

Devil World 231

Chapter 231: Jealousy and Courage!

Xiong Zheng looked carefully for a while, before shaking his head and saying,

“No! I haven’t heard of anybody setting up a military camp here.”

Yue Zhong stared fixedly at Xu Feng and asked directly,

“Since you have been there before, you should be clear on its establishment. How many squads are there?”

Xu Feng smiled and said,

“This place is the XXX Mechanized Infantry Brigade Station. There were over 3000 people stationed there. There are tanks, armed helicopters, autonomous artillery and many other kinds of equipment.”

Hearing this, Xiong Zheng’s eyes lit up and he exclaimed excitedly,

“Mechanized Infantry Brigade?! We’ve really struck it rich!! This time we’ll strike it rich!!”

Yue Zhong was equally as excited, since with the Mechanized Infantry Brigade and its equipment, his troops would gain a huge boost in battle power.

Yue Zhong suppressed the excitement in his heart and his expression remained calm as he gave an order to Chen Ming:

“Chen Ming, go prepare by gathering all the working vehicles and fuel. Tomorrow, I’ll bring some men to open up this place.”

Regardless of whether the information was accurate or not, Yue Zhong was willing to take a risk and concentrate his forces on opening up this place.

Chen Ming nodded and replied, “Yes!”

After making a decision, Yue Zhong dismissed the rest of the people. He himself walked out of the conference room and strode towards the main villa compound. Although most of the buildings in the town had been burnt down, the villa compound was still intact and most of the survivors had settled here. Currently, each and every family was cooking the Mutant Pork, and there was a delicious scent wafting through the air. Everyone had a rarely seen look of expectation on their faces.

Along the way, whenever the survivors saw Yue Zhong, most of them would voluntarily salute him. The man in front of them had saved their lives, and had even provided them with meat that was hard to come by. At this moment, they were all extremely grateful to Yue Zhong. After taking over Clear Wind Camp, their lives had improved a lot in such a short period of time- compared to Lie Tianyang, they greatly preferred Yue Zhong as their ruler.

Yue Zhong entered Zhuo Yatong’s room and immediately saw the incredibly beautiful and mature lady sitting there quietly, elegantly reading a novel. A cute loli was sleeping beside the beauty.

Zhuo Yatong's body had been in excellent condition, and it was only due to the exhausting battle that she was rammed against by the Mutant Pig, causing her to lose her mobility. After taking the Life-Saving Grass and resting for the entire afternoon, she had already made a full recovery, although her stamina was yet to fully replenish itself.

Yue Zhong gazed at the quiet and elegant Zhuo Yatong as he thought back to her outstanding efforts in the bloody battle against the Mutant Pigs. His heart racing, Yue Zhong reached out to hug this absolute beauty as he inhaled her fragrance and slowly spoke out some heartfelt words,

"It's been really tough on you today. However, if you face a similar situation next time, I hope that you will retreat before you lose all your strength. I don't want to lose you."

Earlier today, if it wasn't for Zhuo Yatong's determination, the defence line at the department store would have already been broken down. If that had happened, the death count would have definitely been in the hundreds, thus Zhuo Yatong could be considered as a hero as well. However, everyone has some selfishness in them, and deep down, Yue Zhong placed more importance on Zhuo Yatong than the other survivors. If he lost his troops, then he could train new ones; if he lost survivors, he could search for more. Even if 300 survivors were to die, it would not affect him as much as if Zhuo Yatong were to perish.

"Mm!"

Zhuo Yatong could feel Yue Zhong's sincere concern and the corners of her mouth raised slightly, before revealing a captivating smile. With just these words from Yue Zhong, she felt that it was all worth it. Yue Zhong truly cared about her and did not view her as one of his normal subordinates.

Gazing at the beauty in front of him, Yue Zhong could not resist and planted a kiss on her cherry-like lips. Zhuo Yatong also returned the kiss passionately, and soon their tongues entwined.

In the heat of the passion, Yue Zhong became increasingly aroused and he unconsciously started unbuttoning her blouse; he slipped his hands into her clothes and grabbed hold of her ample 'white rabbits' full of elasticity.

Zhuo Yatong was surprised and her face immediately flushed red. She gritted her teeth and resisted Yue Zhong's advances, before pleading pitifully,

"Not here!! Caiwei is right beside us!!"

The moment she mentioned Yun Caiwei, Yue Zhong also became clear-headed and he stopped his onslaught with extreme reluctance.

Yue Zhong had just drawn his hands back when Yun Caiwei's petite body shook a little, as she rubbed her eyes and sat up groggily. Looking at Yue Zhong and her mother, whose clothes were in a disarray, she asked innocently,

"Mummy! What were you doing with Big Brother?"

Zhuo Yatong's face immediately turned a deeper shade of red, since she did not know how to answer her daughter. She could not help but stare at the culprit, Yue Zhong, with a slight accusing look.

Yue Zhong's expression did not change, as he ruffled Yun Caiwei's hair and smiled gently,

"Go change and have dinner! There's your favourite roast meat tonight!"

Yun Caiwei gazed at Yue Zhong and her eyes immediately lit up as she asked,

"Roast meat? Is it the same as the tender and fragrant roast meat we ate the other day?"

That Type 2 Mutant Black-scaled Boar meat was the tastiest meat that Yun Caiwei had ever eaten, and she had constantly craved for it.

Yue Zhong smiled lightly at Yun Caiwei and said, "Mm! It's precisely that type of meat!"

"Yayy!! Big brother is the best! This is your reward!" Yun Caiwei immediately threw herself into Yue Zhong's arms, lowering her head and planting a kiss on his cheek.

Zhuo Yatong gazed lovingly at Yun Caiwei as she called out gently,

"Caiwei, don't bother your big brother! Quickly go change your clothes, otherwise there won't be any roast meat left for you."

Yun Caiwei bolted off like a little deer and smiled back sweetly at her mother,

"Mm! Got it, mummy!"

After they had changed their clothes, Yue Zhong brought the mother and daughter pair into the dining hall.

Gu Manzi and Tong Xiaoyun were already sitting there waiting.

At this moment, the way Gu Manzi looked at Zhuo Yatong had already changed: after seeing Zhuo Yatong dispose of the Mutant Pigs so easily, her heart was now full of both envy and admiration. She wanted to become as strong as someone like Zhuo Yatong, a heroine with tyrannical strength who could freely kill all her enemies.

All sorts of delectable delicacies were laid out on the table. Fried pork loin, fried pig heart, steamed pork ribs, braised pig tail soup, roasted pork chops and a variety of other dishes were served. The tastiest was still the Type 2 Mutant Boar meat, which was much more beneficial to the human body than the normal Mutant Pig meat.

After finishing their dinner, Yue Zhong took out two Level 2 Skill Books and passed them to Tong Xiaoyun, saying,

"This is your reward. Work even harder in the future!"

Those two Level 2 Skill Books were [Explosive Strength] and [Shadow Steps]. They were also the most common Level 2 Skill books, but to normal people, these skill books were valuable beyond compare. Each Skill Book could let one possess incredible explosive power and fighting strength.

Tong Xiaoyun received the 2 Skill Books and her eyes brightened up as she smiled sweetly. With these two Level 2 Skill Books, her strength could instantly rise severalfold. After today's battle, she had become a Level 8 Enhancer, so as long as she gained another 2 levels, she would become a Level 10 Enhancer.

Tong Xiaoyun was elated as she hugged Yue Zhong and kissed him twice consecutively:

“Thank you, big brother Yue!!”

Gu Manzi saw that Tong Xiaoyun had received two Level 2 Skill books and her eyes flashed with a hint of envy. She walked over and hugged one of Yue Zhong’s arms, as she pressed her ample chest against him and said coquettishly,

“Brother Yue! I also want a Skill Book, can you give me one? I want to help you fight the enemies too.”

Yue Zhong glanced at Gu Manzi and directly rejected her, saying,

“No way! You don’t have the necessary courage. Once you’ve proven to me that you can fight, I will then give you a Skill Book!”

During the battle with the Mutant Pigs, driven purely by the desire for power, Tong Xiaoyun had gone to Yue Zhong’s side and had gone through a life-and-death situation with him. This led Yue Zhong to look at Tong Xiaoyun differently. Although her talent might not be as outstanding as that of Zhuo Yatong, this seemingly weak girl in junior high school possessed a courage that would put most men to shame. Yue Zhong was willing to nurture her as long as she had enough courage.

Although Gu Manzi was pretty and alluring, she still feared death like normal people did. There was nothing wrong with that in itself, but Yue Zhong did not want to waste any precious Skill Books on such a person.

Hearing those words, Gu Manzi’s expression froze, and out of sheer habit, she wanted to vent her frustrations like a spoilt child, to fling his arm away and ignore him.

However, just when she was about to shake him off, she thought back to the days when she had to worry about food and warmth in the survivor fleet, as well as the decapitated human heads that she had seen in the bloody factory. The ‘young miss’ managed to suppress her temper. It was just that there were now only feelings of grievance and envy towards Tong Xiaoyun in Gu Manzi’s heart.

Since they were going to open up the military station the next day, Yue Zhong did not do anything to Zhuo Yatong or Gu Manzi; instead, he sensibly went to bed early to replenish his own energy.

“I want to join you and fight!! I will prove my courage!!”

Early the next morning, Gu Manzi had gotten into attire and arrived in front of Yue Zhong to directly announce her intentions.

“Good! Take this!”

Yue Zhong immediately passed a Replica Tang Sword to Gu Manzi, before taking her with him to join the vehicle fleet heading towards the Mechanized Infantry Brigade Station.

After two days and one night of constant travel, Yue Zhong’s team finally managed to arrive outside the Mechanized Infantry Brigade Station, which Xu Feng pointed out.

Along the way, they saw a few scattered zombie hordes, consisting of zombies in the tens and hundreds. Those zombies were easily disposed of by Yue Zhong, White Bones, Zhuo Yatong, Xiong Zheng, Tong

Xiaoyun and all the other Enhancers. After Tong Xiaoyun managed to kill an L1 zombie, she rose up in level to become a Level 9 Enhancer.

“There’s something wrong!”

Observing the extremely quiet army station, Yue Zhong’s eyebrows furrowed slightly.

Chapter 232: Devil Vines!

The Mechanized Infantry Brigade Station covered a very wide area, with its back facing the mountain and verdant greenery surrounding it. There was even a small brook leading to who-knows-where beside the camp. The scenery could be described as enchanting, an extremely beautiful scene.

However, as Yue Zhong gazed at the picturesque scenery, his heart was on full alert. It was too quiet for his liking, the entire station was truly too peaceful.

Yue Zhong and his team had travelled for such a distance, and the noise from the vehicle fleet had attracted the zombies, yet now that they had arrived at the camp, there were absolutely no disturbances at all. It made no sense whatsoever.

It must be made clear that there were supposed to be over 3000 soldiers garrisoned in here, and Yue Zhong was already prepared for a huge battle: even if he had to sacrifice 100 people, he absolutely had to claim this military station. However, the eerie silence gave him goosebumps.

“Don’t tell me that this camp has already been opened?”

The inauspicious thought flashed by in Yue Zhong’s mind.

However, upon closer inspection, he immediately saw where the strange phenomenon was occurring. Inside the camp, there stood many bizarre trees that were extremely tall, as though reaching for the heavens, with each of them easily over 20m in height. Their leaves were different than those of before the apocalypse: there were some that bore resemblance to ferns, some that looked like banana leaves, and some that reminded Yue Zhong of vines. It was an extremely strange sight, as though a mutated botanical garden was putting on an exhibit of some sort.

