beast had.

However, when two people used the same blood potion, the actual characteristics they obtained might not be exactly the same. It depended on the quality of the potion, the physical fitness of the user, and other factors. The stronger the user, the higher the chance of inheriting more powerful characteristics.

For him, his basic physical fitness far exceeded that of ordinary people. His enhancement was quite impressive, far better than Ross.

“26 points of Physical Fitness and 20 points of Resistance... My current level has already far exceeded Barong’s. I should be able to crush a First Enhancement Mutant Blood Warrior... I wonder if I’ve reached the standard of Second Enhancement.”

Zhou Jing’s thoughts raced.

After strengthening, his attributes increased greatly, but he was still at Level One. For the time being, he did not know what the dividing line was.

He carefully experienced the changes brought about by the enhancement. His reaction speed was now extremely fast, and he could feel sparks like electricity running along inside him.

His body was very light, and he was quite strong. His instantaneous movements could produce a huge explosive force.

He casually punched out an afterimage in the air. With a bang, the sound of his sleeves rubbing against each other sounded like an explosion.

Seeing this, Barong was finally relieved. He laughed happily—his beard trembling.

“I knew you would definitely succeed in strengthening it. How do you feel now?”

“I feel like I can fight ten people now.” Zhou Jing moved his shoulders.

“Haha, it’s normal. When I first strengthened my body, I also felt this way. A suddenly strengthened body will become difficult to control. You can get used to it after a certain amount of time. You’ll understand what you can do after being strengthened, and you can regain control.”

Barong spoke of his own experience.

Zhou Jing blinked.

“It’s difficult to control? I don’t feel this way... I’ll guess I have time to find out.”

However, he did not retort and nodded as he listened to Barong’s teachings.

“With your physique, I’m afraid you’re almost at the level of a Second Enhancement now. It’s imperative for you to practice control.” Barong was a little envious and congratulated him. “From now on, you’re a Mutant Blood Warrior. You’re no longer an ordinary person. Tomorrow, I’ll bring you to change your equipment and buy some medicine... I’ll lend you the money first. You can pay me back in the future.”

“Okay.” Zhou Jing did not reject Barong’s kindness. He really needed some help at this moment.

“Have a good rest tonight.”

Barong nodded and did not say anything more.

He had also experienced strengthening before, so he knew that Zhou Jing would definitely be excited to study the changes in his body. Hence, he did not stay in the room anymore and returned to the room next door, leaving Zhou Jing some private space.

He was curious about Zhou Jing’s standards after being enhanced, but he restrained himself after some thought.

Someone who finished strengthening could not control their own strength. And it was already late, so Barong didn’t want to disturb the neighbors.

He wasn’t a coward—he just didn’t think there was a need to test it in the middle of the night...

After sending Barong off and closing the door, Zhou Jing did not continue to have a tense expression. His eyes flickered with excitement.

He quickly took off his shirt and looked down at the changes in his body.

His body was originally strong and muscular, but now, his muscles were streamlined, and his body contours were clear. His eight-pack abs were well-defined, and his abdominal lines were deep. His entire body was more streamlined.

He could clearly feel that his originally strong body was even more explosive now.

On the interface, an achievement was also displayed.

[Triggered achievement [Achieve Transcendence (Unique)].]

[Obtained 1,000 Astral Points! [Aptitude Enhancement – Comprehensive (Small)] x1!]

—Obtaining his first Supernatural system triggered this achievement, as well as an achievement reward giving him a small increase in all his aptitudes.

Physical Enhancement was a supernatural power, after all. This was the first time he experienced it, and he felt completely different. He was extremely energetic.

Although more than three months had passed in the Mutant World, he had spent most of the time through his Apostle. In fact, only about four days had passed in the main world.

Obtaining this power wasn't as difficult as he had expected.

Zhou Jing was excited as he pulled Ross to test his current physical limits.

Ross was the best tool. Since he was also at the First Enhancement, he was the perfect test subject. No matter how he was treated, he would not complain.

Zhou Jing tested it a few times before he had a clearer understanding of his physical limits as well as what the base level of First Enhancement that Ross represented was like.

If his foundation was good, his strength would be higher after enhancement, and his physical fitness would crush Ross in all aspects. It was almost as simple as a father beating up his son. Even if he were to face another strengthened Mutant Blood Warrior, he would most likely be able to deal with multiple of them.

Chapter 59: Mutant Blood Strengthening (3)

As for how many he could fight, it was hard to say. After all, he had never tried it before.

He had also tested its destructive power. Zhou Jing found a hotel and asked for some materials. He held the solid wood in his hand and could break it easily. With a little force, he could crush it into pieces. The stone bricks were equally fragile in front of his fist.

“With such a physique, it should be very easy to flatten the buildings of this era.”

Zhou Jing had a vague idea. When fighting against mutant beasts, hunters might have a hard time, but if they caused trouble in the city, they would probably be like a bulldozer.

