

Daily Life 381

Chapter 381 A Knockoff Organization

After about three or four minutes, Loopy Toad finally got rid of the spirit marker. A dog's body wasn't as soft as a cat; it had had to twist its body in some difficult positions in order to lick some parts. Fortunately, Loopy Toad's tongue was long enough; it hadn't completely abandoned the toad clan's tongue techniques.

Thus, when Wei Zhi saw that Loopy Toad could stretch its tongue out to more than a meter in length, his entire frame of mind collapsed.

As expected, Brother Dog wasn't just any ordinary dog! Wei Zhi sighed emotionally in his heart.

After driving around in circles for a while, the men in black who had been in hot pursuit finally lost them in the flow of traffic.

Loopy Toad's tactic had worked, though it wasn't sure if these men in black had other ways to find it.

Although it had indeed escaped, Loopy Toad somehow felt that things weren't over yet.

"Who the hell are these people? Why were they chasing you?" Now that they'd escaped pursuit, Wei Zhi stopped joyriding and smoothly drove along the road.

"It's a bunch of people that seem to be posing as the Society of Saints," said Loopy Toad.

"Society of Saints? They don't just take in people, but even spirit beasts too?" Wei Zhi laughed.

"When I was at the assessment center, a test instructor told me that the Society of Saints does have spirit beast classes." Loopy Toad sighed. "But the people chasing me clearly aren't from the society. How can a state-certified institution be so violent?"

"That's true."

Wei Zhi nodded. "These people are brave enough to pretend to be from the Society of Saints. Wouldn't it be awkward for them if they really met someone from the society?"

Speaking about this, Wei Zhi immediately couldn't help complaining about the level of some imitations in Huaxiu nation. Imitations were basically for drawing attention. If a milk tea shop hit it big, then thousands and thousands of milk tea shops with similar names would suddenly spring up. If a hot pot restaurant hit it big, thousands of hot pot restaurants with similar names would pop up all over the country.

Wei Zhi reckoned that this fake Society of Saints was also an imitation group like that...

"Brother Dog, where will you go now?"

Loopy Toad thought for a bit. Although it might be safe if it went home now, there was no guarantee that the group of men in black wouldn't cause further trouble. Judging from their obsession with him, Loopy Toad thought that it was very likely that they would cause trouble in the future.

And most importantly, Loopy Toad felt that it wasn't someone who could suffer and not do anything.

Even if it wasn't a demon king any longer, since that group of people had come looking for it, then they definitely had to pay the price.

"I want to destroy this group of people," said Loopy Toad.

So it wasn't the time for it to go home yet.

Wei Zhi: "Brother Dog has a way of tracking them?"

Loopy Toad: "I already remember the smell on them. As long as I can lock onto them with the Aura-Tracking Skill, we might be able to find their den."

However, just then, Wei Zhi saw two sports cars following them through the rearview mirror.

"F**k, they caught up to us!" Wei Zhi slammed on the gas, straightaway choosing to speed up!

He should have realized earlier that this group had put a spirit marker on the car in the chase before.

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After several minutes of dealing with these people, Wei Zhi finally stopped the car in the mouth of an alley and the two of them abandoned it.

Although Loopy Toad's saliva had the effect of removing the spirit marker, having it lick the car from front to back was clearly unrealistic.

"How did this group of people mark us so accurately? I recall that this skill doesn't always work."

After he got out of the car grumbling, Wei Zhi led Loopy Toad to a residential building. "See those apartments up ahead? That's where I live. Let's get inside first and then think about how to deal with this."

Loopy Toad followed behind Wei Zhi as one person and one dog moved quickly.

It was only in that moment that Loopy Toad realized that Wei Zhi's strength wasn't simple; when his feet touched the ground, they didn't make even the slightest sound. This proved that his body movements were very good, and was at a level that didn't match his aura.

Hence, Loopy Toad thought that Wei Zhi had also hidden some of his strength, but exactly how strong he was remained to be seen.

Generally speaking, in a family that raised spirit beasts mainly for combat, most of them weren't strong, and needed to rely on their spirit beasts to fill the gap between themselves and their opponents.

But Loopy Toad didn't think much about it; after all, it had also hidden a lot of secrets from Wei Zhi... Everyone had secrets, and no one could live without any.

Arriving at the ground floor of the apartment building, Wei Zhi took Loopy Toad upstairs to the twenty-third floor.

Loopy Toad was surprised to find that there was only one door on the whole of the twenty-third floor.

"Your place?" asked Loopy Toad.

Wei Zhi grinned. "To be exact, this whole floor is mine. There were initially four apartment units on this floor. I bought all of them, then knocked down the walls to create one unit."

Loopy Toad: "... This was simply unimaginable wealth!

But as a side note, this also showed that the business of raising spirit beasts was indeed extremely profitable. In some sense, if this sunrise industry continued to expand in the future, it was very likely that it would be able to rival or even surpass established industries such as smithing or alchemy.

For those who were very vain, having a powerful combat pet would add the light of glory to their own faces.

Entering Wei Zhi's place, it was as if Loopy Toad had stepped into a garden. Wei Zhi's living room was very unique, and had been carefully decorated to imitate a natural green environment: there were a rock garden, a small brook, birdsong and fragrant flowers... this was just like a small forest!

"I spent a lot of money creating this environment." Wei Zhi rubbed his head and smiled. Then he snapped his fingers, and the Pushing Large Butterfly which had been sitting motionlessly on his shoulder seemed to wake up. It slowly flew off before coming to rest on a flower petal.

Loopy Toad finally realized that this green environment had been specially built for this Pushing Large Butterfly!

"It's very safe here; those people shouldn't be able to find us," Wei Zhi said as he smiled.

Loopy Toad: "How can you be so sure?"

Wei Zhi nodded. "This isn't an ordinary apartment. It used to be a family apartment, and everyone who stayed here were senior officers in the military."

Loopy Toad: "...Are you a military second generation kid?"

"My grandfather gave me this place. When it came to my father's generation, our family withdrew ties to the army because it was really too hard to balance raising spirit beasts and handling army matters at the same time." Wei Zhi shrugged. As he spoke, he tugged on a vine that was hanging down from the ceiling, and a side door immediately opened.

"Come in, this is my bedroom," Wei Zhi said.

Loopy Toad followed behind Wei Zhi and entered his bedroom, which seemed normal enough.

Then, it saw Wei Zhi start to rummage around in the bedroom.

"Are you hungry? I happen to have a bag of dog food here, which I got from my nephew," Wei Zhi said.

"You have a nephew?" Loopy Toad was surprised.

"We're actually not that far apart in age, but in terms of family hierarchy, I'm indeed his little uncle," Wei Zhi said.

Moments later, he took out a white bag of high quality dog food from a cupboard, with three large words on it — "Soul Servant Shop."

Hold on... Soul Servant Shop?

Wasn't that Dopey Guo's family's pet shop?

Loopy Toad suddenly felt like it had learned some shocking secret.

Chapter 382 Pet Hunters

Even if Loopy Toad wasn't at school, it had also heard the rumors about Dopey Guo's many uncles.

So the question now was: How many... uncles... did Dopey Guo have?

It was a very mystical question.

But now that it had met Wei Zhi, Loopy Toad finally understood why Dopey Guo had eyes and ears everywhere and knew so much gossip – forget the rest of his uncles, the gossip Dopey Guo got from Wei Zhi alone was more than enough.

As a self-employed pet trainer who traveled all over and who used to have a military background, the information Wei Zhi could gather in this circle given his profession and unique background was naturally a lot more than ordinary people. Before a lot of major events were officially made public, these sort of people would probably have already heard about them in their WeChat Moments. Although Dopey Guo wasn't in this circle, his uncle was!

"Not hungry?"

Wei Zhi was a bit embarrassed and scratched his head when he saw Loopy Toad stare blankly at the bag of dog food he had taken out. "Does Brother Dog not eat dog food usually?"

"..."

Loopy Toad didn't know how to reply.

Cultivating the "Demon King Heart Sutra" consumed a lot of physical strength, so the energy supply in dog food was in fact very important for Loopy Toad. It ate dog food... but the problem was that the dog food it ate wasn't any ordinary kind.

After it had started eating the fly-flavored dog food which Dopey Guo had given it, Loopy Toad found it couldn't eat any other dog food.

"Mm... I'm not hungry right now."

Loopy Toad broke out in a sweat, but right after that its expression changed, indicating that something was wrong.

"What's the matter?" Wei Zhi looked at it.