“Stay here while I go check it out!”

Yue Zhong left some orders as he activated his Encompassing Body Armor and immediately rushed into the encampment.

In just a few moments, Yue Zhong entered the military camp and he immediately saw a few Type 9 Attack Helicopters parked on a landing strip. However, beside those incomparably valuable helicopters was an extremely tall tree with countless vines that wrapped tightly around them, to such an extent that those helicopters were already deformed.

“My attack helicopters!!!”

Seeing those helicopters bent out of shape by those vines, Yue Zhong's heart felt like it was bleeding. If he had those helicopters, dealing with that bastard Lie Tianyang would be as simple as firing a few guided missiles to send him straight to hell.

Yue Zhong looked at those helicopters and he hesitated for a moment, before drawing his Dark Magic Blade and walking straight over to them. If that tree did not pose any threats, then he would not spare any expense to salvage whatever could still be saved from those helicopters.

Yue Zhong carefully approached the Mutant Plant: right as he was about 5 metres away from the helicopters, his sense of danger immediately went off and he retreated hastily.

The vines that were scattered across the ground all shot up together, and were now shooting towards Yue Zhong like countless tentacles.

As the Dark Magic Sword in Yue Zhong's hands erupted with blade images, he cut off those countless vines one by one; however, due to the sheer number of them, Yue Zhong was forced to defend with his life. He was ultimately still hit by 6 of the vines, resulting in them rigidly piercing 6 small holes into his Bone Armor.

After chopping those 6 vines in half with one slash, he retreated even further, creating a 40m distance between him and the tree. Only then did Yue Zhong get out of the range of those vines.

The attack range of the Mutant Vine Plant was only 70m, and so once Yue Zhong had gotten to the 90m mark, the vines could not do anything about him.

"What monstrous vines!!"

After he had succeeded in escaping, Yue Zhong took a careful look at the Mutant Plant and his eyes had a tinge of fear to them. If it had been anyone other than him, even someone like Zhuo Yatong wearing a Level 2 Defence Armor would have been instantly pierced by the vines, and would subsequently become nutrition for the Mutant Vine Plant.

Yue Zhong finally understood why there wasn't a single zombie corpse lying around. If the entire military camp was filled with these terrifying Mutant Plants, the number of corpses wouldn't even be enough for these plants to feed on.

Yue Zhong took one more look at the Mutant Plant, which he had named 'Devil Vines', before deciding to give up on all notions of trespassing the area. He turned around and headed further into the camp. Although the Devil Vines were 'as many as the hair of the ox', wanting to destroy them was not completely impossible; however, it would require at least 2 days, and Yue Zhong could not afford to waste his precious time here.

Yue Zhong proceeded carefully throughout the camp whenever he came across a Mutant Plant. However, not all the Mutant Plants were aggressive or carnivorous: for example, the Divine Spring Tea Plant in Yue Zhong's possession was also a species of Mutant Plant. Long-term use of its tea leaves by normal people would have the effect of boosting their 'spirit power', yet the Divine Spring Tea Plant was not aggressive in nature.

Yue Zhong carefully touched the branches of a giant tree that seemed to form a cloud-like shape. The huge tree was similar to the very rare Sequoia species and it did not display any form of aggression. Hanging down from the branches of the gigantic tree, there were many black fruits the size of fists.

Yue Zhong thought for a moment before extending his hand, making a bone spear shoot out and pierce through a branch that had 6 of the fruits, causing them to fall down.

When the black fruits landed in Yue Zhong's hands, they immediately exploded. From each fruit, a sharp seed the size of a knuckle shot out explosively, with 2 of them shooting towards Yue Zhong.

Those sharp seeds bombarded Yue Zhong's body before immediately ricocheting off one by one. Their explosive and penetrative power were similar to that of a normal rifle bullet, hence they were not able to do any harm at all to Yue Zhong.

"They're quite similar to hand grenades! Who knows, maybe these fruits can be used as substitutes for grenades."

Yue Zhong looked at those fruits and had that sudden thought; he climbed up the tree swiftly and plucked 2 black fruits. However, he exerted a little too much force and those fruits instantly exploded, shooting out their sharp seeds in all directions.

The moment those sharp seeds hit the other fruits, they triggered further explosions, resulting in a chain reaction; it wasn't long before the entire tree was filled with fruits exploding one by one and countless seeds shooting everywhere like rain, leaving Yue Zhong with no way of dodging them whatever.

He could only lower his head and let the seeds rain down on his body. Using the Encompassing Body Armor coagulated from White Bones, Yue Zhong was able to protect himself from the entire barrage of seeds from the huge tree.

A huge number of the Mutant Tree seeds hit Yue Zhong's Bone Armor and bounced off, and so the ground was littered with a layer of them.

"Seems like it won't work, the explosive fruits are too unstable. They can't be used!"

Yue Zhong jumped down from the Mutant Tree and thought to himself dejectedly.

He then climbed down from the tree and continued to advance. Right after Yue Zhong passed by another huge tree, his sense of danger immediately went off, as a huge Mutant Water Snake suddenly shot out from the grass patch with its bloody mouth opened wide, intending to chomp down on him.

Yue Zhong stared fixedly at the Mutant Water Snake, and with a slight movement of his body, he dodged its attack. He followed up with a swing of his blade just 7 inches away from its head, decapitating it and causing fresh blood to spray everywhere.

After the Mutant Water Snake was killed with one strike, its body struggled for a while before it collapsed lifelessly onto the ground. A Skill Book appeared beside its carcass.

[Congratulations on rising to Level 38, you have gained 2 enhancement points.]

When the experience orb from the Mutant Water Snake entered his body, Yue Zhong finally rose up in level again. When he was defending Clear Wind Camp, despite having killed many Mutant Pigs, he was

not able to level up; however, he was just one step away from the next level, thus the killing of this Mutant Water Snake was naturally the final push for him to successfully reach the next level and gain enhancements.

“Add 2 points to Agility!”

Yue Zhong chose to increase his agility. All martial arts would only be impenetrable if they were fast; speed was extremely important in battle.

After Yue Zhong killed that Mutant Water Snake, it was like he had hit a hornets’ nest. From all corners, many large Mutant Water Snakes slithered out one after another, preparing to strike at Yue Zhong. As those snakes slithered around in the underbrush, they seemed to be monsters choosing which humans to devour and they looked extremely sinister.

As Yue Zhong watched a few dozen Mutant Snakes slither over from all directions, a hint of shock flashed past his eyes:

“Is this a snake’s nest? How come there are so many Mutant Water Snakes?!”

Although Yue Zhong was shocked, he did not lose his composure. Even though a few dozen Mutant Water Snakes might look quite frightening, the current him was completely capable of taking them down.

Yue Zhong’s figure explosively retreated, luring the 13 snakes over as he darted amongst the trees, appearing one moment and disappearing the next. He then suddenly increased his speed, and rushed towards one of the Mutant Water Snakes.

Having reached 72 points in Agility, Yue Zhong could now unleash a terrifying speed and before the Mutant Water Snake could even react, Yue Zhong had leapt over it and slashed down at the back of its neck, causing it to die on the spot.

After getting rid of that Mutant Water Snake, Yue Zhong’s figure flashed several times in succession. He appeared in front of another Mutant Water Snake, and raising his sword up high, as Yue Zhong swung down viciously and beheaded it.

After Yue Zhong had taken out 2 Mutant Water Snakes in a row, the other 3 Mutant Water Snakes nearby finally reacted, stretching out their heads as they opened their jaws wide and shooting towards Yue Zhong like arrows.

Yue Zhong shifted his body and dodged all 3 attacks; then, as his figure flashed several times in succession, there came a flash of ‘bladelight’ and fresh blood poured out of the 3 Mutant Water Snakes’ necks.

Yue Zhong’s continuous strengthening of his Agility had now let him reap generous rewards: he constantly dashed about in the forest like a demon, suddenly jumping out from time to time with his blade raised high and killing one or two Mutant Water Snakes. Proceeding like this, he managed to take them down one by one, whilst the Mutant Water Snakes were unable to do anything about him.

After killing 7 more Mutant Water Snakes, the rest of the snakes finally got frightened, and they started slithering back to the bizarre forest.

Yue Zhong swiftly followed, intending to kill all of them; their bodies were all full of treasures, and he did not want to let even a single one off.

He continued his pursuit and managed to slaughter another two of the snakes, before the remaining four burst into the depths of the bizarre forest, which was full of Mutant Plants.

Those 4 Mutant Water Snakes quickly escaped to an extremely tall tree with a diameter of 10m. It had flourishing branches and a lush foliage that blocked out all the sunlight nearby, and the tree was covered entirely in countless pink flowers.

Surrounding the huge tree, there were two Mutant Water Snakes over 30 metres long with a small bulge on their heads; they were currently devouring those pink flowers upon the tree.

There was also another enormous snake coiled around the top of the tree; when compared to this snake atop the tree, even a beast as large as a normal Mutant Water Snake seemed insignificant. It was thus clear that there was a huge, terrifying monster coiled around the top of the tree.

Beneath the gigantic tree, there were countless human bones, making the scene seem like that of a demon's lair, which gave off an extremely horrifying feel.

[Level 43 Mutant Beast: Mutant Elite Water Snake!]

[Level 53 Mutant Beast: Type 2 Mutant Water Snake!]

The moment Yue Zhong laid eyes on those 3 monsters, his Eyes of Perception activated and all the information regarding the beasts flowed into his brain.

"Damn it! To think that there are such monsters here!!" Yue Zhong's face immediately turned pale. He could still hold his own against the 2 Mutant Elite Water Snakes, but he had no confidence all in being able to beat the Type 2 Mutant Water Snake.

He had experienced first-hand the fearsome power of Type 2 beasts, the most recent being the Type 2 Mutant Black-scaled Boar: even after exhausting all his means, he could not even leave a single scratch on its body. If he had made the slightest mistake, he would have been killed by it. He was naturally unwilling to provoke such a terrifying beast. Facing an opponent that one could not beat and still wanting to rush headlong to fight it was not courage; rather, it was extreme stupidity.

The 4 Mutant Water Snakes slithered up to the 2 Mutant Elite Water Snakes and began to let out agitated hissing noises.

Those 2 beasts immediately stopped swallowing the pink flowers, simultaneously swivelling their heads around to stare at Yue Zhong coldly. They suddenly uncoiled their bodies and shot towards Yue Zhong like arrows.

Yue Zhong was startled, immediately turning tail and fleeing. Facing 2 Mutant Elite Water Snakes and a Type 2 Mutant Water Snake on top of that was the equivalent seeking death.

When the 2 Mutant Elite Water Snakes moved, their speed was extremely explosive; even though they possessed huge bodies, they were as quick as they were large, and the dense forest could not slow down their speed at all. Yue Zhong had 72 points in Agility yet he had no means of shaking them off- instead, they seemed to get closer and closer.

“Damn it!” Yue Zhong eyed the 2 beasts which were getting closer, before opening his right hand and shooting a bone spear to propel himself into the air, making him fly up onto one of the huge trees.

Those 2 Mutant Elite Water Snakes did not falter, swiftly climbing up that huge tree and opening their mouths, preparing to bite down on Yue Zhong.

The speed of those 2 Mutant Elite Water Snakes far surpassed that of normal Mutant Water Snakes, and as Yue Zhong was placed under immense pressure, he activated his Shadow Steps Skill. His speed breaking past the 100 point mark, Yue Zhong dodged the incoming attacks by a hair’s breadth.

Chapter 233: Advancement to Level 40!