However, the Mutant World did not have the various instruments of the main world, so he could not test the specific physical parameters. He could only try his best to estimate.

Zhou Jing pulled Ross over and studied him for the entire night, discovering the changes in his current body.

...

Early the next morning, Zhou Jing and Barong walked around White Plains Town and bought some things.

There were three most important items for beast hunters: armor, weapons, and potions.

Generally speaking, weapons and armor made of mutant beast materials were of higher quality, but they were quite expensive.

Mutant beast equipment could not be exchanged for free like the Mutant Blood Potion. They all cost money. Even the hunter who brought back the prey had to pay a processing fee.

Zhou Jing was short of money and had no intention of buying any mutant beast equipment for the time being. Instead, he borrowed some money from Barong and bought a set of Mutant Beast Hunter's leather armor.

It was black and green with shoulder pads. Apart from preventing cuts and tears, it was also quite light.

Then, he went to the blacksmith shop. After picking and choosing, he bought a long blade with a slight curvature.

Because he was practicing blade techniques and had taken the strengthening path of high agility and high explosive power, Zhou Jing felt that it was a good choice to use his own advantage and have a weapon with higher attack speed.

However, although the Lightning Strike Leopard's blood Potion mainly enhanced his Agility, the strength brought by 26 points of Physical Fitness was still far greater than that of a First Enhancement Mutant Blood Warrior. Zhou Jing did not intend to give up on heavy weapons, which could be used when hunting some of the larger mutant beasts.

After walking out of the blacksmith shop, Zhou Jing's dressing already looked quite decent.

He was wearing a brand new black and green hunter's leather armor and had two sabers on him. The long saber was slung at his waist, and the original heavy saber was still on his back.

(TL Note: Anyone getting some Monster Hunter vibes here~)

The Mutant World did not have an assembly line process, so the process of making equipment by hand was not cheap. Barong spent nearly 20 Terra silver coins—the common currency of the Terra Empire, just to get him outfitted.

This sum of money was considered a huge sum to ordinary farmers, but hunters could net themselves about 80 Terra silver coins for each common mutant beast they sent to the workshop. Mutant Beast Hunters were indeed a high-income group.

Barong sized him up and nodded in satisfaction. "You finally look more like the real deal. Next, we have to go to the potion shop and buy some hunting potions."

"You're not going to the Hunter's Workshop?" Zhou Jing was curious.

"The workshop only processes mutant beast materials. The hunter's potion we use for hunting is refined from herbs. We can't buy it in the workshop, so we have to go to a proper pharmacy."

Barong explained.

When Mutant Beast Hunters hunted, they would use some potions to temporarily strengthen themselves. They were called Hunter Potions. These potions had different characteristics; some reduced pain and increased excitement, while others healed injuries and recovered stamina.

Because the body of a Mutant Beast Hunter was different from that of an ordinary person, the medicinal effect of Hunter's Potion was usually quite fierce, and it was difficult for ordinary people to use it. Therefore, making Hunter's Potion was considered a great hallmark in this world's pharmaceuticals. One needed to have sufficient skill to ensure that Hunter's Potion would be effective without producing too many side effects.

Therefore, the pharmacists in this world were roughly divided into three research directions. One was to study the technology of the Mutant Blood Potion, the second was to study the formula of the Hunter Potion, and the third was to make ordinary potions used by ordinary people.

They chatted as they walked and soon arrived at the pharmacy in the center of the town.

The pharmacy occupied a large area, and people constantly came and went. The business was booming, and there were two teams of eight guards patrolling the entrance.

"There are really many people." Zhou Jing looked around and clicked his tongue.

Barong shrugged. "There's only one pharmacy in the city. We can only buy potions here. Of course, there are many people."

Zhou Jing raised his eyebrows. "Why don't you open a few more? Speaking of which, there will definitely be pharmacists who want to open their own shops, right?"

“Lord Lutt has orders that pharmacists are not allowed to open shops on their own. If they want to sell potions, they can only cooperate with this potion shop. They can either sell the potions to them or become a collaborative pharmacist. It’s said that this order is to ensure the quality of the potions bought by the residents in the city, as well as to prevent some pharmacists who are not good enough from casually selling potions of low quality and running away after selling them.”

Hearing this, Zhou Jing’s eyes flickered.

The reason was quite good... but this was still a monopoly, right?

“Let me guess. This pharmacy is the lord’s business?”

“Who knows, but it definitely provides taxes to the lord.” Barong stroked his beard.

In this era of the Mutant World, there was most likely no such thing as an anti-monopoly law. The lord was the biggest monopoly in the area and had a series of tax collection rights.

Zhou Jing did not have any other thoughts. After all, when in Rome, do as the Romans do.

Seeing that the two of them were armed, the pharmacy guards immediately came to check them. This time, they were much stricter than the city guards.