"That bunch is here..." Loopy Toad narrowed its eyes and shook out its tail as it looked in one direction.

It could smell the aura of that bone dragon man, and was certain that the men in black who had been chasing it earlier had already found them and were downstairs.

Cultivators could disrupt their spiritual awareness and even create fake spiritual awareness as cover, but the one thing they couldn't conceal was their auras. Unless they sealed all the pores on their bodies, Loopy Toad would be able to sniff out even the slightest trace of an aura.

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The bone dragon man and the group of men in black arrived downstairs at the family apartment building. They had stopped their cars in the mouth of the alley where Wei Zhi had abandoned his earlier.

"It's here, that dog's inside." The bone dragon man who was the leader sneered. He had had his bone dragon pick up the scent in the car, which had led them to this apartment building. Although the

bone dragon's sense of smell wasn't as good as a dog's, a third-class bone dragon could still differentiate between auras.

"This place doesn't look simple. Is it really alright for us to chase them down here?"

"I'm the leader of this operation. If anything happens, I'll take responsibility." The bone dragon man looked at the building in front of him with his hands clasped behind his back. "This dog is definitely not simple! At the assessment center earlier, it deliberately released its aura to warn me off. My bone dragon also told me that there was an abnormal wave coming off it that doesn't belong to a spirit beast... If we can catch it and hand it over to the Society of Saints, we can definitely get a good price for it."

"...Will the Society of Saints really take it?"

"Of course we can't abduct people, but we can still abduct spirit beasts. There are still some vacant spots in the society's spirit beast classes, and they are in urgent need of special spirit beasts... When we have this guy, we'll feed it spirit water so that it'll lose its memories. Then we'll wash it clean and sell it." The bone dragon man laughed. "I believe the Society of Saints will reward us very handsomely."

Without waiting for his subordinates to respond, the bone dragon man had already stepped into the apartment building.

Roughly two minutes later, he arrived at the door.

"They're here..."

Behind the door, Wei Zhi and Loopy Toad held their breaths.

In the next moment, there was a deafening sound of pounding on the door. "Since you have the ability to hide, you should also have the ability to open the door!"

Loopy Toad: "..."

Wei Zhi: "..."

After a while, Wei Zhi still took the initiative to open the door. He had spent a lot of money on it back then in order to cater for the indoor green environment; air circulation technology had been incorporated into it, and it served partly as an air freshener. But despite how costly it had been, it had one weakness: it was fragile.

It was unable to withstand a Golden Core cultivator's repeated hammering.

Wei Zhi opened the door and saw the men in black, led by the bone dragon man, still carrying the cage, the rope, and the electric prod.

Wei Zhi was astonished. "How did you get in?" Logically speaking, this family apartment building had always been off-limits to outsiders!

Crossing his arms, the bone dragon man smiled and fished out a pack of cigarettes from his bosom. "I have this!"

Wei Zhi was utterly surprised – that heavy smoker at the doors had let these people in for a pack of cigarettes. He really had no moral integrity!

"Boy, I don't know what your relationship with this dog is, but I advise you to mind your own business." The bone dragon man's deep gaze was fixed on Wei Zhi.

Wei Zhi couldn't help laughing. "I'm sorry, but I really love Brother Dog!"

Loopy Toad: "..."

The men behind the bone dragon man couldn't help going "Ehh" at Wei Zhi's words.

Wei Zhi took a deep breath, his face very serene. He clasped his hands unhurriedly behind his back and stared at the bone dragon man in front of him. "Since you're already here and you insist on following this course, does that mean you're prepared to pay the price?"

The bone dragon man couldn't help laughing. "I won't be frightened! What is the worst that can happen in what we're doing? What's the crime in catching stray cats and dogs and selling them for money? But with the recent trend caused by the Society of Saints, we want to make easy money."

"I see! You're pet hunters!" Wei Zhi now finally understood. These people were the pet hunters whom the pet trainers circle strongly boycotted.

The kind of work pet hunters did wasn't fit for the light, and they usually chose to operate at night. Even for Wei Zhi, this was the first time that he had seen them act so arrogantly in broad daylight.

"Now that you know who we are, explanations are no longer necessary." The bone dragon man adjusted his stance; pet trainers and pet hunters had hostile relations to begin with.

Wei Zhi protected Loopy Toad behind him; since this matter involved pet hunters, Wei Zhi had to take action even if he didn't want to. "Brother Dog, stand there and don't move!"

Loopy Toad: "..."

Wei Zhi adjusted his stance. "Let me deal with this guy first!"

Just then, the bone dragon man actually attacked first with a preemptive strike. He was very fast, and with its line of sight blocked by Wei Zhi, Loopy Toad couldn't see the man's exact movements.

When it shifted its viewpoint, it saw that the bone dragon man had already directly hit Wei Zhi with the electric prod in his hand.

Pa! There was an explosion of electric light!

There was the sound of an electric current...

Contrary to the bone dragon man's expectations, Wei Zhi was actually unharmed!

The bone dragon man: "That's impossible! My electroshock magic treasure has an electric current of one thousand volts!"

Wei Zhi grabbed the electric prod and smiled coldly. "I once raised a yellow mouse that also emitted one hundred thousand volts; I grew up being electroshocked!"

Chapter 383 Scary Landlord

There were all sorts of bizarre physiques in the cultivation world. Take the poisonous body for example: people with this kind of physique were highly toxic from head to toe – even one strand of hair was extremely poisonous. They could easily poison or even kill someone just through skin contact, and flowers and trees would wither wherever they went. Another example was the cold physique. People born with this physique would be exceptionally cold, and even if their bodies were on fire, they wouldn't feel it at all. However, it was the first time that Loopy Toad had seen a physique like Wei Zhi's that wasn't affected by electric shocks.

Looking at this scene, Loopy Toad pondered: based on this point alone, Wei Zhi met the Society of Saints' "unusually gifted" admission requirement.

This physique was simply a natural enemy for cultivators who used electricity-based techniques.

What it didn't know was how many volts Wei Zhi could take, but if he really was completely immune, and even the Lightning Tribulation didn't scare him, then he truly was freaking awesome!

Loopy Toad thought so in its heart.

At that very moment, the battle was still ongoing.

Wei Zhi grabbed the electric prod and squeezed; with a "bang," this electroshock magic treasure was directly turned to dust in his hand.

Wei Zhi certainly had power, and it wasn't weak.

While he only seemed to be at the Golden Core stage based on his aura, Loopy Toad was sure that Wei Zhi had definitely hidden his true strength; the body movements he had used on their way to the apartment wasn't something that a Golden Core cultivator could do.

But their opponents were five Golden Core cultivators, and trying to beat them in a scuffle actually wouldn't be so easy.

It now came down to personal ability.

Loopy Toad hid behind Wei Zhi, prepared to join the fight at any time, but it saw that Wei Zhi's expression was still pretty calm.

"Go, all of you!"

Furious, the bone dragon man who was the leader gave an explosive shout, and the five men took out their magic weapons one after another as they prepared to dash forward.

But just then, Wei Zhi actually looked at the time with an unperturbed expression. "It's almost time..."

Almost time? What did he mean?

Before Loopy Toad could figure it out, the fire exit door on the twenty-third floor buzzed opened at that moment, and an old man carrying a flashlight and wearing a white singlet and bell-bottomed pants walked out unhurriedly.

For a moment, all was still.

After a short silence, the old man looked at the men in black and frowned. "How did you get in?"

The bone dragon man stopped in his attack and cast a glance at the red armband around the old man's arm.

Neighborhood Committee?

He immediately couldn't help sneering. "Old man, mind your own business!"

The old man's expression was very calm. He looked very thin and weak, like a strong wind could blow him over, but when he raised his left arm, overbearing vigor suddenly poured forth from his body as it glowed like a dazzling blade!

At this moment, the complexions of all five men in black changed drastically, as if what they were seeing wasn't a human left arm, but a godly force that could wipe out worlds and split the heaven and the earth.

Loopy Toad's face also changed; the old man's identity wasn't simple... he was too strong, excessively so!

This intense pressure made everyone's skin tremble...

Under such strong vigor, Wei Zhi scratched his head and said weakly, "Uncle Jiang... please show some mercy, I still need to interrogate these five people."

The old man hummed softly, and almost instantly the light from his left arm vanished as he flipped his hand downward.

These five men in black were suddenly pinned to the floor by their heads like cockroaches, completely unable to move. The floor sank down slightly, creating five human-shaped indents.