Yue Zhong knew that he could not fight against these beasts in terms of stamina or speed; he had to defeat them in the shortest amount of time, otherwise all that awaited him was death.

After dodging the attacks of those two Mutant Elite Water Snakes, his right hand shot out a Bone Spear towards another tree, propelling him towards one of the snakes’ heads. He took out his Stinger and immediately let loose a barrage of 6 shots.

At such a close range, the power of the Stinger was fully exhibited: the bullets pierced through the scales of the Mutant Elite Water Snake and into its brain.

The Mutant Elite Water Snake writhed in agony as it thrashed about, managing to break the bone spear that Yue Zhong had shot out with its brute strength. However, the snake itself fell down from the tree, and it landed heavily on the ground as it continued to struggle.

The other Mutant Elite Water Snake saw its companion’s miserable state and it opened its huge mouth, spraying out a dense cyan poisonous mist towards Yue Zhong, ready to engulf him.

That Mutant Elite Water Snake had just opened its huge mouth when an extreme feeling of danger arose in Yue Zhong’s heart. He immediately retreated hastily, not daring to go near the Mutant Elite Water Snake and jumping onto the branch of another huge tree instead.

Although Yue Zhong had retreated with all his strength, he had still unfortunately come into contact with the poison mist; other than the areas covered by the Encompassing Body Armor, long scars actually appeared on the exposed parts of his body.

Yue Zhong’s face turned pale: if he had been enveloped by that mist earlier, he might already have been dissolved into nothingness. The fear towards the Mutant Elite Water Snake in his heart upped by another notch. A moment ago, if he had been closer to the beast by just a bit, he definitely would not have been able to escape the poison mist.

Yue Zhong swiftly changed the bullets for his Stinger before he fired it at the Mutant Elite Water Snake. With the aid of his Firearms Control Skill and superb aiming, the Stinger Bullets accurately hit its right eye. As the snake’s right eye directly burst open, a huge amount of mucus mixed with blood flowed out from the wound.

Blinded by the bullets, the Mutant Elite Water Snake opened its bloody jaws painfully, before spraying out balls of cyan-colored poison mist one after another at Yue Zhong once again.

Yue Zhong's Danger Perception Skill kicked in effectively again: as the Mutant Elite Water Snake had just opened its mouth, Yue Zhong's figure had already shifted in advance, avoiding the snake's attack. At the same time, he took aim with his Stinger to continue his assault on the snake's other eye.

6 Stinger bullets were fired out, breaking through the snake's other eye; the Mutant Elite Water Snake immediately emitted hisses of grief, as it continued to constantly spit out small clouds of poisonous green fog.

Under the constant exposure of the poison mist, the surroundings all became a scene of deathly stillness. Grass withered, the trees started to putrefy, and two unsuspecting Mutant Rats that had just passed by immediately died, dissolving into fluids within a span of 3 seconds.

Yue Zhong hid far away, watching the Mutant Elite Water Snake spray out the poison mist.

After spitting out a few more clusters of poison mist, the snake suddenly calmed down. It stuck out its tongue, which vibrated in the air for a while, before quickly shooting out like a thunderbolt towards Yue Zhong.

After all, snakes used their tongues to perceive their surroundings and to hunt their prey; even though the Mutant Elite Water Snake had undergone evolution, it had still retained its basic snake instincts and abilities. The reason for why it had spat out the poison mist just now was because of the severe pain in its eyes, which incurred the snake's wrath and made it feel very indisposed.

At this moment, the duration for the Shadow Steps Skill had already passed the 30 seconds mark and it deactivated. Ignoring his stamina usage, Yue Zhong activated the skill once again and once again, his speed soared past 100 points in a flash.

As the Mutant Elite Water Snake opened its mouth wide and bolted towards Yue Zhong like lightning, Yue Zhong dodged the impending attack and leapt onto its head. He stabbed down at the snake's head using his Dark Magic Blade with all his strength.

Covering the scales of the Mutant Elite Water Snake, there was a layer of mucus membrane. After Yue Zhong had stabbed the snake, the greater part of the attack had been negated by the membrane; in addition, the Dark Magic Blade actually slid off the scales, with no way of penetrating them.

Yue Zhong frowned as he thought,

"Even the Dark Magic Blade is no good? What a pity, if only I had learnt the Blade Strengthening Skill!"

When it came to dealing with the higher level Mutant Beasts, the most difficult part about them was always their scales, fur or skin. It was incredibly difficult to harm them with just normal methods. Coupled with the fact that these monsters possessed huge strength and various abilities, wanting to achieve victory over these monsters was extremely difficult. Although Yue Zhong could easily dispose of an L2 or a normal Mutant Water Snake with his Dark Magic Sword, he had no way of slashing open this Mutant Elite Water Snake's scales.

The Mutant Elite Water Snake felt Yue Zhong lying on its head, and as it shook its head around, the snake immediately rushed over to knock its head against a large tree.

Yue Zhong did not dare to stay on the snake's head for any longer. He let go and rolled towards the side.

Meanwhile, the Mutant Elite Water Snake had rammed viciously against the large tree that was 30 cm in diameter; that tree was hit squarely in the middle with great force, causing it to snap into two like a twig. From this, it could be seen how incomparably ferocious the attack was.

The moment Yue Zhong landed, he quickly escaped to the side.

Once again, the Mutant Elite Water Snake used its tongue to sense its surroundings, before charging frenzily towards Yue Zhong once again.

Yue Zhong shot out a Bone Spear and propelled himself up into the air, before landing on the head of the beast once again. He hugged onto its head and pressed the Stinger against the snake's skull, firing off 6 shots.

The 6 Stinger bullets managed to tear through the incomparably hard scales of the Mutant Elite Water Snake, penetrating through its head and piercing its brain.

After firing those 6 shots, Yue Zhong quickly leapt off of the snake's head.

Upon receiving the 6 shots, the Mutant Elite Water Snake immediately began to writhe about in excruciating pain, its huge body constantly striking against the surrounding trees as it struggled.

[Congratulations on reaching Level 39, you have gained 2 Enhancement Points!]

[Congratulations on reaching Level 40, you have gained 2 Enhancement Points!]

[Congratulations on reaching Level 40, you have gained 1 Skill Strengthening Point!]

Once those 2 Mutant Elite Water Snakes had fallen, 2 huge orbs of experience entered Yue Zhong's body; adding onto those 10 normal Mutant Water Snakes that he had killed before, the total amount of experience he had gained pushed him up to Level 40.

Yue Zhong quickly chose to enhance his Agility by 4 points. As he examined the skills he currently possessed, he sighed and chose to spend his Skill Strengthening Point on the Devil Flame Skill.

[Level 3 Skill: Devil Flame: (Enhanced +1).

Consumes 5 Stamina Points and 5 Spirit Points to activate; upon activation, it will consume 1 Stamina Point and 1 Spirit Point every 10 seconds. Its power is dependant on your Spirit, Stamina, Endurance and Vitality.

Under the circumstances where the amounts of Spirit and Stamina being channelled out are the same, the Devil Flame's output will be twice its original power. You can now also use the flame to form other shapes.]

With just a thought, Yue Zhong activated his upgraded Devil Flame Skill. He felt that it was now a lot easier to conjure up the flames, and with another thought, the Devil Flame immediately left his hand and was suspended in mid-air.

“So this really was the case!!”

Yue Zhong had seen Enhancers like Flame King Gu Zhixing and Ice King Zhang Yun controlling their respective skills without any restrictions, manipulating the elemental forces to conjure up different forms, such as fireballs or ice cones.

Yue Zhong thought of the action in his heart and the suspended fireball flew out, bombarding a huge tree and causing a fist-sized scorch mark to appear on it.

He looked at the scorch mark and quietly assessed the damage potential of his Devil Flame Skill: “Compared to the Fireball Skill, it’s just slightly weaker! If I continue to increase my Spirit and Stamina, then I should be able to cause the same amount of damage as the Fireball Skill can.”

After finishing up, Yue Zhong walked up to the corpse of one of the Mutant Elite Water Snakes. He used his Dark Magic Blade to pierce through a small hole in its head that had been created by the Stinger, before using all his strength to saw through and prise open the scales nearby.

He reached inside the head and forcibly dug out a red nucleus the size of a finger, as well as a small bead of blood essence.

Yue Zhong did the same for the other Mutant Elite Snake, eventually digging out the same things.

[Level 4 Skill: True Seeing Eye!

This is an active skill, and with its usage, one can see through most illusions. Also allows user to see through the level of an Enhancer at a lower level, as well as anyone not more than 5 levels above user. Skill requires one to possess 100 points of Spirit, not including enhancements from equipment.]

Out of the 2 Skill Books that dropped, one was the Level 4 True Seeing Eye Skill, whilst the other was a Level 2 Firearms Control Skill.

After storing those 2 Skill Books into his storage ring, Yue Zhong started to eat a precious Apple of Vitality. The Apple of Vitality was also a ‘God and Devil System’ item with a very low drop rate. Previously, when he had defended against the herd of Mutant Pigs, there were only 5 that dropped out of the thousands of Pigs.

After resting for 25 minutes and consuming all 5 Apples of Vitality, Yue Zhong activated his Encompassing Body Armor once again, before proceeding carefully towards the direction of the Type 2 Mutant Water Snake in the depths of the forest.

Having reached Level 40 and enhanced his Devil Flame Skill, only now did Yue Zhong possess a thread of confidence in confronting the Type 2 Mutant Water Snake. He wanted to see if there was any opportunity for him to defeat it.

Chapter 234: Explosive Slaughter of the Type 2 Mutant Water Snake!

Yue Zhong proceeded with great care along the way which he had previously escaped, until he came to the towering tree with countless pink flowers that seemed to reach the clouds.

“It really is huge!!”

Yue Zhong looked at the Type 2 Mutant Water Snake coiled atop the huge tree, and his heart was filled with alarm. The Type 2 Mutant Water Snake’s body spiralled all the way up to the top of the great tree, so its body length might well be over 100 m.

Yue Zhong carefully observed the Type 2 Mutant Water Snake for a while, assessing the gap in strength between it and him, before he quietly sneaked off.

Once Yue Zhong had left the area, he tried to find any place where the previous occupants might have stored weapons. Along the way, he saw an Infantry Fighting Vehicle and a Type .69 Tank that had either been flipped by onto its side by the Mutant Plant, or attacked by the strange Mutant Vines.

As Yue Zhong looked at the remnants, his heart ached: if he possessed those vehicles, even facing a horde of zombies in the tens of thousands would not be a problem. However, the steel machines had already been seized by the Mutant Plants; there were obvious signs of damage and it was unknown if they could still be operated or not.

There were Mutant Plants growing all over the place inside this Mechanized Infantry Brigade Station, hence Yue Zhong had to search for quite some time before finally locating a storage facility for weapons.

“I’ve struck gold!!”

As soon as Yue Zhong opened up the storage facility, his eyes immediately began to blaze with unbridled fervor. Everywhere inside, there was brand-new modern weaponry.

Type .03 Rifles, QJZ89 Type 12.7mm Heavy Machine Guns, grenade launchers, PF98 Type 120mm Anti-tank Bazookas, 95 Type 5.8mm Light Machine Guns- all sorts of advanced weaponry were displayed inside the facility.

Yue Zhong swiftly placed the PF98 Type 120mm Anti-tank Bazooka into his storage ring, since only weapons as such could bring about harm to the Type 2 Mutant Water Snake. The rest of the light weapons simply had no way of harming the beast.