After finally dealing with the checks, they walked into the pharmacy.

However, as soon as he entered, he happened to see a person walking out in a hurry with his head lowered. He did not seem to look at the road ahead and was about to bump into Zhou Jing.

Zhou Jing reacted quickly and dodged to the side.

It was only then that the man realized that he had almost bumped into someone. Startled, he suddenly missed his footing and rolled down the steps.

Looking at this scene, Zhou Jing couldn’t help but nudge Ross, who was beside him.

“Look, I found someone who’s even dumber than you.”

Ross: (→ _ →)

This man stood up with a grimace. Only then did Zhou Jing see his appearance clearly. He was skinny and had a goatee, and was clad in the rough clothes of the pharmacy, seemingly an employee.

“Why aren’t you looking where you’re going?” The goateed man rubbed his knees and complained subconsciously.

However, when he looked up and saw Zhou Jing’s appearance, his expression changed.

The goateed man immediately shut up and did not say anything else. He turned around and left in a hurry.

“Is he afraid of me?”

Zhou Jing touched his chin, wondering if he was that scary.

Barong was not surprised. “It’s normal. We Mutant Beast Hunters are respected and powerful. With your attire, of course he wouldn’t dare to have a conflict with you.”

“I understand.” Zhou Jing nodded.

He was not surprised about this since the Supers of the main world occasionally received similar treatment in their lives.

Zhou Jing did not take this matter to heart. He followed Barong into the pharmacy and came to the shelf selling the Hunter Potions.

The price of a hunter’s potion was usually three Terra silver coins. Some potions that were labeled as “strong” could even cost more than ten Terra silver coins.

“Isn’t it a little too expensive…”

Zhou Jing clicked his tongue secretly.

Ordinary people would definitely not buy the hunter’s potion, but hunters were not short of money, so the price could naturally be priced higher. *Does this mean I have an accurate grasp of the consumer market?*

He was not sure about the cost of the Hunter Potion, but he felt that it was a profitable industry.

No wonder the Lord wanted to hold on tight to it...

While he was thinking, Barong had already bought four bottles of Hunter’s Potion and given half to Zhou Jing.

“One bottle is for continuous adrenaline rush, and the other has the effect of temporarily suppressing one’s injuries. These are the two most commonly used methods during hunting. Take it.”

“Thank you. I’ll return it to you when I earn money from hunting.”

Zhou Jing put away the potion and silently calculated the debt he owed Barong. It was about 25 Terra silver coins so far.

The money was not much. He could pay it back after one hunt. The pressure was not great.

Zhou Jing composed himself and nodded. “Everything is ready. Where should we go next? Should we find a place to test the Physical Fitness?”

“No, let’s go somewhere nice.”

As he spoke, Barong grabbed Zhou Jing’s shoulder and chuckled.

“It’s the most important thing to us hunters... the Hunter’s Tavern!”

Chapter 60: Hunter Rank, Mutant Beast King (1)

In most towns, at least one tavern that specialized in the business of Mutant Beast Hunters. It was the main gathering place for hunters in the area. Apart from basic functions, like providing drinks, it also included intelligence exchange, bounty issuance, and recruitment of teammates.

When a hunter arrived in a new town and wanted to quickly integrate into the local hunter circle, the Hunter’s Tavern was a must-see place. The tavern would record the list of local hunters who had been active for a long time. Then, lords and the hunters could inquire about new people in the area.

The White Plains Town Hunter Tavern was located at the edge of the town. It was not very eye-catching and was a place that ordinary residents rarely passed by.

When Zhou Jing and Barong arrived at the Hunter Tavern, it was quite deserted. There were only four or five hunters drinking quietly.

Sensing Zhou Jing and the other two enter, the hunters in the tavern looked over.

“Hey, isn’t that Barong? Where’s your axe?”

“How long has it been since you last appeared? I thought you were already shit out by mutant beasts.”

“There are two new faces. New hunters?”

Many people greeted Barong.

The hunters in the tavern basically were those who lived near White Plains Town for a long time, so everyone more or less knew each other.

Weiss was also in the tavern and greeted the two of them.

Barong casually replied with a few words and brought Zhou Jing to the bar counter. He knocked on the wooden table, making two loud rapping sounds.

The boss behind the bar was looking down at his account book. When he heard the noise, he looked up at the three of them.

“Barong, how long has it been? If you hadn’t come, I would have crossed out your name.”

“I had to recuperate during this period of time and also took the time to nurture a good seedling.”

Barong laughed and pointed at Zhou Jing. “Take out the name list and let him write his name.”

“A new hunter?”

The boss looked at Zhou Jing and took out a black leather book from under the bar. He opened up one of the pages, and Zhou Jing saw dozens of names written in various handwriting, some of which were crossed out.

Looking further down the list, Zhou Jing saw Barong and Weiss’ names.