The bone dragon man was utterly terrified. His eyes were bloodshot and his nose was dripping blood freely.

"You can't come and go as you please in this place," the old man said in a deep voice as he stared at the five men on the floor.

After that, he looked at Wei Zhi. "You calculated that I would be coming at this time, which is why you deliberately led them here, right?"

"Uncle Jiang... how could that be..." Wei Zhi smiled embarrassedly, his face giving nothing away.

"You really have the guts to treat me like your thug." The old man snorted. The ground beneath his feet then shook slightly, and a small wave of air rushed out to sweep the five men in black aside and open up a path.

Wei Zhi: "Uncle Jiang?"

The old man shot a look at Wei Zhi. "Why are you still spacing out? Stand aside, I'm going to go read the water meter!"

Wei Zhi trembled at the old man's expression. "Okay, Uncle Jiang..."

When he entered, Old Man Jiang saw Loopy Toad, and couldn't help raising an eyebrow. "Is this forgiveness dog yours?"

Loopy Toad: "..."

Wei Zhi: "It belongs to a friend..."

Old Man Jiang stared at Loopy Toad for a while. Though Loopy Toad didn't feel any spiritual awareness or aura sweeping over its body, the old man's expression made his fur stand on end... Too scary, this single look was so intimidating!

"There's a saying..."

Grandpa Jiang said, "Ugly faces are everywhere, but beautiful souls are hard to find."

This was a very meaningful remark, and Loopy Toad was alarmed when he heard it — this old man was really frightening!

"What does it mean, Uncle Jiang?" Wei Zhi rubbed his head.

"Figure it out yourself. But your friend's dog... is certainly interesting." Old Man Jiang laughed, and with his hands behind his back, went inside to read the water meter. It was clear that this wasn't his first time here, and he was obviously very familiar with the layout of Wei Zhi's place.

Roughly five minutes later, the old man came out of the kitchen and returned to the entrance to find that Wei Zhi had tied up all the five men in black.

Hands behind his back, the expression on the old man's face was very relaxed. "I'll leave these five people to you to interrogate; I have to go to the next unit to read their water meter."

"Okay, Uncle Jiang! See you!"

Wei Zhi saluted and bowed at the door. It was only after the old man left through the fire exit, hands still clasped behind his back, that Wei Zhi heaved a sigh of relief.

"Ah... That was dangerous! Uncle Jiang truly isn't over the hill just yet! When he released his vigor just now, I almost fainted!" Wei Zhi couldn't help marveling.

"This senior is...?" Loopy Toad was very curious.

"Have you heard of Jiang Lei?" asked Wei Zhi.

Loopy Toad was shaken – this was one of the Ten Founding Generals, like General Yi, Secretary Dakang and Minister Shi!

That old man was actually Marshal Jiang?

Wei Zhi: "Back then when the Gate Between Worlds opened for the first time, Uncle Jiang was a mighty force. When the first demon king landed, he attacked it on his own, and then used his scissors legs to crush its head."

Loopy Toad: "..."

Wei Zhi: "Now Uncle Jiang is gloriously retired. Oh, and also, the land this family apartment is on is his, and he built this building himself back then. Nowadays, he would be what we call... the landlord?"

Loopy Toad: "...A reminder that this is associated with the color green. The original saying is "Beautiful faces are everywhere, but beautiful souls are hard to find"

Chapter 384 Why Isn't Loopy Toad Back Yet?

Of course, in addition to the retired Marshal Jiang, there were many other experts hiding in the family apartment building.

This was also the reason why Wei Zhi had decided to take this twenty-third floor back then.

The thing that pet trainers were afraid of the most were these pet hunters; once they had their sights set on a spirit beast, these pet traffickers would do anything to obtain them. At the very least, setting up a base for breeding soul pets in this family apartment building gave Wei Zhi peace of mind.

After Marshal Jiang left, Wei Zhi looked at the five men tied up on the ground and sneered. Next would be the interrogation!

Pa!

He snapped his fingers.

In an instant, the vines hanging down from the ceiling in the living room unexpectedly seemed to wake up as if they had a consciousness of their own. They dragged this bunch inside and strung them up one by one from the ceiling.

They were actually plant-type spirit beasts?

Loopy Toad was startled at this scene; it had thought that these ceiling vines were just for show, and hadn't expected them to be alive.

The composition of plant-type spirit beasts in the spirit energy world was completely different from those in the Gate Between Worlds. In addition, the aura emitted by plant-type spirit beasts differed from regular spirit beasts, which was why Loopy Toad hadn't reacted to them at all. Although it was now at third class, in the end it still wasn't strong enough. It would be in a far better position once it reached second or even first class.

At the very least, Loopy Toad's ability to perceive things would be several levels higher than it was now.

It had to speed up its cultivation of the "Demon King Heart Sutra"!

This was Loopy Toad's thought.

Inside his place, Wei Zhi hung the men high up from the ceiling; among them, the bone dragon man who was the leader received the most bitter treatment as he was hung completely upside down.

Crossing his arms, Wei Zhi approached the bone dragon man. "Tell me, what organization do you belong to?"

Wei Zhi had previously already been able to tell that these five people's origins weren't simple. A "pet hunters organization" which even dared to charge into a family apartment building had to be a very big force. The people from this type of organization survived mostly by relying on the force backing them. The mightier the force was, the more arrogant the people were.

Unfortunately, these people had chosen the wrong place today.

The bone dragon man smiled miserably and gritted his teeth tightly, offering no reply. His face was already red as the blood rushed to his head, and he looked very uncomfortable.

Loopy Toad knew that in addition to absorbing spirit power from the air through photosynthesis, this plant-type spirit beast had an even more direct method, and that was to absorb energy from living creatures. So in addition to being hung upside down, the man's spirit power was being sucked out bit by bit, making him feel exceptionally unwell.

"I suggest that you tell us everything as soon as possible. For large-scale illegal organizations like yours, once all of you are caught, you'll be sentenced to hundreds of years in prison, easily," Wei Zhi said softly. "If you admit to your crimes now and help us find your hideout, I can arrange for you to be a witness in exchange for a shorter sentence. What do you think?"

When they heard this, the group of men in black broke out in a cold sweat; the very red face of the bone dragon man in particular was already dotted with beads of sweat.

He knew that Wei Zhi wasn't joking. Given the several state-protected spirit beasts that the organization had caught, a jail term of several hundred years wasn't much at all.

After all, picking up a bird's egg nowadays could mean nine years in jail...

But Wei Zhi also knew that his words were merely a reminder instead of a warning or threat.

Since they had chosen to engage in this illegal business, then whether it was the bone dragon man who was the leader or the group or the men in black behind him, they were well aware of the liabilities they faced.

They were like some celebrities who clearly knew that taking drugs was wrong, but still did so in search of so-called inspiration. Some live stream gamers were clearly already very popular, but still wanted to use cheats to flaunt their skills... Even though they knew they shouldn't, they still did it...

It wasn't easy for people like these to confess.

"I'll give you five minutes; this is your last chance." Wei Zhi stared at the bone dragon man with a solemn expression on his face

Five minutes later, the bone dragon man gritted his teeth and still refused to say anything.

"Time's up."

Wei Zhi had picked the right amount of time; he had already given the man a chance to reflect on and acknowledge his guilt, but most unfortunately, the latter had not cherished it.

"Loopy Butterfly!" At this time, Wei Zhi gave a light shout.

Loopy Toad: "???"

Wei Zhi grinned. "My Pushing Large Butterfly actually didn't have a nickname, so I gave it one just now. This name symbolizes my and Brother Dog's friendship."

Loopy Toad was stunned... You actually called it Loopy Butterfly – why not call it The Moon's Reflection on the Second Spring?

Hearing Wei Zhi's call, the Pushing Large Butterfly which had initially been resting on a flower petal slowly flew over and dusted the bone dragon man's head with sparkles of fine powder.

Loopy Toad: "What's that?"

Wei Zhi replied, "Hallucinogenic powder."

The bone dragon's face instantly turned unsightly. He hadn't expected Wei Zhi to have this trick.

"I initially didn't want to use this since the side effects of the hallucinogenic powder aren't minor. But I already gave him a chance." Wei Zhi sighed. As he said this, Loopy Toad saw the bone dragon man's pupils gradually begin to slacken as his eyes became faintly tinged with red.

These were signs that the powder was taking effect.

Wei Zhi stared at the man. "What organization are you from?"

The bone dragon man replied, "Demon... Demon Hunters Association..."