He continued to search within the station and it wasn’t long before he came across an ammunition dump. After retrieving plenty of ammunition for the bazooka, he made his way back to the Type 2 Mutant Water Snake.

Once again, Yue Zhong arrived in front of the huge tree that the huge Type 2 Mutant Water Snake was coiled around. He did not dare approach it too casually. Instead, he jumped onto a nearby tree and started to climb up towards that huge tree without pausing.

After reaching the top of the tree, he still had not come across the head of the huge Type 2 Mutant Water Snake. Only then did he truly realise the sheer size of the beast.

Yue Zhong hoisted the PF98 Type 120mm Anti-tank Bazooka and aimed it at the body of the Type 2 Mutant Water Snake, before directly firing an explosive shot.

With a fiery flash, the rocket instantly bombarded the huge body of the Type 2 Mutant Water Snake and exploded violently upon impact.

At its greatest power, the bazooka artillery could penetrate vehicle armor 800mm thick; as for the Type 2 Mutant Water Snake, regardless of how freakish its scales might be, it definitely could not compare to a tank.

Under the immense firepower of the bazooka rocket, the Type 2 Mutant Water Snake's body was directly blown into 2 parts and a huge amount of blood sprayed out. The lower half of its body fell down to the ground, twitching painfully for a while before stopping.

The beast had received heavy damage, causing it to drop down from the huge tree, thus allowing Yue Zhong to finally see it in its entirety.

It was about 80m in length and 2m in diameter, and its entire body was covered in pale yellow scales. There was also a black horn 1.5m long growing on its head, giving it the frightening aura of a flood dragon.

This monstrous beast had already lost around 30m of its body after being injured by Yue Zhong's bazooka, but it still had over 50m of its body remaining.

When the Type 2 Mutant Water Snake landed on the ground, it immediately began to writhe in agony, its massive body exploding with an immense force that directly snapped the surrounding trees in half one after another.

Yue Zhong's position atop the tree was also undermined when the tree was felled by the beast's thrashing. He immediately shot out a Bone Spear from his back, piercing through another tree behind him, which directly pulled him over.

When using White Bones as his Encompassing Body Armor, he could shoot out Bone Spears from anywhere on his body; it was just that using both hands to do so was more intuitive to humans and it was easier to control them that way.

As he was being dragged backwards by the Bone spear, he had already taken out another rocket for the PF98 Type 120mm Anti-tank Bazooka from his Storage Ring. The Bone Spear stopped retracting, fixing Yue Zhong in mid-air. He aimed at the Type 2 Mutant Water Snake that was struggling in agony once again, before bombarding it with another rocket.

With a blazing flicker, the fearsome rocket exploded upon impact on the beast's body once again; yet another huge hole was created on its body, which increased the extreme suffering of the Type 2 Mutant Water Snake.

Yue Zhong did not dare be careless and reloaded the bazooka once more. He aimed at the struggling beast and shot out another rocket at its body, creating another massive bloody hole.

Yue Zhong consecutively reloaded and shot out ten rockets from the PF98 Type 120mm Anti-Tank Bazooka at the beast, turning most of it into a pile of flesh and blood, with its body broken into several parts.

After the 10th rocket had exploded on the beast, the Type 2 Mutant Water Snake flailed for a moment, before finally ceasing to move.

Yue Zhong gazed at the immobile Type 2 Mutant Water Snake and secretly heaved a sigh of relief. The fearsome behemoth had caused him to reconsider using his current enhanced self and abilities to fight it. The slightest mistake would have caused him his life. Therefore, he had chosen the safest method, using advanced heavy-duty weaponry to take it down. Even though he would lose out on the huge experience or a monster as such might provide, at least he could ensure his own safety.

Yue Zhong carefully hoisted his PF98 Type 120mm Anti-Tank Bazooka as he circled around the snake to a location 50m behind its body. He aimed carefully at the beast's intact head and cocked the trigger again.

Another explosion sounded out as the anti-tank rocket landed on the snake's head and exploded, directly blowing out an enormous bloody hole.

Upon receiving such a fatal wound, the Type 2 Mutant Water Snake's head was penetrated; it struggled a few more times before it truly died and finally stopped moving.

As Yue Zhong looked at the bloody mess of the skull, he switched out the bazooka for a .03 Rifle, firing 3 consecutive bullets that all went through the massive hole in the snake's head.

After suffering from an attack like this, the Type 2 Mutant Water Snake did not struggle anymore, so it was obvious that it was really dead. Upon seeing this scene, Yue Zhong was finally able to relax.

Yue Zhong proceeded carefully towards the carcass of the Type 2 Mutant Water Snake, preparing to immediately escape if he detected anything amiss by activating his Shadow Steps Skill..

This time, the behemoth was truly dead. No accidents happened and Yue Zhong successfully arrived atop the snake's head. He reached inside the skull and dug around with his big hands for a while, before discovering a red nucleus the size of 3 fingers and a scarlet bead of blood essence.

Yue Zhong glanced at the black horn atop the snake's head and thought for a moment, before taking out his Dark Magic Blade and starting to saw away at it.

Yue Zhong tried to saw the horn off before he was quickly forced to give up, as the black horn's toughness was beyond that of steel. Regardless of how much strength he used, he was only able to leave a long white mark on the horn. If he wanted to saw off this horn, it might take more than an entire day's worth of time. After all, the Dark Magic Blade was not meant for sawing.

"Exactly what's on that tree, for this beast to keep guard there so strictly?"

A thought flashed past in Yue Zhong's heart as he looked at the huge tree that had pink flowers growing all over it, as well as a large hole in it that had been caused by the explosions earlier.

Without any hesitation, Yue Zhong swiftly climbed up the tree.

After reaching the top, Yue Zhong still saw countless pink flowers growing there. Furthermore, there were 7 fruits growing amidst the sea of flowers. Of the 7 fruits, one was red, three were pink and another three were cyan in color.

The red fruit was the largest amongst them, about the size of a grown man's fist. The three pink ones were about as small as an infant's fist. As for the 3 cyan fruits, each of them were only about the size of 2 fingers. A fragrant aroma was being emitted from the red fruit, and the moment Yue Zhong caught scent of it, his entire body seemed to become extremely comfortable and his spirit felt uplifted.

"This really must have been the treasure that the Type 2 Mutant Water Snake was guarding!!"

As Yue Zhong looked at the red fruit, he couldn't help himself from plucking it and taking a bite. A lusciously sweet juice quickly spread through his mouth, before flowing down his throat and into his stomach. It was rapidly absorbed by him and transformed into an incomparably refreshing energy as it circulated around his body, nourishing every single part of him.

Yue Zhong finished that red fruit in just a few bites and the refreshing energy flowed through his body for another while, before its nature suddenly changed. It became a surging force that crazily rampaged inside him, as it forcefully strengthened and reconstructed every single part of his body, right down to his individual cells.

Yue Zhong's face immediately turned red with the change as his body temperature soared. His head started to feel giddy from the sudden surge of energy, as though he had a fever. He collapsed powerlessly atop the tree and fainted.

With the passing of time, those who were standing guard outside started to feel more and more anxious.

"Why is he not back yet? Did something happen?"

Zhuo Yatong looked at the Mechanized Infantry Brigade Station as a hint of concern flashed past her eyes.

"Miss Yatong, should I send some brothers out to take a look?"

Xiong Zheng came up to her and asked deeply. He was also extremely worried about Yue Zhong's current safety.

Gu Manzi also came up to Zhuo Yatong's side and said with a worried face,

"Yes! Sister Yatong, let's send someone in to have a look! Brother Yue still hasn't returned, he might be in danger."

Chapter 235 : Title at End!

Zhuo Yatong furrowed her eyebrows as she shook her head and declined,

"No! He said that without his orders, no one is to move."

Gu Manzi looked at Zhuo Yatong and demanded,

"But he could be in terrible danger right now. Are we just going to stay here and not care about him?"

The nearby soldiers turned their heads around and watched the argument. These few days, Yue Zhong's display had already led them to be quite convinced about his ability. Yue Zhong had not only given them food and shelter, but he had also led them to victory against the Mutant Pig horde, raising their aspirations and morale to the max.

He did not abandon the heavily wounded warriors, but rather kept to his promises and provided support for them. Furthermore, in every battle so far, Yue Zhong had always charged up to the frontlines to fight, making those soldiers all approve of him.

Zhuo Yatong glanced at Gu Manzi before replying blandly,

"Let's wait another 2 hours. If there is still no news about him, I will bring people to go in. Sister Manzi, how about entering the station with me?"

Gu Manzi's face turned pale and she pondered for a while, before eventually replying,

"I don't have the sort of strength that sister Yatong has. Even if I do go, I'll just be a burden. I think I'd better wait out here for sister Yatong and brother Yue to return together."

Zhuo Yatong glanced disdainfully at Gu Manzi as she said coldly,

"You shall just wait here then!"

Tong Xiaoyun walked up to Zhuo Yatong's side, as she gripped tightly onto her Replica Tang Sword and said,

"Sister Yatong, I'll go in with you! I believe that brother Yue will definitely be fine!"

Before the apocalypse, Tong Xiaoyun had been a very fragile loli who would shriek incessantly even at the sight of a cockroach. However, due to the harsh apocalyptic environment that she had suffered under, she had begun to undergo astonishing changes. After experiencing the battle to protect Clear Wind Camp with Yue Zhong, Zhuo Yatong and the rest, she started to become more courageous and confident.

Zhuo Yatong gave Tong Xiaoyun an extremely gentle smile:

"Mm! Sister Xiaoyun, you've got guts."

Zhuo Yatong was also growing fond of this brave and cute little girl.

"They're starting to band together! What do I do?"

As Gu Manzi looked at the growing relationship between Zhuo Yatong and Tong Xiaoyun, her face turned very pale and a trace of panic flashed past her heart.

The 2 hours passed by very quickly, and Yue Zhong still hadn't returned yet. Zhuo Yatong decided to directly pick a few of the warriors from the First Company, intending to walk towards the Mechanized Infantry Brigade Station together with them.

"Miss Yatong! Let me take a few people to check instead!"

Just as Zhuo Yatong was about to set off, Xiong Zheng came over with a few of his men and said to her.

Even though Xiong Zheng had once been an enemy who had then surrendered, Yue Zhong still considered him as a very valuable asset, and had let him be in charge of an entire company. Xiong Zheng received all sorts of goods as remuneration for his work, and thus he held Yue Zhong in great esteem as well.

“Xiong Zheng, you are one of Yue Zhong’s generals. You must remain here to direct the troops if needed. My combat ability is higher than yours as well, so if there is any danger inside, I can somewhat protect myself. I’d better be the one to enter!”

Zhuo Yatong said firmly as she rejected Xiong Zheng’s suggestion.

Xiong Zheng did not press any further and warned,

“Please take care!”

During the battle to protect Clear Wind Camp, Xiong Zheng had seen Zhuo Yatong’s incredible fighting strength for himself, therefore he was fairly confident in her ability.

Leading Tong Xiaoyun and 6 warriors with her, Zhuo Yatong carefully made her way into the Mechanized Infantry Brigade Station.

“Attack helicopters!!”

As soon as they entered the encampment, Zhuo Yatong and the others saw those attack helicopters that had been entangled by the Devil Vines, and all of their eyes lit up. The combat potential of these attack helicopters was extremely formidable; even possessing just one of the helicopters would be sufficient to deter the nearby powers.

Since it was their first time seeing the attack helicopters, they couldn’t help themselves from moving forward a few steps towards the helicopters.