Barong explained, “This is the name list of the local hunters. If they are active near White Plains Town for a long time, their names will be written here. The hunters who died in battle or have been missing for a long time will have their names crossed out. Didn’t I tell you before that there are still more than 30 active hunters around White Plains Town? It was calculated from here.”

Zhou Jing said, “The workshop should have the same record, right?”

“There are some over there, but they mainly count the number of hunts—the prey submitted to them. It’s not as specific as the tavern here.” Barong explained.

Zhou Jing nodded and realized that there were small black dots behind each name. Some had one, while others had two.

“And this little black dot is?”

Before Barong could say anything, someone interrupted.

“This is the number of enhancements for each hunter.”

Zhou Jing turned around and saw that the hunters in the tavern had all gathered around him with their glasses in hand.

When these hunters heard their conversation, they all came over to curiously size up Zhou Jing, this new face. The one who interrupted was Weiss.

Barong added, “Yes, the number of black spots determines how many enhancements a hunter has gone through. This way, when the lord gathers people or when other hunters seek teammates, they won’t misjudge the strength of the team.”

It felt as though with this world’s simple concept, they rarely hid their true strength in this aspect...

Zhou Jing thought to himself as he looked at the list from the beginning. He realized that among the hunters around White Plains Town, the highest record was two enhancements. There were only three people in total.

It seemed that having a Second Enhancement was already quite rare. He wondered if it was because White Plains Town was remote.

Zhou Jing thought for a moment and pretended to speak casually.

“Speaking of which, are enhancements equivalent to the hunters abilities? How can one be considered a veteran hunter?”

He did not forget that one of the life objectives of this was to become a veteran Mutant Beast Hunter.

What he needed to figure out was how this “veteran” was certified.

Weiss was cheerful and talkative. Hearing his question, he smiled and explained.

“Haha, after the empire was established, we set up an evaluation system for mutant beasts and hunters, making it easier to see the standards of the two. Although we freelance hunters are not as particular as the empire’s hunters, this method is indeed quite useful.”

Zhou Jing looked over. “What exactly is it like?”

Weiss took a sip of wine and said casually, “You should know the four danger levels of the mutant beasts, right? They’re ranked according to the degree of threat to the hunter. They’re low, medium, high, and fatal.”

“This I’m aware of.” Zhou Jing nodded. Barong had explained this before.

Another life objective of the was to kill a “high-risk mutant beast.”

Weiss said frankly, “Just like the danger level of mutant beasts, the Terra Empire divides hunters into four corresponding levels: official hunter, veteran hunter, elite hunter, and legendary hunter.”

The standard was clear and coincidentally corresponded to the danger level of the mutated beasts... The official hunter was someone who had completed their First Enhancement and had also completed a successful hunt. If one completed the strengthening but did not succeed in hunting, they would only be classified purely as a Mutant Blood Warrior.

A veteran hunter would have undergone their Second Enhancement and had killed a medium-risk mutant beast.

Elite hunters need to finish their Third Enhancement and have records of them killing high-risk mutant beasts... As for legendary hunters, they had undergone their Fourth Enhancement and had slain a fatal-risk mutant beast before.

Zhou Jing’s heart skipped a beat.

Eh, in that case, this apostle’s [Life Objective] did not seem to be that difficult after all.

Chapter 61: Hunter Rank, Mutant Beast King (2)

His three life objectives were to “become a veteran Mutant Beast Hunter,” “complete his Second Enhancement of mutant blood potion,” and “hunt a high-risk mutant beast.” As long as he completed the last two, the first goal would naturally be resolved, saving him energy.

“This is pretty convenient.”?Zhou Jing felt energized.

He couldn’t help but think of the times when he played games in the past. He always liked to take on a bunch of missions with overlapping requirements. That way, he could save time and energy and achieve twice the results with half the effort. While completing one mission, he could also fulfill the requirements of the other missions.

This time, the ’s [Life Objective] seemed to be in the same situation.

Now that the route was clear, Zhou Jing felt much more relaxed.

At this moment, Barong could not help but interrupt Weiss.

“It’s fine as long as you know what you’re doing. Even if your enhancement is low, it doesn’t relate to you not being able to kill stronger mutated beasts. We’re all hunters, so there’s no difference between us.”

“Yes, I know.” Zhou Jing came back to his senses and nodded.

He remembered that Barong had also killed medium-risk mutant beasts before.

This system did not have any official organization certification. Most of the time, it was just an honorary system and was respected by others. It was not like the main world where money was distributed according to the Supers’ Rankings.

Zhou Jing then asked in a curious tone.

“In that case, one can at most undergo four enhancements of the mutant blood?”

Weiss seemed to be quite excited as he explained, “That’s not the case. No one knows how many times the upper limit of enhancement is. It’s just that the more times the enhancement is done, the lower the success rate. After obtaining a certain level of strength, there’s no need to take the risk to accept a new round of enhancements. Instead, we should study how to use our current abilities to fight against the mutant beasts. This is the choice of most hunters.”