Wei Zhi: "How many core members are there?"

The bone dragon man: "Hundreds of core cadres..."

This answer stunned both Wei Zhi and Loopy Toad. There were actually hundreds of core cadres? Then there would be at least thousands of core members, maybe even ten thousand!

These last few years, pet trainers guilds across the country had joined forces with the police to clean up plenty of illegal organizations of pet hunters, but even at the most there hadn't been more than a hundred members. Compared with this organization that had hundreds of core cadres, they were completely small fry! — This time, they had really caught a whopper!

...

Elsewhere, Wang Ling looked at the time after coming back from school. It was already five o'clock in the evening, but Loopy Toad wasn't home yet.

Wang Ling felt empty somehow.

Logically speaking, no matter how late the process at the assessment center ran, the test should still be done in three or four hours. Wang Ling knew that Loopy Toad had gone in the morning, so it was actually a little unusual that it wasn't back yet at this time.

The old man looked at the time and was a little worried. "Ling Ling, did Loopy Toad get lost?"

The old man had learned a fair bit about pet traffickers from watching TV. In recent years especially, the country had cracked down even harder on this activity, leading to more and more coverage on this issue. Yet even then, there were still people willing to risk doing this thing.

The old man looked concerned. "These pet traffickers are even brazen enough to steal giant spirit beasts the size of a gorilla... Loopy Toad is so weak and small, what if it's in danger?"

His words made Wang Ling frown a little. Since he had formed a soul pet contract with Loopy Toad, he was well aware that right now, Loopy Toad was safe, and that it wasn't in any life-threatening danger at all.

As for the soul pet traffickers that Grandfather Wang had mentioned...

Wang Ling thought that if Loopy Toad had really run into them, then it really was the traffickers' bad luck. This is the translated title of the renowned song "Er Quan Ying Yue" by Chinese composer Abing, 'Er' meaning both 'two' and in Chinese slang 'foolish.'

Chapter 385 The Sky King Covers the Ground Tiger

On Wei Zhi's side, after the interrogation was over, he used the apartment phone to call one of his friends, who lived on the seventeenth floor. Every unit was equipped with cluster network functionality, so residents could contact each other easily; it could be said that there were no gaps in this neighborhood.

But to be able to directly find someone through this cluster network proved that Wei Zhi was extraordinarily close with this friend.

About three minutes after the call, a tall and sturdy man who was bundled up tightly and wearing sunglasses came upstairs. Although he was dressed a little strangely, his strength wasn't ordinary.

After the man stepped through the door, he swept his gaze over the trussed up men in black, and a rough voice came out of the face mask he was wearing. "Just these ones?"

"Yes, please." Wei Zhi smiled.

In tacit understanding, the burly man tied the five people together into one lump and directly dragged them away with a rope.

Loopy Toad: "Who's that?"

"Little Gang," said Wei Zhi.

Loopy Toad: "..."

Wei Zhi: "He's one of my bros; he's a retired captain of the criminal police force. He's still in contact with them, so leaving this group of men to him to handle won't be a problem at all."

Loopy Toad: "Do you also have a gal pal called Little Xia?"

Wei Zhi was greatly surprised. "How did you know?"

Loopy Toad: "..."

...

It was a small town which had almost been forgotten on the fringes of Songhai city.

The Demon Hunters Association's base of operations had been set up here.

When Wei Zhi arrived with Loopy Toad, the faint scent of blood that permeated the air made them frown instinctively. In order not to expose Loopy Toad, Wei Zhi had gotten a large travel bag for Loopy Toad to hide in. Even hiding as it was amidst the smell of leather, Loopy Toad could still smell the blood in the air — there was no mistake: this was the blood of spirit beasts.

This was nothing more than a small town, but the Demon Hunters Association was clearly using it as an actual spirit beast slaughterhouse.

After discussing it, Wei Zhi and Loopy Toad's plan was to find a way to infiltrate the association to check out the actual situation and then look for a chance to end these guys in one go!

With a large bag on his back, Wei Zhi walked down the street. On the surface, the entire street looked very clean and didn't revealed anything blasphemous going on.

However, there was no concealing the smell in the air; perhaps an ordinary cultivator might not smell it, but for Wei Zhi who was a professional pet trainer with a particularly keen nose for smell, it was simply too pungent.

Wei Zhi casually walked into a shop. It sold steamed buns, but Wei Zhi could smell that something wasn't right about the meat in the buns.

The shopkeeper was a fat man of three hundred jin, and the ground seemed to tremble when he moved.

"This new brother, would you like a steamed bun?" The shopkeeper lifted the lid of the steamer basket and looked at Wei Zhi.

Feigning calm, Wei Zhi exhaled, and just said three words: "I have goods."

The shopkeeper gave him a look. "The sky king covers the ground tiger!"

"The pagoda subdues the river monster!" Wei Zhi replied quickly.

The shopkeeper continued, "Crispy roast duck is good!"

Wei Zhi: "Sweet and sour pork is cooked!"

Loopy Toad: "..."

These were the secret passwords of the Demon Hunters Association which Wei Zhi had specifically asked for during the previous interrogation.

Since the passwords were right, the fat shopkeeper then turned off the fire under the steamer basket. He smiled as he looked at Wei Zhi, and then stood to one side and made a welcoming gesture. "This brother, please come in."

Following the shopkeeper as he led him inside, Wei Zhi could sense the smell of blood in the air getting stronger and stronger.

After walking through the secret passage in the steamed buns shop, Wei Zhi arrived at a hidden backstreet, and was met with a ghastly sight.

This was the true face of the town.

The backstreet was lined with high walls on both sides, under which several pet traffickers were peddling their wares. The whole street was filled with the smell of meat and blood. Wei Zhi could see many cages made out of black iron along the ground, with every type of spirit beast you could think of trapped inside: cats, dogs, foxes... Most of these animals had been caught by the Demon Hunters Association.

Some of them still had on collars with their owners' names engraved on them.

Some of the spirit beasts in the cages had been beaten black and blue and lay dying, gasping out their last breaths.

Seeing Wei Zhi's expression, the shopkeeper had the smile of one used to it. "From the looks of it, this little brother probably hasn't joined the association for very long. It's to be expected: for most newcomers, it would be a miracle if they didn't vomit each time they pass through this street."

"Do you see those little guys with the serious injuries?" The shopkeeper pointed at the wounded spirit beasts in the cages on the sides of the road. "These guys were hurt because they refused to break the contracts with their old owners."

Wei Zhi didn't speak, and just listened as the shopkeeper continued to talk.

"Although we have a barrier here, we're worried that the owners will find this place, so when the spirit beasts are sent here, we have them cancel the contracts with their owners." The shopkeeper chuckled. "But some spirit animals are so loyal that they don't want to cancel the contracts, so we have to force them."

"So... you beat them to this extent?" Wei Zhi struggled to keep the tremor out of his voice.

"Generally, a third party can only intervene in a contract when the spirit beasts are on the verge of death," the shopkeeper said lightly. "We'll pay to get those with pure blood treated. As for those of a low grade..."

Speaking up to this point, the shopkeeper pointed back to where the steamed buns shop was. "They'll all be delivered to my shop."

As he had been speaking, he had already led Wei Zhi deeper into the backstreet.

Wei Zhi realized that the captured spirit beasts here were organized according to their grades. Those at the top of the street didn't have high grades. As he passed deeper into the backstreet, Wei Zhi grimly discovered many state-protected spirit beasts.

These spirit beasts were enclosed in elaborate cages. They had blank eyes, as if they had been fed something similar to an "obedience potion" so that they would do whatever the sellers asked.

Finally, the shopkeeper stopped in front of a wooden house. "New brother, I'll leave you here. The person you are looking for is in this house."

Wei Zhi nodded and went in with the large bag on his back. There weren't many people in the wooden house, but they all had the signs of the Demon Hunters Association. Judging from their auras alone, these people were probably some of the Demon Hunters Association's core members.

This wooden house wasn't a regular trade venue, but a tearoom which was very likely used to discuss business.

After Wei Zhi sized up his surroundings for a bit, a man who looked to be fifty years old asked him, "Little brother, are you buying or selling?"

In his black apron and with cigarettes tucked behind both ears, the man looked like a butcher.

"I want to sell a spirit dog." Wei Zhi narrowed his eyes, found a place to sit down, then put the large travel bag he had been carrying on his lap.

This group of people had very sensitive sense of smell; from the moment Wei Zhi had entered the house, their eyes had been fixed unwaveringly on the large travel bag.