As Zhuo Yatong looked from afar, she saw the countless vines that had been severed by Yue Zhong, which were currently scattered on the ground about 5 or 6m away from the Devil Vines. She hurriedly shouted,

“Don’t go over!! It’s dangerous there!!”

After being berated by Zhuo Yatong, those 6 warriors immediately stopped advancing and returned back to her side.

Zhuo Yatong observed the surroundings carefully, before bringing the party further into the depths of the dense forest.

“These were all killed by him!”

Zhuo Yatong and her party hadn’t traversed the forest for too long, before they came across multiple monstrous-looking Mutant Water Snakes lying dead on the ground. All of them had been beheaded cleanly in one strike.

Seeing the corpses of these gigantic Mutant Water Snakes, all of those present began to worship Yue Zhong’s combat prowess even more.

Zhuo Yatong brought the others with her as she followed the trail of corpses; eventually, they came to the clearing where the huge tree covered entirely with pink flowers was growing.

All of them saw the behemoth that was over 80m long and 2m in diameter. It was reminiscent of a prehistoric monster, yet it had still been bombarded into chunks, leaving everyone with a peculiar feeling in their hearts.

The Type 2 Mutant Water Snake looked like the flood dragon from Chinese myths, yet a huge beast as such had actually been disposed of by Yue Zhong. Everybody's reverence and admiration for him instantly reached the peak.

Right at this time, they saw White Bones, who always went campaigning with Yue Zhong: holding a large axe, it stood quietly beneath the huge tree. There was the corpse of a Mutant Water Snake lying at its feet.

Upon seeing White Bones, all the members of the party relaxed. They recognized this 'person' who had always followed Yue Zhong, as if it were his perpetual shadow. White Bones' strength was tyrannical, and aside from Yue Zhong and Zhuo Yatong, 'he' was also currently one of Clear Wind Camp's top combatants. White Bones' loyalty to Yue Zhong was known to everyone as well.

(Divinecelestialbeinglol: skeletons have rights too)

Zhuo Yatong walked up to White Bones and said,

"Mr. Iron Bones! May I ask where Yue Zhong is?"

After Yue Zhong had used Skill Points to enhance it thrice, White Bones now possessed some initial intelligence. It stared at Zhuo Yatong and recognized her as Yue Zhong's woman, eventually extending one of its hands and pointing a finger to the top of the huge tree.

Zhuo Yatong continued to ask,

"Can I go up to see him?"

White Bones directly extended its axe in front of Zhuo Yatong to block her path, using this action to signify that she couldn't do so. Yue Zhong was currently undergoing a crucial point in his growth. As Yue Zhong's summon, White Bones would definitely not allow anybody to go and disrupt him.

Zhuo Yatong also did not insist and she proceeded to give an order to one of the warriors beside her,

"Liu Guang! Both you and Zhang You go and notify Xiong Zheng, let him know that Commander Yue is safe and sound, and is currently resting. Tell him not to worry and to continue waiting."

"Yes! Miss Yatong!"

Liu Guang and the other soldier Zhang You replied, before immediately going back the way they came from.

After receiving the information that Yue Zhong was fine, everyone heaved a sigh of relief and continued to wait quietly for his return.

Eight hours. The rampant energy inside his body constantly alternated between hot and cold, causing Yue Zhong to constantly toss from side to side. As his body temperature fluctuated between ice-cold and blistering hot, Yue Zhong endured this torture for an entire eight hours. Only then did he slowly wake up.

[Congratulations on successfully evolving and becoming an Evolver. Your innate evolution attributes are Spirit and Endurance, making you a Dual Attribute Evolver.]

You are currently already a Level 40 Enhancer; this time's evolution has let you gain 10 points of Spirit and 10 points of Endurance as bonus enhancements for opening the entrance to evolution. On top of that, you have gained additional enhancements of 39 points in Spirit and 39 points in Endurance for rising up in level. In total, you have gained 49 points in Spirit and 49 points in Endurance.]

[Your current occupation is Dark Knight. Since you have become an Evolver and your level is above 30, you have gained the passive skill 'Heart of Darkness'.]

[Level 5 Passive Skill: Heart of Darkness. Once you have learnt this passive skill, all your Dark Knight class-related skills will automatically gain 1 point in enhancement.]

[Level 2 Skill: Art of Fear (+1 Enhancement)... Skill can be used on a single target within a radius of 300m. It can also be used indiscriminately within a distance of 60m. Effect of skill has been strengthened.]

[Level 2 Skill: Night Enhancement (+1 Enhancement)... You temporarily gain 2 additional points in all 6 major attributes when in darkness.]

[Level 3 Skill: Tamer Technique (+1 Enhancement)... The number of intelligent beings that you can tame has now increased from 1 to 2.]

[Level 3 Skill: Devil Flame (+2 Enhancement)... Devil Flame's damage output has increased threefold compared to its power before enhancement.]

[Level 2 Skill: Shadow Steps. (+1 Enhancement). Upon activation, user gains an extra 35 points in Agility for 5 minutes, requires 10 points of Stamina.]

[Level 2 Skill: Encompassing Body Armor (+1 Enhancement)... Duration, 30 minutes.]

[Level 3 Skill: Summon Special Skeleton (+4 Enhancement).]

[Your Special Skeleton has evolved and gained new skills.]

New Skill 1: Sharpen! This skill allows the Special Skeleton's bones to become sharper.

New Skill 2: Basic Intelligence. This ability allows your Special Skeleton to possess basic intelligence. It is now capable of independent judgement.]

[Special Skeleton (White Bones): Level 30]

Strength: 59 (10)

Agility: 59 (10)

Vitality: 59 (10)

Stamina: 59/59 (10)

Spirit: 59/59 (10)

Endurance: 121 (10)

Possesses Skills:

Skill 1: Utilizing Bones Ability

Skill 2: Strengthen Bones.

Skill 3: Bone Manipulation.

Skill 4: Feign.

Skill 5: Return to Hell.

Skill 6: Immediate Summon.

Skill 7: Sharpen.

Skill 8: Basic Intelligence.]

[Summon Special Skeleton], [Shadow Steps] and [Devil Flame] were actually all active skills that were linked to the Dark Knight class. This was why Yue Zhong was able to select the hidden profession Dark Knight as his class back then.

Yue Zhong quietly assessed the changes to himself after evolution. After swallowing that scarlet fruit, he had finally become an Evolver. Due to his evolution, his own strength had also changed tremendously. This applied especially to the Level 5 Passive Skill [Heart of Darkness], which instantly gave a huge boost to his power.

Other than that, due to his status as a Dual Attribute Evolver, Yue Zhong's evolution potential was now much greater than other people's.

"I've finally become an Evolver!"

Yue Zhong could feel the earth-shaking changes in his body and he thought to himself elatedly.

Ever since he had come across Yao Yao, the first Evolver he had ever met, Yue Zhong had always hoped to become an Evolver as well. It was just that those natural Evolvers he knew were all geniuses with outstanding aptitude, who had only awakened their inner potential and become Evolvers due to a stroke of luck.

Yue Zhong's aptitude was mediocre and he was only able to reach his current state by constantly putting in effort. He had to depend on that strange scarlet fruit to awaken his natural abilities as an Evolver, and it actually turned out that he was a Dual Attribute Evolver with unlimited potential.

Yue Zhong could vaguely guess the key to his evolution,

"The fruits here were probably the key to my evolution. That Type 2 Mutant Water Snake must have been guarding them."

As Yue Zhong expected, the Type 2 Mutant Water Snake had precisely been guarding the scarlet fruit, waiting for it to mature. If it had been successful in swallowing the matured scarlet fruit, it could continue evolving to eventually become a Type 3 Mutant Beast. It was just that the strange scarlet fruit hadn't completely matured yet, and the Type 2 Mutant Water Snake just happened to meet its end at Yue Zhong's hands.

In reality, the strange scarlet fruit that Yue Zhong had consumed still hadn't fully matured; otherwise, if it had, it would have benefited his evolution a whole lot more.

After guessing how this matter came about, Yue Zhong immediately plucked the remaining 6 fruits and placed them into his Storage Ring. He did not know if there would be another chance for him to wait for these fruits to ripen, and so the best choice was for him to pluck these half-ripened fruits right now; even though the effects from eating them certainly wouldn't be as effective, it was still better to have them kept safely with him.

"Since these fruits were obtained from fighting the Mutant Water Snakes, I shall call them 'Snake Birth Fruits'. These Snake Birth Fruit flowers might also be useful towards evolution- I'll get someone to pluck all of them later."

Yue Zhong glanced at the pink flowers that covered the entire Snake Birth Fruit Tree, before climbing down nimbly.

The moment he climbed down from the tree, Yue Zhong saw Zhuo Yatong, Tong Xiaoyun and a few warriors waiting for him below.

When he saw them, he felt extremely touched, yet a little upset at the same time. He asked sternly,

"How come you guys are here? Didn't I tell you to wait outside? It's very dangerous here!"

Within the Mechanized Infantry Brigade Camp, there were all sorts of dangerous Mutant Plants growing all over the place. If they had been just slightly careless, then they could very well have all perished in this place.

Tong Xiaoyun felt a bit wronged and refuted him, saying,

"We're only here because we were all concerned about your safety!"

When Yue Zhong saw that Tong Xiaoyun dared to answer back, he raised an eyebrow and was preparing to scold her, to let her understand the importance of complying with military orders.

"That's enough, Sister Xiaoyun!! Husband was also just worried about our safety."

Zhuo Yatong patted Tong Xiaoyun's shoulder, before walking up to Yue Zhong's front and looking straight at him. As always, she spoke in a voice as gentle as water,

"It's my fault! I disobeyed your orders and brought people to find you without permission. No matter how you want to punish me, I will still have no complaints (๖_๖)." ."

Yue Zhong saw the tender expression of Zhuo Yatong and he was not able to let out his angry rebuke. After all, Zhuo Yatong only brought people over to find him because she was concerned..

“Just this once! Let’s go!”

Yue Zhong could only say something like this before he led them out of this place.

This time around, for the sake of gaining control over the entire Mechanized Infantry Brigade Station all in one go, Yue Zhong brought over the entire Battalion from Clear Wind Camp. As soon as he returned to the camp, he immediately ordered all the troops to enter the Mechanized Infantry Brigade Station. The troops began to frenzily transport all the weaponry and equipment that they could find in the encampment.

There were all sorts of advanced technology, such as Type 69 Tanks, Z-9 Attack Helicopters, multi-barrelled rocket launcher vehicles, armored command vehicles, meteorological radar vehicles, ammunition supply vehicles, anti-tank artillery vehicles, Type 95 SPAAA Vehicles, HJ8 Anti-tank Vehicles, unmanned surveillance aircraft...

All this greatly widened the horizons of Yue Zhong and his team, since they were essentially country bumpkins who had never seen such advanced weaponry before.

Xiong Zheng found Yue Zhong and inquired with both excitement and helplessness,

“Boss Yue! How should everyone move these away?”

Although there were many Type 69 Tanks, attack helicopters, IFVs and all sorts of other vehicles that had damage caused to their armors by those Mutant Plants, there were still some undamaged armored vehicles. Yue Zhong and his men managed to find 10 intact Type 69 Tanks as well as some other armored vehicles that were free from damage, such as a few HJ8 Anti-tank Vehicles.

However, the greatest problem lay right there, as there weren’t enough people in Yue Zhong’s team who were able to drive these advanced weapons of war. Driving a tank certainly was not as easy as driving a normal car. Furthermore, even the number of people who knew how to drive large vehicles in Yue Zhong’s Battalion was less than 30.