Zhou Jing nodded in understanding.

Hunters could accept dying in battle, but they could not accept a worthless death. The stronger a hunter was, the more thought they should put in to enhance themselves further.

Hearing this, the other hunters also started to casually discuss and sigh.

“Sigh, that’s why I don’t dare to undergo a Second Enhancement. Instead of taking this risk, I might as well practice more breathing techniques.”

“The two hunters I knew died from the Second Enhancement. It was much more dangerous than the First Enhancement, and their deaths were too tragic. I’m still a little afraid when I think about it.”

“Speaking of which, what’s the standard of the current Chief Hunter that had its title conferred by the empire? It seems to be at the Fifth Enhancement?”

Everyone discussed fervently.

Zhou Jing secretly noted it down and suddenly asked curiously, “What’s the maximum enhancement recorded in history?”

As soon as he finished speaking, everyone's expressions turned serious.

Weiss stopped grinning and took a deep breath. With undisguised reverence, he slowly spoke out.

"That was in the distant tribal era. At that time, a legendary hunter appeared. His name was Raven·Tarn, the strongest hunter that ever appeared in history. He was the hero of human history!"

"Historical records show that Raven·Tarn had undergone eight enhancements and hunted more than 2,000 mutant beasts in his life. He united the scattered tribes one by one and led them to live and reproduce in the dangerous verdant plains. He guarded them for decades, until the threat from the mutant beasts was greatly reduced... It was because of Raven·Tarn that humans managed to walk out of the long darkness and truly rose in this land. Out of the current tribes that established the Terra Empire, most of them have been protected by him!"

"The current ruler of the Terra Empire is a blood relative of the Tarn bloodline... and Raven·Tarn is their ancestor!"

Weiss's tone was serious. The other hunters did not interrupt his story. The atmosphere was like someone going on a pilgrimage.

Clearly, hero Raven had an extremely high status in the hearts of the hunters.

Zhou Jing blinked.

He roughly understood how the Terra Empire, established by many tribal alliances, had convinced each other to choose a royal family that everyone recognized.

It was a competition between their ancestors!

As for whether this "hero" Raven had been beautified by the ruler, he did not know. He had his own reservations.

After all, he was not a true resident of the Mutant World, so he could not empathize with them immediately. However, he would not directly question or expose them.

He couldn't even imagine his strength at eight blood enhancements.

"Eight blood enhancements... But how did he die?"

Zhou Jing continued to ask.

Hearing this, everyone sighed.

Weiss said regretfully, "Raven-Tarn challenged the Mutant Beast King and almost succeeded. Unfortunately, he still died in battle."

"Mutant Beast King?"

This was the first time Zhou Jing had heard of this term. He turned to look at Barong. The latter had never mentioned it before.

Barong shook his head and spoke helplessly.

"I've told you before that those mutant beasts are divided into four danger levels. As for the Mutant Beast King, it is an even more dangerous monster. It belongs to the category of special existences that are not included in this evaluation because they are at the level of 'impossible to hunt.' No hunter can kill them.

"So far, we have only discovered three Mutant Beast Kings in our history. Fortunately, two of them did not threaten the survival of the tribe. The only one that threatened the humans was the one that Raven-Tarn had fought. Raven had used his life as the price to severely injure the beast before it retreated and allowed the tribes to escape a calamity of extinction."

"And Raven-Tarn is also the only hunter in history who almost killed a Mutant Beast King."

Hearing this explanation, Zhou Jing couldn't help but raise his eyebrows.

What kind of monster can't that can't not even be defeated even by someone who had eight enhancements?

Chapter 62: Hunter Rank, Mutant Beast King (3)

As if seeing Zhou Jing's confusion, Weiss spoke out in a deep voice.

"The Mutant Beast King that Raven-Tarn fought back then is known as the Azure Wings in history. It's a dragon-type mutant beast that soars in the sky. It's said that its wingspan is more than 200 meters, and it can spit out frost and lightning. Its scales are harder than any known metal. Even the current fortress city established by the empire is probably unable to withstand a single blow from it."

"That's indeed a terrifying monster."

Zhou Jing was shocked.

With the current development of the Mutant World, such a monster was indeed an “unsolvable” existence.

If it was thrown to any colonial planet in the main world, it could also cause a little trouble. At the very least, before the army moved out, this monster could cause some damage to ordinary cities... as long as they were not unlucky enough to encounter Supers on leave.

Although Zhou Jing remembered that when in Rome, do as the Romans did, he still had the knowledge of the main world. He was used to seeing all kinds of destructive Supers, so he was probably the least afraid out of them. At this moment, he was mainly thinking about something else.

A Mutant Blood Warrior, which was purely a physical enhancement type, could fight such a monster and even severely injure it. The known limit of enhancement seemed to be quite good. According to the evaluation standards of the main world, it was around Rank 3.