"Oh? What breed?"

"Akita."

Wei Zhi opened the travel bag and directly grabbed Loopy Toad's cheeks to lift its face — it felt so nice!

"Akita?"

This group of people was nonplussed when they heard this since akitas weren't part of the ranks of spirit dogs.

A moment later, the uncle who looked like a butcher spoke again, his eyes fixed on Loopy Toad. "Is this... a mongrel?"

Wei Zhi: "..."

Loopy Toad: "What! Are you! Looking at?!"

The uncle was greatly shocked. "From the northeast?!"

Loopy Toad: "...Little Zhi, Little Gang and Little Xia are the Chinese names of the main characters in the original 'Pokemon' series. This is the pass code used by bandits in the 1960 Chinese film 'Track in the Snowy Forest.' Loopy Toad here is speaking in a northeastern dialect.

Chapter 386 Wei Zhi's Strength

"This dog can actually talk?"

Like everyone else who had heard Loopy Toad talk, the people in this house looked at it in amazement.

"Uncle Zuo? Is this a second-class dog?" A very thin-looking young man lit the butcher uncle's cigarette for him.

The uncle immediately shook his head. "This dog is definitely not a second-class beast."

Wei Zhi and Loopy Toad took a rough measure of the strength of everyone present. The butcher uncle was only at the Golden Core stage, but realm clearly wasn't everything in the Demon Hunters Association. This butcher uncle called Uncle Zuo was obviously a longtime member of the Demon Hunters Association, and was experienced in appraising spirit beasts.

Uncle Zuo stared at Loopy Toad and reached out to stroke its dog fur, which made it feel disgusted. "Normally, spirit beasts aren't capable of language until they've reach second class, but it's clear that this dog... is very special."

Uncle Zuo smiled as he exhaled a ring of smoke and stared at Wei Zhi. "So, little brother, where did you get this dog?"

Wei Zhi scratched his head. "I grabbed it from a friend... He's a good person, and his family runs an inn. They have a collection of exotic animals; when I first saw this dog, I felt that it wasn't an ordinary one, so I wanted to take it away."

Strong Zuo: "It didn't resist?"

Wei Zhi: "It's mentally retarded."

Loopy Toad took a deep breath. "..."

"So it's like that."

Uncle Zuo sneered. "You actually stole it from a close friend; it looks like this little brother has promise."

"I'm flattered." Wei Zhi gave a fake smile.

"I'm in charge of appraisal here; if this little brother is ready to sell, then give us your price." Strong Zuo had a cigarette in his mouth, his expression relaxed.

"I'll have you know that my dog is very special."

Wei Zhi laughed. "So I want to see the top management here before I make a decision."

The young men on the side were clearly dissatisfied with Wei Zhi's attitude, but Uncle Zuo stretched out one hand to stop them. "Hehe, of all the newcomers who have dealt with our Demon Hunters Association, there are very few people like you, little brother, who have directly said that they want to see the top management during the first transaction. A dog like yours which can talk despite not yet having reached second class is indeed rare, but its level is in fact not high. Even if our president takes a look at it, he won't give you an especially high price for it; furthermore, it's not so easy for newcomers to meet him so easily."

Speaking up to this point, Strong Zuo narrowed his eyes slightly. "But all of that doesn't matter now."

"What do you mean?"

Wei Zhi frowned as he suddenly felt a hint of killing intent.

Crossing his arms, Strong Zuo said with a smile, "In our Demon Hunters Association, even if we can't agree on a price, you don't have any room to bargain."

Wei Zhi's expression twitched. "You want to take it by force?"

"Young man, this is your first time doing business with our Demon Hunters Association; you don't know how dangerous society is. If you leave the dog here willingly, everyone will be happy. If you refuse, you'll suffer for it." After he finished speaking, Strong Zuo couldn't help adding, "This is the rule of society nowadays; it's also not good to kill people."

Loopy Toad: "???"

Wei Zhi: "???"

Wei Zhi and Loopy Toad were both stupefied when they heard this... A gang of lawbreaking pet traffickers were actually starting to talk about the law here?!

"Looks like the only thing we can do is fight."

Wei Zhi sighed in his heart; he hadn't expected things to ultimately come to this point.

He had initially intended to make his move after the highest level of management appeared, but he had overlooked one thing: from the beginning, there was no way that this gang of illegal pet traffickers was ever going to deal with him properly.

"Are our odds of winning good?" Loopy Toad asked telepathically; it had already jumped out of the travel bag, gaze fixed on the people surrounding them.

There were twelve people in total, and while the leader Strong Zuo didn't have a high realm, his subordinates were very troublesome, with four of them being at the peak late Golden Core stage.

"What, want to fight?"

Strong Zuo stared at Wei Zhi with a sneer. "The one thing our Demon Hunters Association doesn't lack is people; the twelve of us can be considered experts in the association. If you want to make a move here, it won't do you any good."

"Doesn't matter."

Wei Zhi waved his hand lightly. "I wanted to wait until your president came out at first, then take care of all of you in one go. It's just twelve Golden Core cultivators."

Seeing this, Loopy Toad was inwardly very reassured: as expected, this Wei Zhi was an expert! After all, he had used body movements back then which were completely beyond his realm, and it was hard to get a read on his aura; he had definitely concealed his level. Since he could be so calm in the face of twelve Golden Core cultivators, he was obviously very confident in his realm.

Hearing Wei Zhi's words, Strong Zuo began to sense that Wei Zhi's identity wasn't simple, and he glared at him. "Who the hell are you?"

Since things had come to this point, Wei Zhi had nothing to hide, and he simply took out his pet trainer medal.

"Pet trainer?"

Everyone in the room was alarmed.

Strong Zuo stared at Wei Zhi and clenched his teeth. "Are you undercover?"

Wei Zhi flicked his peaked cap back and forth and laughed. "When I entered the backstreet just now, I'd already sent out the coordinates of this place. I believe a whole lot of police are making their way here right now."

Hearing this, Strong Zuo and the others became deeply unhappy and couldn't take it anymore.

"Grab them!"

"Shitty brat, don't blame us since you want to court death!"

"Damn kid!"

Three Golden Core cultivators instantly stretched out their hands at the same time to subdue Wei Zhi.

This was the "Grab Hand," which wasn't a top-level technique of any kind, but when the three Golden Core cultivators moved at the same time, the pressure and might generated was extraordinary. The three men flanked Wei Zhi from different directions, and the Grab Hand seemed to form a strong triangular shackle in the air. Once a cultivator at the same realm level was suppressed by it, it was very hard to break free.

Loopy Toad knew that now was the time for Wei Zhi to show his true strength!

"A petty trick!"

Wei Zhi snorted, and that familiar body movement came out in front of Loopy Toad once again; in the split second that he was surrounded by the three people, he actually slipped passed them at a weird angle.

What great movement!

On the side, Loopy Toad couldn't help sighing at this scene.

But gradually, it started to realize something...

It noticed that Wei Zhi seemed to be dodging all this time, and didn't have any intention of making a move.

What was going on?

Why wasn't he taking action?

While his body movements were indeed remarkable, it was impossible to win with them alone.

Just as Loopy Toad was wondering what Wei Zhi would do next, a telepathic call for help came its way while Wei Zhi was dodging these people's attack. "Brother Dog! Why are you just looking? Help me out!"

Loopy Toad: "???"

Telepathically, Wei Zhi said anxiously, "Body movement is the only skill I have!"

Loopy Toad: "..."

Chapter 387 Wang Ling's Remote Assistance

It was thus at this point that Loopy Toad had to acknowledge a tragic fact — there really were some cultivators in this world that practiced body movement as their main method of cultivation, when for most of them, it was just a minor option.

"After all that, you only know how to dodge attacks!"

Wei Zhi explained, "Pet trainers rely on soul pets to fight; as an owner, the most important thing is to direct the fight and protect yourself at the same time, so since I was young, my family taught me to put my safety first above all else; as long as I can dodge well, there is no 'boss' that can hit me!"

Loopy Toad was stunned. "... " This sounded a bit like nonsense, but if you thought about it carefully, it actually made some sense!

Loopy Toad: "Then did you bring your soul pets?"

Wei Zhi: "No."

Loopy Toad: "... "

As he continued to using his dodging skills, Wei Zhi grinned with bold conviction. "Don't I have you?"

Loopy Toad: "... "

This f**king scammer!

In this way, Loopy Toad suddenly found that the burden of this fight had been thrust upon it.