Yue Zhong pondered for a while, before firing off a series of orders,

“Let’s first use those jeeps to transport as much light weaponry as possible! I remember we have 4 people in this Battalion who have operated bulldozers before, let them drive four of the Type 69 Tanks back...”

Not long after, an enormous vehicle fleet brimming with modern weaponry departed from the Mechanized Infantry Brigade Station, driving into the distance. This vehicle fleet was much larger than the one that had originally come to the station.

Yue Zhong’s team transported back a large amount of firearms, ammunition, bazookas and grenade launchers, grenades, landmines and various other types of light weaponry. As for those armored vehicles, they did not take as many. This was because they lacked people who knew how to operate the machines; even if they did somehow drag all the vehicles back to Clear Wind Camp, they still wouldn’t be able to use many of them.

Chapter 236: Venomous Blood Essence, Dispelled by Gu Manzi!

Mahogany Town was the place where Yue Zhong had settled his people after moving away from Clear Wind Camp. It was only a small town, and prior to Z-Day, there weren't more than 2000 people living there. It had already been opened once, hence most of the resources inside had already been cleared out, but it was still suitable to live in.

After Yue Zhong had returned to his own quarters, he took out one of the Mutant Elite Water Snakes' blood essences and absorbed it. He did not dare to absorb it back when he was still in the Mechanized Infantry Brigade Station, in case he fell into a deep sleep or there were any unpleasant side effects. Here in Mahogany Town, there were over 2000 people nearby who could protect him.

The moment the blood essence was swallowed by Yue Zhong, it transformed into a surge of energy that circulated in his abdomen, constantly nourishing his body.

[Congratulations on gaining 7 points in Vitality and 1 point in Endurance.]

After the surging energy came to a rest, the pleasing notification resounded beside Yue Zhong's ear.

Yue Zhong did not feel anything wrong with his body, and so he immediately proceeded to swallow the blood essence from the other Mutant Elite Water Snake too. Once again, the same sort of energy current circulated rapidly through his body, constantly nourishing it.

[Congratulations on gaining 3 points in Vitality.]

This time, the effects of the snake blood essence had diminished by over a half: evidently, Yue Zhong's body was already beginning to develop a resistance to this type of blood essence. The blood essences of normal Mutant Water Snakes were now of no use to Yue Zhong whatsoever.

Furthermore, since he had already absorbed the blood essences of Mutant Water Snakes many times before, the enhancements he received this time around from taking the Mutant Elite Water Snake blood essence weren't even as great as the benefits which he had gained from his first time taking the blood essence of a normal Mutant Water Snake.

Yue Zhong did not hesitate in the slightest and swallowed the last blood essence from the Type 2 Mutant Water Snake in one gulp. This time, as soon as the blood essence reached his abdomen, it transformed into a much more violent rush of energy. As the scorching energy current circulated within him, it nourished his body and made it bursting with vitality.

[Congratulations on gaining 14 points in Vitality and 5 points in Endurance.]

Following the sweet sound of a notification, Yue Zhong's vitality (including the added bonus from equipment) reached 111 points. Even without his equipment, he still had at least 100 points in Vitality, which was 10 times that of a normal person. He immediately pulled out the Level 4 Skill Book and directly learnt it.

A ray of light flashed, and within his sea of knowledge, an abstruse rune representing the Rebirth Skill was coagulated. Upon possessing this skill, Yue Zhong's survival ability increased enormously. Even if his limbs were severed during a battle, he would still be able to make use of this skill to slowly regenerate

them. With this skill, his rate of recovery also soared- in a battle where both parties possessed similar strength, this would be particularly useful.

“This time I have really gained a lot!!”

Yue Zhong could clearly feel that after this experience, his power had undergone an earthshaking change.

Suddenly, a scorching burst of energy rose from Yue Zhong’s abdomen and rushed directly to his brain. At that moment, his body heat rose dramatically, and the fiery energy almost obliterated his sense of reason.

“Sh*t!!”

Yue Zhong could feel that something was wrong and he immediately bolted out of the room.

“Master!”

There were 4 maids standing right outside his bedroom; amongst them were Ma Lili and Zeng Fang. As they saw him rushing out, they all bowed slightly and saluted him.

Both of Yue Zhong’s eyes were scarlet, filled with unbridled lust. He directly pulled Ma Lili and Zeng Fang into the room in a rather barbaric manner, and threw them onto the large bed. Without even closing the door, he immediately ripped apart Ma Lili’s clothes and directly penetrated her body.

A beautiful red flower immediately blossomed on the pure white bed sheet as Ma Lili’s eyebrows furrowed. Once the look of pain on her face had passed, a joyful expression soon appeared as she took the initiative to hug Yue Zhong and kiss him on the face.

In the current apocalyptic age, if a girl wanted to live on comfortably, then they would have to become a strong Enhancer like Ji Qingwu, who possessed superb combat awareness and instincts. Alternatively, they could be like Yao Yao, who became a powerful Evolver from the very start. Other than that, most of the girls living through the apocalypse right now could only rely on a strong person to live well.

Ma Lili belonged to the category where she had nothing other than her looks. She did not have any other outstanding talents, and so she could only attach herself to Yue Zhong. Yue Zhong didn’t enjoy tormenting girls like the perverted Lie Tianyang, and he also had great abilities and strength; this made her adore him to no end.

It was just that there were already outstanding beauties like Gu Manzi, Zhuo Yatong and Tong Xiaoyun beside him, hence Ma Lili knew that it was very difficult for her to receive Yue Zhong’s attention. She actually felt very happy and proud for him to treat her in such a manner today.

As Zeng Fang watched the entangled couple, her charming face blushed a little before she took off her clothes as well. She was left wearing only black laced underwear and a black flowery bra, making her seem even more appealing than before.

After she had removed her clothes, Zeng Fang also climbed onto the huge bed. She stuck out her tongue and licked all over Yue Zhong’s body like a lamia, livening things up even more.

Under Yue Zhong's powerful assault, Ma Lili soon gave a huge groan of pleasure before collapsing powerlessly.

Yue Zhong directly dragged Zeng Fang over and stacked her on top of Ma Lili, before proceeding to fiercely penetrate her body as well. Once again, a beautiful red flower blossomed upon the (partly) snow-white bed sheet.

The two other maidservants standing outside heard all sorts of sounds from within the room and their faces turned red. They were no longer naive little girls after being immersed in the explosive information age. Naturally, they fully understood what was going on within the room. They couldn't help themselves from feeling jealous and envious of the two girls who had obtained Yue Zhong's favor. After this, Zeng Fang and Ma Lili's positions would certainly be above theirs.

The two pretty maids outside glanced at each other and couldn't help feeling curious as they peered into the room that had its door wide open.

A petite maid stared fixedly at Yue Zhong before inadvertently blurting out,

"So big!"

A curious light flashed past the eyes of the pretty, baby-faced maid as she said,

"Master really is quite robust! Will Zeng Fang still be okay after this?"

"Hehe, little Jie. Since Zeng Fang has been 'broken' by Master, why don't you go over and help?"

"Pah! You damn girl, watch if I don't tear your mouth apart!"

"....."

Those 2 girls laughed loudly outside the door. Even though Chen Ming had gone to take care of governmental affairs, the orders that he had laid out before were extremely strict; even though those two maidservants wanted to obtain Yue Zhong's affection, without him actually calling them in, they did not dare to enter.

Right at this time, Gu Manzi walked over and saw the commotion. She frowned and asked,

"What are the two of you doing?"

The two maids instantly straightened up and said anxiously,

"Miss Manzi!!"

Gu Manzi had also heard the peculiar sounds coming from within the room. She looked inside and saw the scene could make the girls blush.

Even though Gu Manzi was usually full of jealousy and lacked the courage to fight, she was not stupid at all. She immediately inferred that something was wrong with Yue Zhong,

"That's not right! Yue Zhong is normally not someone without restraint. Even if he did want to sleep with these two girls, he definitely wouldn't leave the door open. There must be something wrong with his body. I should go ask Zhuo Yatong for advice."

Just as she was about to leave, Gu Manzi suddenly remembered how many times she had disappointed Yue Zhong before. She paused for a moment before coldly ordering the two maids,

“What has happened here, no one is to talk about it, understood?”

The two maidservants didn’t dare to argue with Gu Manzi and replied,

“Yes! Miss Manzi!”

As Gu Manzi strode into the room and closed the door, she saw Yue Zhong ravaging the 2 girls. Gritting her teeth, she took off her own clothes, revealing her ample breasts, tender white skin and her incredibly sexy figure that was full of youthful vigor.

Carrying a fragrant scent on her, she entwined around Yue Zhong like a bewitching lamia, before kissing him on the face.

Yue Zhong had already pounded Zeng Fang until her body was sore. He swiftly grabbed Gu Manzi and pressed her onto him, directly penetrating her beautiful body.

Once again, another bright-colored rose blossomed on the bed sheet. Within Gu Manzi’s eyes, there were two limpid teardrops suspended there. Before the ‘end of the world’, she had been a proud, swan-like princess who countless men had pursued. After the world has changed though, she actually had to resort to measures like this to obtain the affection of the man in front of her. Even though she had long since mentally prepared herself, she still could not help tearing up a little at the thought.

(Divinecelestialbeinglol: Kun has been ranting about how the bed sheet could still be magically snow-white even after taking the ‘cherries’ of three girls, which is how the bed sheet is always described in the raws lol)

Yue Zhong hugged Gu Manzi’s alluring body as he pounded for a long time, before finally releasing his seed into her. By doing so, the aphrodisiac poison from the Type 2 Mutant Water Snake’s blood essence was also completely expelled.

After his release, Yue Zhong quickly woke up and saw the three women whom he had just devastated. They looked very weak and were collapsed sloppily upon the bed. He felt slightly apologetic, yet there was also a strange feeling in his heart.

“It’s a pity! If only I had done it when I was still wide awake! ”

...well at least he’s honest...

Yue Zhong looked again at the three incredibly beautiful ladies around him and his eyes flashed with a hint of regret. Drawing the three beauties into his embrace, he then fell into a deep sleep.

Early the next morning, Yue Zhong’s nose felt itchy and he couldn’t help but sneeze. He opened his eyes and saw Gu Manzi using her fine black hair to tickle his nose.

Gu Manzi propped up her charming face with both her hands as she gave Yue Zhong a bewitching smile and said,

“Good morning! Brother Yue!”

Her lush black hair, smooth white skin, ample chest, deep cleavage and exquisite facial features made it so that when Yue Zhong looked at her, the breathtakingly beautiful scene brought about a sudden urge in him.

“Morning!”

Yue Zhong pulled her over into his embrace and kissed her extraordinarily beautiful face. His slight dissatisfaction with her vanished like smoke in thin air: even if she did not have any courage or battle strength, it was still alright. In any case, he was there to shoulder everything before them.

Zeng Fang and Ma Lili had also just woken up. They looked at Gu Manzi with envy, but they didn’t go over to compete with her.

After this eventful night, Zeng Fang and Ma Lili’s statuses soared; other than Zhuo Yatong and the other three girls (Gu Manzi, Tong Xiaoyun, Yun Caiwei), the rest of the community all began to show more respect to them. The knot in Gu Manzi’s heart was also undone, seeing as she had now found her own place. She was starting to exude an astonishing feminine allure.

Chapter 237: Ning Guang County Invades!

In a lavish villa within Ning Guang County, Yue Zhong’s arch-enemy Lie Tianyang was currently sitting on a sofa. Beside him sat a fat man with a large head and big ears, whose bulging stomach made him seem as if he was 6 months pregnant.