“Then where are these Mutated Beast Kings now?”

“No one knows.” Weiss shook his head. “There are too many unexplored lands outside the Terra Empire.”

“I understand. You guys basically have yet to undergo an Age of Discovery...”

Zhou Jing cursed inwardly.

At this moment, the boss interrupted everyone and said helplessly, “Everyone, if you want to chat, you can chat while drinking. For now, let this new hunter write his name in the name list.”

“Haha, I was chatting so happily that I almost forgot.” Weiss chuckled. The feeling of teaching a newbie was a joy for him.

Zhou Jing took the pen and wrote his name on the blank space on the name list. He also tapped a small black dot at the back to represent the number of times he had enhanced himself.

He had previously told Barong that after becoming a Mutant Beast Hunter, he would also be active near White Plains Town, so he had no objections to Barong directly pulling him over.

The boss took back the name list, glanced at it, and nodded. “Jason·Wood... I welcome you to contribute to the safety of White Plains Town.”

Barong knocked on the table and laughed. "Don't forget the tradition. Every time a new hunter decides to stay in the town, you have to invite a round of Northern Fire. Hurry up."

"How could I forget?" The boss snapped.

He returned the register to the cabinet and took out a few wooden wine cups. He lined them up at the bar before opening up the wine barrel behind him, taking out a big scoop of wine and filling up all the cups.

The wine was a little turbid and pale white as if there was some sediment within.

Zhou Jing picked up the wine glass and took a sip. The rough but wild taste exploded like a line of fire flowing down his throat. It was extremely strong.

He smacked his lips. The aftertaste was a little astringent, but it was strong enough for his liking.

On the other side, Barong could not wait. He picked up the wine cup and finished it in one gulp. The spilled wine trickled down his beard and dripped onto the leather armor on his chest. He let out a comfortable breath and pulled at the boss, who had a look of disdain, to refill his cup.

The hunters present were all smiles and clinked their cups.

Zhou Jing got to know them briefly and memorized their names.

After everyone got to know the newcomer, they dispersed and returned to their seats. Zhou Jing also sat at a table with Barong and Weiss.

After sitting down, Barong stroked his beard and wiped away the wine on it.

"You've successfully strengthened your mutant blood, but you haven't completed a hunt. You're still not yet considered a proper Mutant Beast Hunter. Right now, I have two plans here that I want to ask for your opinion."

"Which two?" Zhou Jing took a sip of wine and asked casually.

"I'll go back and teach you the remaining breathing technique. After you familiarize yourself with your strengthened body, do you plan to hunt the mutant beast first or deal with the Subterraneans' lair?"

Hearing this, Zhou Jing's eyes flickered.

Part of the image he had built for Barong was that he had stayed in Frostwood Village to take revenge. It was this that made Barong agree.

Barong continued in a muffled voice, “No matter which one you choose, I will act with you. Whether it is the Subterraneans or hunting mutant beasts, it is my duty.”

Zhou Jing nodded. He knew very well that although his physical fitness had shocked Barong, hunting still depended on experience. Barong still felt that he needed to take care of this newbie.

“I have to consider this carefully...”?Zhou Jing pondered.

Weiss interrupted with a smile. “If you’re going to hunt mutant beasts, bring me along. My spear is fast and accurate. It’ll be very useful.”

“That’s true. You didn’t even let go of the beast’s balls.”

Barong agreed wholeheartedly.

Just as the three of them were drinking and chatting, the door of the tavern was suddenly knocked open.

Pang!!

All the hunters stopped drinking and looked over.

A guard rushed in with a panicked expression.

“There’s a situation! The sentries have discovered two high-risk mutant beasts advancing towards White Plains City. The Lord has issued a bounty and gathered all the hunters to suppress them!”

Splish splash!

The next moment, all the hunters in the tavern stood up.

Chapter 63: Sudden Attack (1)

Huh? Won’t this solve all my problems?

Is this just a coincidence, or is life in White Plains Town always so exciting?

Zhou Jing was secretly exclaiming.

Barong’s face tightened when he heard the news. He put down his cup and quickly explained.

While the Terra Empire had already been established for 40 years and a portion of the mutant beasts in the human residential areas had been expelled and cleaned up, there were still mutant beasts that would break their defense lines.

Accidents like this would occasionally happen. The range of activity for many mutated beasts' was not fixed. Sometimes, mutated beasts would run to the area where humans lived. They could be looking for food, or they might have entered by mistake. The town's fortifications were mainly used to deal with mutated beasts.

The sentries around the town were responsible for surveying their territories if such an incident occurred.

Once they discovered traces of mutated beasts, they would issue a warning and come to the tavern to issue a bounty as well as provide intelligence for the hunters to choose their targets.

If the mutated beasts posed a direct threat, such as approaching the town, the lord would immediately recruit the hunters in the city to suppress the threat.