Although the wooden house was large enough, Wei Zhi using body movements to continually avoid attacks wasn't a long-term solution; all his physical strength and spirit energy would ultimately be spent.

"Set up the array!"

Strong Zuo shouted lightly before he retreated behind the group of people. Runes blossomed in his hands, and he rolled together a large amount of spirit power which made the whole house shake, creating cracks in the wooden walls.

The suppression array set up by twelve Golden Core cultivators working together would naturally have an extraordinary effect. Spirit potential roared and the piercing sound waves produced by the intense vibrations in the air numbed the heart; it felt like a big cat dragging its nails down a blackboard, which tormented anyone who heard it.

"You can't escape the combined suppression of twelve Golden Core cultivators. Since our levels are the same, there is no way for you to escape!" Strong Zuo shouted sternly with his hands pressed together as the man and the dog in front of him were rendered completely immobile and trapped inside the magic array.

Wei Zhi had broken out in a cold sweat; his body movements were completely useless in the face of such a powerful suppression array.

Loopy Toad narrowed its eyes.

Looking at the current situation, they lacked a numbers advantage and they just didn't have the same level of battle strength – there was only one last option...

In the soul pet contract agreement, there was an extra option at the end to allow owners to cast assistance-type spells on combat pets through the power of the contract; as long as this power existed, distance wasn't an issue, and pets could get remote assistance!

Loopy Toad had thought of this trump card in the beginning, but it hadn't wanted to use it; it had its pride as a demon king.

It had initially thought that Wei Zhi would be strong enough, and by working in concert with this strength, they would be able to completely wipe out this gang of Golden Core cultivators... But reality had proven that it had been thinking too much!

At that very moment, everyone thought the outcome was a foregone conclusion.

Strong Zuo looked at Loopy Toad with a sneer. "Your fur is strange, but you're very meaty; when you're made into a steamed bun later, you might taste pretty good!"

Wei Zhi appeared to have been completely suppressed inside the array, but in fact he wasn't. The number one priority as a professional pet trainer was to protect yourself, so it wasn't like he didn't have a way to escape.

However, he was dying to know exactly how unusual Loopy Toad was.

Then, to everyone's surprise, Loopy Toad suddenly raised its dog head with a mocking expression on its face. "You really think I can't beat you?"

The twelve Golden Core cultivators exchanged blank looks.

It was just a mongrel spirit dog with green fur that was spouting human words and mouthing off at everyone – it was quite comical just thinking about this scene.

Standing at the back, Strong Zuo stared at Loopy Toad for a few seconds, and then couldn't help laughing. "You're nothing more than a spirit dog that hasn't reached second class. What makes you qualified to challenge us? A pet is meant to be enslaved."

Loopy Toad also laughed. "You want to enslave this king? I'm afraid you're not qualified. If you think you're capable, give me thirty seconds, and I'll beat the crap out of you!"

"What did you say?!"

Loopy Toad narrowed its eyes. "I said, give me thirty seconds! I this person... no, this dog! Will beat the crap out of you!"

Such a stunning statement made everyone in the wooden house suddenly go quiet for a long moment; even the air seemed to freeze.

Only Wei Zhi had a pleasantly surprised expression on his face... Thirty seconds? What on earth could Loopy Toad do?

Strong Zuo snorted coldly. "Fine! I'll give you thirty seconds; let's see what you can do!"

This reply pleased Loopy Toad, because it took time to communicate with Wang Ling through the contract. Furthermore, there absolutely couldn't be any external interference while it was happening... the most important thing was that thirty seconds was more than enough time!

Loopy Toad was very certain that the people of the Demon Hunters Association viewed spirit beasts as commodities and like dirt, so it had tried to buy time with an arrogant attitude – who would have thought that things had truly gone according to plan!

Thirty seconds!

Once thirty seconds had passed!

This bunch of people were dead!

At this point, the entire scene had fallen into silence.

Everyone was waiting to see what would happen after thirty seconds.

...

Just as the second hand passed the thirty-second mark...

The sky started to rumble.

As if the might of the heavens was pouring down, a godly beam of light suddenly penetrated the ceiling of the wooden house directly to fall on Loopy Toad.

What was that?

In the wooden house, the twelve Golden Core cultivators led by Strong Zuo were all greatly astonished, and doubts subconsciously started to surface in their minds.

At this time, boundless talisman light swirled around Loopy Toad; even its feet glowed with brilliant radiance – as this spirit light increased, the strength of Loopy Toad's aura rose sharply!

It didn't take a single step, merely wagged its tail, and invisible spirit power was released.

Then, everyone heard a crash.

Strong Zuo turned pale with fright; the sound wasn't coming from anywhere else but the array that the twelve Golden Core cultivators had joined hands to set up earlier... It had actually been shattered by an attack from this invisible spirit power!

"Uncle Zuo? What is this?"

"Auxiliary spells! This dog used the power of the contract to allow its owner to cast auxiliary spells on itself!"

"How many spells are there in total?"

Strong Zuo narrowed his eyes and stared cautiously at Loopy Toad. "Judging from this type of light, there are probably no less than forty spells..."

"No less than forty?" The other men turned pale.

"Don't panic, they're just augmentation spells, and can only last for a short time! We just need to get through this duration!" Strong Zuo said.

Get through this duration?

Loopy Toad couldn't help laughing when it heard this.

How long an augmentation spell lasted depended on the level of the spell. A low-grade augmentation spell would naturally last for a very short time... But the main point was that these spells had all been personally cast by Little Master Ling!

There were fully forty-nine augmentation spells in total!

And each one of them was a full-grade spell!

Loopy Toad hmped in its heart.

Hmph!

You're done for!

The current me!

Is super terrifying!

Chapter 388 The Legendary Deer Demon...

Every dog had its day. The twelve Golden Core cultivators were dumbstruck at this change in events. With the support of fully forty-odd auxiliary spells, various kinds of light and sigils swirled around Loopy Toad to form an unbreakable circle that was three feet in diameter... Aura poured out in whirls like a vortex, with Loopy Toad at its center.

Bolstered by forty-nine augmentation spells in total, Loopy Toad's power couldn't be compared with what it had been like earlier.

For five minutes, Loopy Toad stood there, quietly regarding everyone.

"You..."

Finally, there was a hint of fear in Strong Zuo's eyes.

An auxiliary spell would weaken the longer it was in effect. Usually the most it could last for was just two minutes, but this was in the case of low-grade spells.

In Strong Zuo's experience, anything longer than five minutes was already very long.

However, the effects of the spells on Loopy Toad showed no signs of weakening at all after five minutes.

This proved that these auxiliary spells were of a very high level, and were very likely top-grade!

The most important thing was, given that each auxiliary spell was at its most refined, Strong Zuo was starting to realize that he might have provoked a great senior with an unfathomable realm.

"Who... who the hell is your owner?!" Strong Zuo had long lost his arrogant tone after his aura had been completely suppressed; under the absolute pressure of this aura, even breathing was very difficult!

Twelve Golden Core cultivators from the Demon Hunters Association had actually been suppressed by a dog that had yet to attain second class... If this incident got out, they would definitely become laughingstocks.

But Strong Zuo had no time to think about such things right now.

The only way they could win now was to think of how to drag out the duration of the auxiliary spells or avoid fighting as much as possible.

"Everyone, transfer all your spirit power into my Mystery Umbrella! Let's join together and fight!" Standing in the front, Strong Zuo raised his hand, and a huge umbrella actually appeared.

The twelve Golden Core cultivators acted together, and spirit light burst forth above the umbrella as the bright light that was released took the form of a halo.

But very quickly, this light actually disappeared straightaway!

"What's going on?"

Strong Zuo was aghast when he discovered his umbrella covered in a layer of ice.

This was... the Aura-Freezing Spell?

When he saw this scene, Wei Zhi couldn't help narrowing his eyes on the side – this was a very advanced demon race spell! When the Gate Between Worlds had descended the first two times, every major pet trainers guild had thoroughly analyzed the spells commonly used by the demon race, in response to the demon beasts that had poured out of the Gate.

The "Aura-Freezing Spell" was one of them. It released a special qi which could counteract a spirit wave or blade produced by a magic weapon, and could even make the weapon malfunction temporarily.

Back then, the demon god Li Xiaolu, a deer demon, had used a highly refined version of the Aura-Freezing Spell, and General Yi and the others had suffered bitterly for it in battle.

Wei Zhi wasn't clear on the exact details, and only knew the rough history.