There were 4 stunning young ladies in revealing clothes who knelt before him, massaging his legs, as well as another two ladies as such kneeling on the sofa beside him and gently kneading his shoulders. There were also two ladies standing behind him who were carefully massaging his back.

Four bright-eyed men wearing black suits stood beside the fat man, staring fixedly at Lie Tianyang.

The fat man was the Ferocious Tigers’ controller of Ning Guang County, Tao Zhengyi. Prior to the apocalypse, he had been the tyrant of Ning Guang County, colluding with various officials and simply doing as he liked. He had a few hundred henchmen under him, and he had opened all sorts of businesses such as a real estate company, a bar and an internet cafe: in total, he had possessed over 2000 workers and lackeys in Ning Guang County.

After Z-Day, Tao Zhengyi had managed to overcome the initial difficulties, wantonly using the name of the government to persuade survivors to join him. At the same time, he began to organize his own forces, eventually opening up a military camp and obtaining a large number of weapons and ammunition. Not long after, he brought people to subdue the entire Ning Guang County and began to widely recruit subordinates. By borrowing the name of the government, he was able to gather many survivors.

Once the number of survivors under him had grown to more than 12,000, adding onto the fact that there hadn’t been any news from the central government for a long time, Tao Zhengyi decided to

discard this pretense. He formed the Ferocious Tigers Group and declared himself the leader, before continuing to rule Ning Guang County under a dictatorship regime.

With an entire military camp's worth of modern weaponry and a substantial amount of resources like food, Tao Zhengyi began to swallow up the various surrounding powers one by one. The total number of survivors currently under him was already over 16,000. In this region, he could be considered as a real big shot.

Lie Tianyang laughed lightly as he said,

"Chairman Tao, are these women to your liking?"

These days, Lie Tianyang had relied on his own abilities to decimate the leader of a small-scale power. With his overbearing nature, he became the leader of the small-scale power and these beautiful women were actually brought over from that small community by him.

Tao Zhengyi rolled his eyes at Lie Tianyang. As if he were scolding a dog, he cursed unhappily at Lie Tianyang, saying,,

"Not very satisfied. Out of these 8 ladies you've sent me, 4 of them have been used before by others! You f*ckin want to insult me, don't you! You're so insincere, yet you still wish to borrow my troops, no way!"

'Damned fat pig. Do you know how hard it is to find pretty virgins after the apocalypse? Finding you 4 of them is already a blessing!! You didn't say anything when you were about to receive them, but now that they're in your hands, you want to go back on your words! How shameless!"

Lie Tianyang was full of indignation in his heart, but he actually maintained his smiling facade and said slowly,

"Chairman Tao, as long as you lend your troops to me, I promise you that I will be able to find you 20 beautiful virgins. Remember, Clear Wind Camp's population actually numbers in the 2000s. If we attack Clear Wind Camp and assimilate the people there, your power will definitely be enlarged by one step. Furthermore, they have just gone through an attack by a herd of Mutant Pigs. Their ammunition has already been depleted, so right now is the best time for you to launch an attack on them!"

Tao Zhengyi's small eyes blinked a few times, before he squinted at Lie Tianyang and slowly asked,

"What's in it for you if we wipe out Clear Wind Camp?"

There were no free lunches in this world. Tao Zhengyi was well aware of that, and he certainly didn't believe that Lie Tianyang would deliver such a delicious piece of cake right up to his mouth for no particular reason.

Lie Tianyang gritted his teeth as he replied savagely,

"Clear Wind Camp's Yue Zhong stole my base and my women. I really want to consume his flesh and skin him. After destroying Clear Wind Camp, I don't need anything. All I want is Yue Zhong and his women."

Tao Zhengyi pondered for a while, before replying shamelessly,

“Alright! Since it’s like that, I’ll make an exception JUST for you. However, my Ning Guang County has a shortage of workers, and you seem to have over 300 survivors under your control, right? Hand them over to me and we’ll treat that as the fee for borrowing my troops.”

Upon hearing that Tao Zhengyi actually wanted to take away the 300+ survivors under his control, Lie Tianyang was so furious that his lungs almost exploded. A small force like this was all that he had right now, yet Tao Zhengyi still wanted to take it away, which filled his heart with resentment. As a faint killing intent started to seep out from him, an extreme desire to kill the fatty in front of him emerged from within Lie Tianyang.

Right at this moment, another strong killing intent, which was by no means inferior to that of Lie Tianyang’s, seeped out from the other corner of the room, shaking Lie Tianyang awake.

Tao Zhengyi was only a normal person, whose fighting strength couldn’t even measure up to that of normal citizens. However, being the controller of Ning Guang County, he had been able to use means like food and beauties to rope in many experts. This was why Lie Tianyang didn’t have the slightest bit of confidence in being able to successfully kill Tao Zhengyi in this place.

Lie Tianyang suppressed the anger within his heart and pretended to hesitate for a moment, before nodding his head in agreement and saying,

“Sure! I will hand them over to you. When will you dispatch your forces?”

Lie Tianyang didn’t have any plans for those 300 survivors anyway. After all, with the existence of two major powers in this region- Tao Zhengyi and the Chinese Army itself- being trapped in the middle left him with no future prospects whatsoever. He intended to first take down Yue Zhong, before immediately moving somewhere else to establish himself again.

To normal people, there was danger everywhere after the apocalypse, leaving them with no way of travelling elsewhere. However, to Evolvers like Lie Tianyang, as long as he didn’t provoke any fearsome Mutant Beasts or come across a vast horde of zombies, then travelling was basically not a problem.

Tao Zhengyi seemed to be unaffected by Lie Tianyang’s outburst of killing intent. Instead, he pinched the cheek of a beauty kneeling down in front of him and casually replied,

“Once your people have arrived, I will send out my men!”

“I shall go gather them now! I hope that you can keep your word.”

With that, Lie Tianyang stood up and strode out of the room.

“All of you are dismissed!”

After Lie Tianyang had left, Tao Zhengyi waved his hands towards those 8 beauties and 4 bodyguards, telling them all to withdraw.

A thin man with protruding temples slowly walked out from the shadows. He had dark skin and the thenar spaces (webbing between thumb and index finger) of both his hands were covered with calluses. Both of his eyes flashed with a bright light.

Once the man had walked out, the frivolous and haughty expression of Tao Zhengyi was wiped away, replaced by a stern and serious one.

“Bao-zi, what do you think?”

The middle-aged man who had walked out of the shadows was called Zhang Bao, the strongest Evolver under Tao Zhengyi’s command. Prior to Z-Day, Tao Zhengyi had saved Zhang Bao’s life and had even done all sorts of favours for him. After the events of Z-Day, Tao Zhengyi had also fiercely protected Zhang Bao’s life when he was undergoing evolution and had a fever. This led Zhang Bao to have absolute loyalty to Tao Zhengyi, as well as being his strongest subordinate.

Zhang Bao said unhurriedly,

“Yue Zhong could usurp Lie Tianyang’s position all by himself, so he’s obviously not someone simple. I feel that Lie Tianyang’s intention is to let both us and Yue Zhong’s side fight it out, making both sides sustain heavy losses, from which he stands to gain. Of course, his supposed hatred for Yue Zhong is probably real.”

Tao Zhengyi rubbed a jade ring on his index finger with his right thumb as he asked back,

“That’s right! That bastard Lie Tianyang really is a mad dog right now, wanting to bite at anyone who he’s unhappy with. How confident are you of killing him?”

Zhang Bao pondered for a while before replying in a low voice,

“I am confident in being able to defeat him! However, in order to kill him, unless I join hands with Dong Zi, Tie Ya, Niu Sheng and the others, there is only a 10% chance of finishing him off .”

Dong Zi, Tie Ya and Niu Sheng were the other three Evolvers that Tao Zhengyi had recruited. Each of them was very overbearing, possessing powerful skills and abilities.

Tao Zhengyi contemplated for a while before saying,

“I’ve decided. I must have this fat piece of meat that is Clear Wind Camp. Once Lie Tianyang has brought his people over, you, Dong Zi and Niu Sheng will bring troops to go open up Clear Wind Camp. At that time, let Lie Tianyang be at the very front. Bring some additional rockets, so that when the time’s right, you can deal with both him and Yue Zhong at the same time.”

“Understood!”

Zhang Bao nodded.

Two days later, Lie Tianyang delivered the 300+ survivors into Tao Zhengyi’s hands, as well as bringing along with him the address of the place that Yue Zhong’s stronghold had just migrated to. As a tyrant of this area, Lie Tianyang knew this region like the back of his hand, and his new subordinates had constantly been monitoring the direction in which Yue Zhong’s army was moving. Within a day, he was able to work out the exact location of Yue Zhong’s new stronghold.

Tao Zhengyi also did not go back on his words and dispatched 2 Battalions, forming an army 1000 men strong. With Zhang Bao in command, they made their way towards Yue Zhong’s stronghold.

Tao Zhengyi's current armed forces consisted precisely of 5 Battalions, a total of over 2500 people. Although he had such a strong army, there naturally wasn't enough equipment or weapons for all his soldiers, and so many of them were only assigned Type 54 Handguns; some were even given machetes, watermelon knives and butcher knives. However, according to Tao Zhengyi's way of thinking, as long as they had the numbers, then they would have enough power. Using some of the men as cannon fodder was completely fine to him.

Of course, there was an Elite Company within each of the 5 Battalions, which was equipped with modern weaponry and equipment taken from the military camp that the Ferocious Tigers had opened. The Elite Companies possessed the greatest power and only they could truly be considered as Tao Zhengyi's trump cards.

Approximately 5km to the east of Mahogany Town, 10 warriors were hiding on the top floor of a small 2-storey bungalow, taking turns to keep watch over the main road. If there were any vehicles passing by, they definitely would not escape the warriors' eyes.

A fragile-looking young man of small stature walked up to another young man, who was sporting a beard and was dressed neatly in clean clothes. He said,

"Squad Leader, go and rest! It's my turn!"

These 10 warriors were all reconnaissance fighters from the 1st Platoon of Yue Zhong's 1st Company; all of them were Enhancers above Level 8. Amongst them, there was the Squad Leader Guo Quan, who was a Level 10 Enhancer. After Yue Zhong had returned from the Mechanized Infantry Brigade Station with a huge amount of equipment, their team had been keeping watch here. They had already been stationed here for 4 days.

When the horde of Mutant Pigs had attacked, it had caused Yue Zhong's stronghold to sustain disastrous losses; at the same time though, it produced many new high-levelled Enhancers all at once.

"Xu Yang, I'll keep watch for a little longer! Go back and rest first!"

Guo Quan smiled at the small-statured young man, before both his eyes suddenly narrowed and he said in a deep voice,

"There's something wrong! Quickly notify headquarters, enemies are on their way!"

In the distance, a huge fleet of vehicles could be seen making its way towards them.

Chapter 238: Guo Quan!

"There is an enemy attack impending. Their main force consists of jeeps, trucks, buses and an unknown number of people. There are no infantry fighting vehicles..."

One of the warriors was using a military walkie-talkie to rapidly report back to headquarters. Although he had been selected to join the reconnaissance squad, prior to this, he didn't have a lot of experience in warfare. It was thus understandable that he was unable to report back to headquarters like a genuine

recon warrior would, using the proper protocol and giving accurate information. He could only give a broad outline of the most important information.

Guo Quan looked towards the warrior and asked,

“How is it? What are headquarters’ orders?”

The warrior solemnly replied,

“Headquarters have given their orders! We are to slow down their advance with everything we’ve got! After destroying the first armored vehicle that passes by here, we are free to retreat as we see fit.”