The few of them could not be bothered to continue chatting. They surrounded the guards with the hunters in the tavern to ask about the situation.

“What kind of mutant beast is it?”

“What position are they in? How long do we have?”

Zhou Jing was a total newbie at this and did not speak. He allowed the other hunters to ask the crucial questions, and he also learned the exact situation from the flustered guards.

Not long ago, the sentries had sent an emergency report that two highly dangerous mutant beasts had appeared around the town. They had already killed a caravan and were advancing towards White Plains Town. The pedestrians on the road were all in danger and became a huge threat.

As for these two high-risk mutant beasts, they were both bear-type species with outstanding strength and defense. They were called Claw Rending Bears.

There were many types of high-risk mutant beasts, but there were three types of creatures that were troublesome. One was extremely fast, the second could control certain elements like spitting fire and ice, and the third was extremely thick-skinned. The Claw Rending Bear was the third type.

“Both of them are Claw Rending Bears... They won't be easy to deal with this time... How many of us can be activated?”

Weiss had stopped grinning at this point, and his expression was deadly serious.

A hunter spoke out, "There are only seven of us here, but there should be a few more hunters in the city. Besides, I also saw Weber a few days ago."

"Weber is here too? That's great." Weiss quickly exhaled.

Zhou Jing's heart skipped a beat.

When he looked at the name list just now, he deliberately remembered the names of the three second-time enhanced hunters. This "Weber" was one of them.

At this moment, the guard hurriedly urged them.

"His Lordship is gathering his troops at the city gate. Hunters, please hurry and gather. Someone has also gone to inform the other hunters in the city."

"Alright, let's go over first."

The hunters did not object and rushed out of the tavern towards the city gate.

Zhou Jing also followed the team. He poked Barong, who had a serious expression, and asked in a soft voice.

"Is the lord's summons to the hunters forced?"

"Of course not..." Barong shook his head and said solemnly, "But in the face of the threat of the mutant beasts, we have no reason to retreat. This is our duty. If we don't even fight, who can resist the mutant beasts?"

"I understand."

Zhou Jing nodded slightly, gaining a deeper understanding of the concept of a Mutant Beast Hunter.

Mutant Beast Hunters were an ancient and glorious profession. They dedicated their lives and spirits to this profession and risked their lives to obtain strength. They fought with their lives on the line in order to protect the peaceful lives of more people.

They were still quite reliable.

At this moment, Barong sighed and instructed, "I didn't expect such an emergency to happen. I wanted to find you a low-risk mutant beast to practice with after you got used to your strengthened body, but we don't seem to have that luxury."

“The results of your enhancement should be good, but you haven’t practiced physical control yet. It’s enough for you to follow our pace during the hunt. Don’t act rashly. The Claw Rending Bear has destructive power. If it hits you accurately, two or three hits will be enough to severely injure a hunter.”

In Barong’s opinion, even if Zhou Jing was talented and his mutant blood strengthened him to obtain greater strength, he still needed time to adapt.

Barong was not afraid that Zhou Jing would not be able to unleash his full strength, but he was worried that he would be confused by the sudden increase in strength. It was common for novice hunters to underestimate the difference in strength between themselves and mutant beasts.

As seasoned hunters, they knew very well how capable they were. They knew the strength of the various mutated beasts’ attacks and how many times they could withstand them. It seemed like they were taking a risk, but they would have it all calculated beforehand.

While Barong didn’t think that Zhou Jing was prepared enough, he would not show him any favoritism or care by asking him not to participate in this particular hunt.

Regardless of whether it was a newbie or a seasoned Mutant Beast Hunter unless they really lost their combat strength, one did not have the privilege of not participating in battle.

“I’ll see how it goes.” Zhou Jing nodded.

Although he had just obtained supernatural powers and felt very fresh, he knew his power was limited. He had already adjusted his mentality last night.

However, hunting high-risk mutant beasts were one of the life objectives of the s this time. Thus, he did not reject this battle.

Moreover, Zhou Jing thought that this was a good opportunity. It was better to surround and kill the high-risk beasts than to hunt alone.

Although he did not have much hunting experience, based on his past experience playing games, he could come up with simple logic.

It was definitely better to KS[1.Kill Steal] than to fight one alone!

...

Everyone hurried to the city gate, only to find that it was already quite lively here.

A large group of soldiers had gathered here. At a glance, there were already more than 50 of them. They were busy moving all kinds of trap tools.

A middle-aged man in luxurious clothes was anxiously patrolling amongst the troops under the escort of a few guards.

Chapter 64: Sudden Attack (2)

After seeing the hunters, the middle-aged man's expression immediately lit up. He immediately turned around to welcome the hunters.

"Hunters, you're finally here! White Plains Town needs your help!"

"My lord, that is our duty."

Everyone nodded in greeting neutrally.

"Is this the Lord of White Plains that Barong had mentioned, Lutt-Crowe?"