At that time, Li Xiaolu had certainly shocked everyone with this demon race "Aura-Freezing Spell"! In the first confrontation with the enemy, which was the heavenly-level human race Hip-Hop Sect, it had directly and completely wiped out all the sect's top rhythm cultivators –

it was said that even the air had frozen then.

After that first battle, Li Xiaolu had been bestowed the grand title of King of Hip-Hop Destruction!

...

Wei Zhi was now becoming more and more interested in Loopy Toad.

It was clearly just an akita, which was a breed that wasn't part of the ranks of spirit dogs, yet it was hiding a tremendous amount of spirit power.

Such a unique spirit dog was actually capable of using a spell of the demon race.

Wei Zhi thought he could already guess what Loopy Toad's specific situation was.

The Mystery Umbrella had barely made an appearance before it had instantly malfunctioned after just a few seconds!

Strong Zuo's face had changed dramatically, and he took several steps back in terror... He could see that not only was this dog's owner very powerful, even the dog's identity wasn't as simple as he had thought.

"You can't even get close to me with your current realm; you still want to combine forces to fight me?" Loopy Toad raised its dog head and smiled coldly.

In the next instant, Wei Zhi saw Loopy Toad's body emit a magnificent light which then enveloped Wei Zhi!

Was it afraid he would be affected? Was it going to release some great skill?

Wei Zhi watched the scene in front of him attentively.

"I can't move!"

Strong Zuo blurted loudly on the other side!

He was aghast when he realized that the unusual aura that had frozen the Mystery Umbrella had made its way up the magic weapon to seize their bodies and also freeze them!

This definitely wasn't what a normal third-class spirit dog could do... Even if it had been strengthened, the extent of this power was something that even second-class spirit beasts found difficult to achieve!

All kinds of thoughts spun around in Strong Zuo's mind.

"You shouldn't have provoked me." Loopy Toad swept a lazy gaze over these people.

The next moment, it released a green aura which looked like countless hands that lunged for the heads of these Golden Core cultivators!

The cultivators couldn't avoid them at all, much less resist!

The moment this aura penetrated his skull, Strong Zuo promptly felt like collapsing.

Did this spell have a weakening effect?

No, it didn't seem that simple...

Roughly ten seconds later, a dozen Golden Core experts fell to the ground simultaneously with a loud bang.

Strong Zuo, the butcher uncle who was the leader, stretched out one miserable hand. "Senior Dog... spare me! I was wrong!"

Loopy Toad was unperturbed as it completely paid no attention to all the screams. It was only after a full minute that the large incorporeal aura hands detached themselves from the heads of the twelve Golden Core cultivators.

These Golden Core cultivators hadn't been killed, but their auras were extremely faint; most of all, their faces looked very unsightly, as if they had been robbed of their essence.

Looking at this chaotic scene of tragedy in the wooden house, Wei Zhi's brain felt numb, and his mouth was dry as he asked, "...Brother Dog, would it be possible for you to please explain what on earth just happened?"

Although Wei Zhi could think of several spells that could cause these effects, he couldn't be entirely sure what had just happened.

In short, this definitely wasn't a spell with a weakening function... If it had just been such a spell, these twelve Golden Core certainly wouldn't look this depressed, as if they had been toyed with and thrown away.

Loopy Toad narrowed its eyes and smirked. "I took fifty years off each of them."

What the f**k?!

Extending its own life?!

Wei Zhi was shaken by this operation.

This was really too vicious! Actress Li Xiaolu's extramarital affair with well-known hip-hop artiste PG One was said to have destroyed the hip-hop circle, hence the nickname.

Chapter 389 Your Good Friend Odd Zhuo Is Online!

The twelve Golden Core cultivators in the wooden house in this backstreet were some of the main core members of the Demon Hunters Association. At this stage, however, the root of this association had yet to be completely disposed of since its head hadn't been caught.

Wei Zhi and Loopy Toad's original plan had been to wipe out all the core members in one go, but they had underestimated how cunning this gang of pet traffickers was.

What was worse, the violent sounds of fighting in the wooden house and the wretched screams of these association core members as they had fallen to the floor had already attracted the attention of many people in the backstreet.

Some of the pet traffickers had sensed that something was wrong, and were already getting ready to pack up and run. Unfortunately for them, Wei Zhi had made ample preparations.

Loopy Toad looked out a broken window; even from the backstreet, it could already hear the loud sirens coming from outside.

Wei Zhi had called the police earlier, and this seemingly peaceful little town was now already heavily surrounded.

Even now, large numbers of SWAT officers holding anti-explosion magic shields were pushing deeper into the backstreet.

This was probably the biggest case of spirit beast trafficking this year. Although currently, the head of the organization had not yet been caught, and some of the core members had fled, Loopy Toad felt that they couldn't run for very long.

But now it was faced with a new problem, and that was how to get out of here...

In a situation with so people around, its fur was too eye-catching. If the SWAT teams pushing deeper into this backstreet searched this house and found these twelve Golden Core cultivators lying on the floor... Loopy Toad reckoned it would be in the headlines the next day.

It was wondering how it was going to leave when it suddenly smelled a familiar aura in the crowd.

Roughly two or three minutes later, Loopy Toad saw a familiar figure... Odd Zhuo had come!

As usual, Odd Zhuo was wearing a three-piece suit with his hair slicked back in the typical manner of an elite public figure of society.

"Is this your friend?"

When Wei Zhi saw Odd Zhuo, he was a little surprised as he felt that this man was familiar for some reason, but for one moment, he couldn't place his finger on it.

But when he saw the symbol of the General Administration of 100 Schools on Odd Zhuo's chest, Wei Zhi suddenly remembered... Wasn't this person the leader who was the talk of the town recently? He was the youngest director of the General Administration of 100 Schools in history! He was the man who had become famous after using an air attack to defeat a demon king back then.

Now that Wei Zhi thought about it, there was something a little odd about this man who had shown up at almost every major incident recently — too suspicious!

Odd Zhuo hurried over with a travel bag on his back which had obviously been prepared for Loopy Toad.

"Shifu asked me to pick you up."

As soon as he entered the wooden house, Odd Zhuo straightaway opened the travel bag. From this single simple sentence, Loopy Toad already knew why Odd Zhuo was here.

The man and the dog shared a tacit mutual understanding.

Loopy Toad didn't have to be polite with Odd Zhuo, and it dove directly into the travel bag; it could already sense the approach of other auras – if any outsiders saw this scene, it would be very troublesome.

Watching this from the side, Wei Zhi's expression indicated that he didn't quite understand what was going on, but it was awesome anyway.

This shifu... had to be Brother Dog's owner, right?

Who on earth this shifu was, was something that Wei Zhi was really curious about.

To be the shifu of Odd Zhuo, the currently popular director of the General Administration of 100 Schools, and to have such a fantastic dog... all of this started to make Wei Zhi wonder about the power of the great senior behind the scenes.

After all, not just anyone could learn to cast forty-nine consecutive top-grade auxiliary spells.

After putting Loopy Toad into the travel bag, Odd Zhuo finally sighed in relief as he directly put it on his back. Then he straightaway stepped forward with a slight smile on his face to shake hands with Wei Zhi. "Are you comrade Wei Zhi, who reported this illegal trafficking of spirit beasts?"

They had barely shaken hands when Wei Zhi saw a mob of reporters pour in from behind. As soon as they entered the house, the cameras went off in flashes of light.

Even Loopy Toad in the travel bag was alarmed by the situation, let alone Wei Zhi... it was a good thing that Odd Zhuo had shown up earlier on!

"Mm, that's right... I was the one who called it in." Since Wei Zhi couldn't hide inside the bag like Loopy Toad, he could only reply as thus.

The group of reporters then filmed Odd Zhuo and Wei Zhi shaking hands for several seconds.

After that, a female reporter from Cultivation Daily asked, "Director Odd Zhuo, how is it that the moment something major occurs, you are able to rush to the scene to direct operations? This spirit beast trafficking incident this time doesn't seem to be under the jurisdiction of the General Administration of 100 Schools. Director Zhuo, don't you think that you've overstepped your boundaries?"

Odd Zhuo frowned and stared at the female reporter with a solemn face. "What this female comrade has said is incorrect... whatever the time or place, as long as the people need me, I should be there."

Listening to his words, the group of reporters behind them started to take notes.

The female reporter who had asked the question sighed secretly. This wasn't the first time she had come into contact with Odd Zhuo. She actually thought she had run fast enough in order to be the first to bring the latest news... But she had never expected Odd Zhuo to rob her of every major event headline this year.

This current leader of the General Administration of 100 Schools was too diligent!

"Then... is it possible for Director Zhuo to please give us the latest updates on this incident?" the female reporter asked.

Odd Zhuo cleared his throat and faced the video cameras and incessant flashes of light. "This is the biggest reported case of illegal spirit beast trafficking this year. Furthermore, based on our investigation, this organization is called the Demon Hunters Association. Some of the criminal suspects are on the run, and specific details will be released in the news to the public later. I believe that with great efforts made by the police, this case will be solved very quickly. You can't run from the long arm of the law."

"Director Zhuo, who was the one to defeat these criminal suspects lying on the floor?"

Odd Zhuo instantly perked up at this question, and he hurriedly stepped forward to grip Wei Zhi's hand again. "If you want to thank someone, thank this little brother who reported it! He was the one who defeated all these people! By the time I showed up, they were already down!"

"..."

Wei Zhi almost spat blood — this was telling blatant lies with your eyes wide open!

"What's more, looking at the conditions of these twelve criminal suspects after engaging in battle with this person who reported them, they look haggard and gloomy, as if they've been sapped of their strength. So I suspect..."

Speaking up to this point, Odd Zhuo looked at Wei Zhi. "This little brother used the legendary... Essence-Absorbing Skill!

Wei Zhi: "???"

Essence... Essence-Absorbing Skill?

The reporters behind them were all astounded.

The female reporter was very excited. "Lighting! Lighting! Make sure to take lots of photos! Sound, turn on the equipment! Stuff the microphone into this person's mouth!" In Chinese, can mean "to absorb essence" or "to suck in semen" (i.e. a blowjob).

Chapter 390 Little Silver Wants to Rebel!

The night the Demon Hunters Association was exposed, the news had already spread like wildfire before the media could announce it publicly.

When Wang Ling opened the cultivation forum that night, he found that the number of new posts had already broken the ten thousand mark, and almost all of the discussion was centered around the Demon Hunters Association.

Some of the posts included images from the scene of pitiful spirit beasts that had been forced to cancel their contracts, lying motionless in their cages, gasping and bloody, and covered in multiple wounds, which was a horrifying sight.

Some low-grade spirit beasts had been stripped of their fur while still alive to make Taoist robes and boots... The most important point was that almost all of the spirit beasts traded in the Demon Hunters Association turned out to have had owners before.

No buying and selling of spirit beasts and no killing – who would have thought that the Demon Hunters Association would have the guts to dare continue commit these crimes at a time when the state had prohibited the capture and trafficking of spirit beasts.

For the cultivators following this incident and those calling for people to live in harmony with spirit beasts, this was a huge blow to them.

Furthermore, the pressure from public outcry ultimately still fell on the special task force responsible for investigating the Demon Hunters Association as well as its commander, Odd Zhuo.

It had to be pointed out that while the Demon Hunters Association had been exposed, those that had been captured were pet traffickers peddling spirit beasts and lesser members of the organization. Not all the core members had been captured, and currently no one even knew who the head of the organization was.

Of all the core members arrested, Strong Zuo ranked the highest, and according to his confession, he had never seen the face of the head, and only knew that his surname was Bai. Everyone in the organization addressed him as Chairman Bai.

Furthermore, each time Chairman Bai made an appearance, it was accompanied by rolling fog and steam – it wasn't just his face, but his entire figure also couldn't be seen.

At the prison, Warden Liang had a special magic treasure which could be used to detect lies. With this verification, it was indeed as Strong Zuo had said, and the identity of the head behind the Demon Hunters Association was a mystery.

After Loopy Toad got home that night, it read the various posts online together with Wang Ling, while Odd Zhuo texted Wang Ling some of the results from the interrogation as soon as he obtained them.

Wang Ling noticed that Loopy Toad had apparently taken this incident to heart.

Loopy Toad had once been a demon king, but after all, a demon king was also a demon beast. In essence, demon beasts and spirit beasts were branches from the same tree – the only difference was in the power medium that they used.

Hence, when Loopy Toad looked at these pictures in the forum, it felt extremely moved. It couldn't imagine at all what would happen if one day it was caught and treated like this.

Of course, with Wang Ling around, there was no way that would happen.

But Loopy Toad's attitude toward the Demon Hunters Association was already very clear — it would definitely ferret out the mastermind behind the scenes!

Wang Ling stroked Loopy Toad's head.

Then, he realized that while going through the posts with him, this guy had actually fallen asleep on the table, just like that!

Loopy Toad's narcolepsy had struck again!

It was a good thing it had happened at home – if it had happened in the fight just now, the consequences would have been simply unimaginable.

This matter needed to be resolved as soon as possible!

Wang Ling cupped his chin in his hand as he pondered this. Then he picked up this lump of dog stuck to the table and put it down at his feet.

After the last time he had called Grenade-Throwing Senior Immortal to look for Little Silver to sell him some holy beast blood, Grenade-Throwing Senior Immortal had bought Little Silver a cell phone and applied for a new number.

He had already sent Little Silver's cell phone number to Wang Ling previously.

Hence, Wang Ling directly contacted Little Silver this time.

"When will you send it over?"

The message was as short as always, with just six words.

Little Silver was sitting on the sofa in Grenade-Throwing Senior Immortal's house, and when he saw this message, he was so scared he almost dropped the phone. To be honest, the last time he had unsuccessfully bled himself had been pretty painful.

It wasn't a big deal that he hadn't succeeded, but the point was that he had been treated as a depressed suicidal teenager, arrested by the police for ritualistic behavior, and then sent to the hospital as a mental patient.

Little Silver had initially wanted to relax for a few days before trying again... Holy beasts might have a strong ability to recover, but it wasn't meant to be used like this!

Little Silver stared at his cell phone screen, not knowing what to do. He didn't dare directly refuse Wang Ling.

"How about... I pretend I didn't see it?" Little Silver's hands were shaking.

In a situation like this, ignoring it was usually the best way to avoid awkwardness! It was like your girlfriend looking for you when you were playing a game – there was no way you could tell her you were playing a game... so ignoring was the best option! It was better to wait for an appropriate time to reply later!

Thinking this, Little Silver suddenly raised his head... This was probably the legendary non-action, right?

Right! It had to be!

Little Silver nodded his head firmly, and then directly steeled his heart and turned off the phone.

He actually... ignored Master!

For some reason, Little Silver felt that he was especially cool at that moment!

Mm, there were times when you had to be aggressive! Learn to resist! Learn to say no! Even if the other party was a big boss, you couldn't bow to them!

This was the dignity that every holy beast had to have!

On the other side, Wang Ling had very clearly seen through the cell phone screen Little Silver's flustered image as he sat on the sofa, including how he had turned his phone off...

Wang Ling could activate his Heavenly Eye whenever he wanted and link his optic nerves to any type of screen. This was a new and modern spell which he had developed himself, like how he could control his nose hair to create a filter inside his nose against PM2.5.

After connecting his Heavenly Eye to Little Silver's cell phone screen and witnessing Little Silver's action, Wang Ling took a deep breath. Hm... he had actually been ignored...

But Wang Ling wasn't angry at all. After all, the blood he wanted indeed was a bit too much... But this was an incomparable bargain for Little Silver.

The twenty packets of crispy noodle snacks Wang Ling was using to buy this blood were part of his collection! Eating them would produce unimaginable benefits!

"????"

Phone in hand, Wang Ling sent another text.

On the other side, Little Silver was stunned when his cell phone turned on by itself!

What was going on?

Could this phone start up on its own?

Little Silver then saw the four question marks which Wang Ling had sent.

Little Silver: "..."

Before he could turn the phone off again, Wang Ling's next text came through: "Give up, it's useless."

Little Silver: "..."

Wang Ling: "I can turn on your phone remotely for you."

Little Silver: "..."

Wang Ling: "I know you're reading this."

And then, after several seconds...

Wang Ling didn't send a word, but a "kitchen knife" emoji.

His meaning was very clear: If you don't come, I'll go get it myself...

Little Silver was so scared he broke out in a cold sweat. He replied to Wang Ling in a panic.
"Tomorrow! Is tomorrow fine?!"

Wang Ling replied: "Fine."

Before Little Silver could calm down completely, Wang Ling's second reply came: "You won't get paid if you're late."

Little Silver: "...Based on the Taoist concept of 'Wu Wei' in the loose sense of not doing anything but letting things happen naturally. This refers to the concentration of fine particulate matter, and is a way to measure air pollution