Zhou Jing's heart skipped a beat as he secretly sized up the lord.

He was tall, had thick eyebrows, big eyes, and regular facial features... He looked quite decent and seemed to be more like a warrior than a lord.

Both sides were well aware of each other's responsibilities. Lord Lutt did not bother with any formalities, immediately getting straight to the point.

"It's still the same this time. You guys will be in charge of stopping the two mutated beasts midway. Even if you can't kill them, try your best to severely injure them. My troops will use the fortifications of the sentry post to set up some traps and ambushes. You need to stall them and not let them approach White Plains Town so quickly. If possible, steer them towards the traps after we're done setting them up."

Lutt quickly explained the tactics.

For the direct battle, they still had to rely on hunters to fight the mutated beasts. As ordinary soldiers, they usually would not enter the battlefield directly and were only there for support.

This was because ordinary people were useless in front of high-risk mutant beasts. They could even be a hindrance.

Moreover, if the hunters failed to restrain the mutated beasts and allowed them to charge into the crowd, it would be a massacre that could cause tragic casualties to the army.

It was very expensive to nurture a well-trained and equipped soldier. If they were not desperate, they would rarely exchange unnecessary casualties for victory. It was simply better to just rely on hunters.

The Claw Rending Bears they faced this time was a perfect example. Its skin was thick, and even ordinary soldiers would find it difficult to break through its defense, let alone participate in the main battlefield.

Many hunters were already used to such situations and had no objections.

“After we resolve this threat, just like in the past, we won’t forget your reward.”

Lutt promised the reward and said no more. Then he hurriedly turned back to continue gathering his army.

He was only talking about the general strategy. As for the detailed hunting tactics, they were formulated by the hunters. He would not criticize them nor try to sway them with his opinion.

Zhou Jing did not reply. He just observed silently.

The Mutant Beast Hunters present were not very respectful to their lord, but they were still polite.

However, many hunters frowned coldly at the silent guards beside their lord and did not hide their disdain.

Zhou Jing’s heart skipped a beat as he recalled Barong’s words when he entered the city. He immediately poked Barong.

“The few people beside the lord are the Mutant Blood Warriors who were roped in?”

“Yes, that’s the group of bastards and cowards. See, if they follow the lord, they don’t have to fight the Claw Rending Bears like us.” Barong spat on the ground.

Hearing this, Zhou Jing sized up the guards again.

While they were preparing for battle, the few guards followed closely behind their lord. They did not have to do anything and could stay at the back to wait for the hunters to resolve the crisis...

Thinking about it this way, he could not help but feel angry... Now, Zhou Jing understood the displeasure of this group of hunters even more.

Suddenly, he sensed something and vaguely felt the gazes of others on him.

Zhou Jing turned his head and looked around. In the end, he realized that a figure had appeared from the battlements on the city wall, seemingly looking down at him.

He looked up and saw an expressionless man standing on the city wall. He had a hard appearance and an indifferent face. He sported a buzz cut and had an inexplicable aura.

The man with the buzz cut had his hands behind his back, giving off the feeling of a towering mountain. He looked down at the city gate, which was bustling as they moved to deal with the mutated beasts, but he seemed to be uninvolved.

At this moment, the man with the buzz cut also sensed Zhou Jing's gaze. He glanced at Zhou Jing coldly before turning around and disappearing from the city wall.

"This person..."

Zhou Jing blinked, a strange feeling rising in his heart.

For some reason, he felt as though this man was different from the others.

Furthermore, this person did not participate in the gathering of the army and could even look down from the city wall. He probably had some status in the town...

Who is he?

Although Zhou Jing felt that it was strange, he did not have the time to ask further. Everyone had already begun to discuss tactics, and the other hunters in the city were rushing over one after another.

Soon, the number of mutant beast hunters present reached 12. These were all the people participating in this crusade.

Only one of them was a Second Enhancement veteran Mutant Beast Hunter, Weber.

As soon as he arrived, the other hunters handed over the command to him to determine the tactics.

Webber was a tall and fierce man. He was at least 2.1 meters tall. His muscles seemed to grow all the way to his face, making him look like a muscle spirit.

He wore a set of grayish-black beast bone armor and carried a huge blade as big as a door. The material seemed to be forged from the bones of some kind of mutant beast mixed with steel.

“Those two Claw Rending Bears broke through the few traps set up by the sentries and didn’t even have any injuries. They’re very fast as well. When we arrive, they won’t be far from White Plains Town. We probably don’t have time to set up an ambush trap, so we can only fight head-on.”

Weber pulled out his dagger and drew a pattern on the ground as a simple sand table. He spoke out solemnly.

“Claw Rending Bears have long bodies and astonishing strength. Their fur is extremely tough and difficult to deal with. A pair of sharp claws can easily tear through steel armor. If you’re not careful, you’ll be severely injured. I once killed one with six other hunters. We sacrificed two people just to kill it!”