This reconnaissance squad was full of elite soldiers trained by Yue Zhong, who had no plans of sacrificing them for naught. Trying to obstruct a few hundred enemies with just 10 warriors was really too difficult.

Guo Quan’s mouth curled upwards as he patted the two Type QLB06 .35mm Light Grenade Launchers. He called out to the rest of his team,

“Just one armored vehicle?! Headquarters seem to think too lightly of us! With these guys, we should at least take down five of them! Do you guys have the confidence?!”

“Yes!!” The rest of the team hollered back.

Each member of this reconnaissance team had a .05 Light Submachine Gun, four hand grenades, armor sewn from the Mutant Water Snake scales and also two Type QLB06 .35mm Light Grenade Launchers, making a total of 24 grenades.

They could be considered to be armed to the teeth. After the battle with the herd of Mutant Pigs, they gained courage, self-confidence and even became Enhancers. They were also equipped with modern weaponry, which filled their hearts with confidence and had them in high spirits.

Guo Quan glanced at his team of warriors in a pleased way then proceeded to give out a series of orders.

The huge vehicle fleet was getting closer to this small bungalow that they were stationed in.

Guo Quan was lying on the rooftop, using the Type QLB06 .35mm Light Grenade Launcher to aim closely at the foremost vehicle of the enemy troop, a Dongfeng Warrior Vehicle mounted with a machine gun.

Just as that Dongfeng vehicle was about 100m away from the building, Guo Quan immediately pulled the trigger; at the same time, another warrior – named Xu Yang – also fired his QLB06.

With two huge ‘booms’, the two grenades exploded on that leading vehicle, with one of them landing on the fuel box, immediately causing the Dongfeng vehicle to explode into a huge fireball.

Facing the sudden attack, the vehicle fleet was suddenly plunged into chaos. They simply did not have any experience in dealing with modern warfare weaponry.

Some of the vehicles wanted to retreat, whilst others wanted to continue in their advance: in the ensuing chaos, many vehicles crashed against one another. Two buses filled with soldiers crashed violently into each other, killing or injuring a few dozen of the soldiers inside.

Guo Quan hadn't expected their attack to be so effective, and so he immediately lifted the QLB06 to continue his assault on the vehicles, firing wildly.

One by one, explosions rocked the vehicle fleet, causing a Jeep and another Dongfeng vehicle to directly explode. Most of the vehicles then came to a stop and countless passengers armed with all sorts of weapons scrambled out.

Up until now, Tao Zhengyi's subordinates had only fought against zombies and normal humans, but never against humans that possessed heavy weaponry. They did not possess a sliver of experience in this sort of warfare. The other eight members of the recon team opened fire on the chaotic scene in front of them, bombarding the 1000+ enemy soldiers. Some of them cried as they tried to flee, trampling over each other, resulting in a disastrous number of casualties.

"Ambush! AMBUSH!!"

Immediately after the first attack, Zhang Bao had rushed out from his vehicle and was now hollering at the top of his voice.

The moment he rushed out, other than the soldiers from the two elite companies of Ning Guang County who had plenty of battle experience, the rest fled in all directions and went seeking for cover.

While the soldiers of Ning County were busy looking for cover, Guo Quan and Xu Yang nonchalantly took aim with their grenade launchers and shot at the vehicles, destroying them one by one.

"Charge!"

Zhang Bao looked at the constant barrage of grenades coming from the bungalow and a grim expression flashed past his face. Leaving behind the two elite companies, he commanded the other two normal companies to act as cannon fodder and charge forward.

Under the urging of Zhang Bao and the other elite soldiers, the two companies' worth of cannon fodder, who were scared witless, began to launch an assault on the bungalow.

"Good!!"

As Gu Lian watched the few hundred people rushing towards the bungalow, he smacked his lips and from one of the bungalows windows, he immediately began to wildly open fire at the cannon fodder.

The concentrated barrage of bullets rained down on the unfortunate warriors and instantly decimated a few dozen of them, while the rest of them turned pale and immediately turned tail, fleeing ignominiously.

Zhang Bao was furious as he and the elite warriors continuously shot down those who had escaped the fastest. Only then, was the frenzied retreat of the cannon fodder survivors stopped.

Following that, Zhang Bao organized two more groups of cannon fodder to rush towards the bungalow, resulting in the deaths of a few people each time. There was a pathetic outcome each time, with none of them possessing the courage to even fire at the bungalow.

Lie Tianyang saw how useless the assaults were as his eyebrows furrowed and said,

“This won’t do!! Brother Bao, let the two elite companies charge!”

The elite companies were the lifelines of Tao Zhengyi and were also of extreme value to Ning County. It was precisely because of this that Zhang Bao wanted to first use the cannon fodder to engage in a war of attrition with those in the bungalow; he just didn’t expect the cannon fodder to be such cowards.

Zhang Bao’s face turned ashen as he coldly stared at Lie Tianyang and said,

“Lie Tianyang! Didn’t you say that they don’t have any ammunition left? What’s the deal with those grenade launchers?”

If Lie Tianyang hadn’t claimed that Yue Zhong had already expended all his ammunition, Tao Zhengyi would have considered striking a deal with Yue Zhong. Otherwise, even if he conquered the enemy, he would have faced huge losses as well. When fighting against a formidable powerhouse, it was not as easy or simple as swallowing up a small stronghold. Conquering small strongholds would only require Tao Zhengyi to launch a single assault, which would easily result in the small stronghold’s armed forces being destroyed and assimilated.

Lie Tianyang was equally depressed as he replied,

“Maybe he got lucky and came across a military camp recently.”

Lie Tianyang hated Yue Zhong from the depths of his heart. Now that Yue Zhong’s power had further increased, this only served to fuel his jealousy and rage.

Zhang Bao glanced at Lie Tianyang, before ordering in a low voice,

“There doesn’t seem to be many people in the bungalow. Go and take care of them!!”

Lie Tianyang’s eyes flashed with a hint of anger. After all, he wasn’t one of Tao Zhengyi’s lackeys, yet this Zhang Bao was obviously treating him like cannon fodder.

Lie Tianyang’s eyes were surging with anger and his expression turned cold. He silently walked towards the tall and sturdy middle aged man named Niu Sheng, as well as the ferocious-looking young man named Dong Zi with dyed blonde hair who watched everything with a gaze sharper than daggers.

Zhang Bao, Niu Sheng and Dong Zi were all Evolvers under Tao Zhengyi, who had in turn spent a huge amount of resources to nurture and enhance their growth. This enabled him to have quite a few exceptionally powerful experts by his side.

Lie Tianyang also knew that Niu Sheng and Dong Zi were Evolvers with great strength. So with great difficulty he suppressed his anger, before saying to Zhang Bao:

“Then I shall go and kill them now!!”

After which, he jumped out from behind the vehicular cover and activated his hurricane armor, rushing towards the direction of the bungalow.

“Lie Tianyang!!”

Upon seeing the approaching Lie Tianyang with his hurricane armor, Guo Quan and the rest of the warriors turned pale. After all, they were recently still at his mercy, and upon seeing the cruel and fearsome ex-tyrant of Clear Wind Camp, they naturally could not help but feel a bit fearful.

In a flash, a concentrated barrage of 5.8mm bullets and grenades was fired at Lie Tianyang.

However, it turned out that Lie Tianyang was actually just fainting. He did not attack the bungalow, but rather changed direction and fled instead, which accordingly led to most of the ammunition hitting thin air. Although some of the bullets actually entered the vicinity of his hurricane armor, they were then promptly swept away one by one.

In just a few moments, Lie Tianyang had already escaped without even his shadow to be seen, leaving only the forces of Ning Guang County to contend with the recon team under Yue Zhong. Seeing that Lie Tianyang had actually chosen to escape during this moment of crisis, Zhang Bao cursed,

“Damn bastard!!”

Niu Sheng frowned and asked Zhang Bao,

“What do we do? Brother Bao, should we send out the elite soldiers?”

Those cannon fodder troops could not be relied on, and so the only forces that could actually seize control over the bungalow were the elite soldiers, who were the core of Ning Guang County’s military power.

Zhang Bao pondered for a moment. Now that Yue Zhong’s forces possessed enough weapons and ammunition, he was rather worried. However, after some hesitation, he still gave the order,

“Let the Elite 3rd Company’s 1st Platoon go forth!”

A whole platoon of soldiers immediately crouched down and made their way carefully to surround the bungalow on all four sides.

These elite soldiers of Ning Guang County had also seen and fought their fair share of zombies. Even though their achievements were far-off compared to those of a proper army, they were still much better than those cannon fodder troops.

As the platoon began to surround the bungalow, the recon warriors inside could feel the pressure. They continuously opened fire with their .05 Light Submachine Guns at the soldiers from Ning Guang County below them.

The dense barrage of bullets caused three casualties amongst the elite warriors of Ning Guang before the rest immediately dove for cover. Afterwards, they began to open fire, spraying unceasingly at the bungalow. Soon enough, both parties were engaging in an all-out gunfight.

As a hail of bullets rained down on this area, one bullet found its way through the brains of one of the recon warriors, ending his life instantly. There was finally a casualty within the bungalow.

“Old Wu!!”

As Guo Quan saw his comrade falling beside him he howled, his eyes scarlet like those of an injured beast. He fired the grenade launcher repeatedly at the enemies outside and two grenades exploded on a small dirt mound, instantly killing the two Ning Guang County soldiers taking cover behind it.

“What tenacious enemies!!”

Zhang Bao glanced at the small bungalow and furrowed his brows slightly. In most of their previous conquests, the battle ended as soon as they fired and killed some people, upon which the rest would completely lose their morale and directly surrender.

Although Guo Quan was only in command of one squad, they were all fully equipped and had plenty of ammunition. They could maintain their firing accordingly and actually suppress all the enemy soldiers, giving them no space to even lift their heads, thus causing a lot of damage to the opposing side as well.

Zhang Bao looked at the bungalow, which they still hadn't captured even after 20 minutes, and his face turned ashen. Angrily, he ordered,

“3rd Company 2nd and 3rd Platoons, begin your assault on the bungalow! I want those enemies inside dead!”

Zhang Bao had originally wanted to conserve the fighting strength of the elite soldiers until they reached Mahogany Town, so that they could commence their onslaught on Yue Zhong's stronghold in prime condition. However it seemed that if he did not send them out now, he would have to spend even longer taking down this bungalow.

Once the soldiers of Ning Guang County's Elite 3rd Company had joined the fray, the recon soldiers in the bungalow felt the pressure on them rise severalfold. In the gunfight that ensued, they began to receive bullet wounds one by one.

Fortunately, they were dressed in the Mutant Water Snake armor, which meant that as long as they did not suffer any wounds to the head, they could still survive. After such a long battle, only one other warrior had died to a head wound; the rest were still alive and fighting.

Nevertheless, facing the huge increased barrage of firepower from the Ning Guang County troops, Guo Quan and the rest could barely even lift their heads under the complete suppression.

Zhang Bao saw that the situation was swinging in their favour, yet he still frowned deeply. While the Elite 3rd Company of Ning County was still firing at the bungalow from the outside, not a single one of them dared to rush in. If this continued, who knew how much longer it would take to completely wipe out the warriors inside the bungalow.

Unfortunately, Zhang Bao's side were severely lacking in heavy weaponry. If they had heavy artillery, then the bungalow would already have been blasted to smithereens, and this battle wouldn't have been dragged on for so long.

“3rd Company charge!! Not a single enemy is to be left alive!”

Zhang Bao shouted out his command fiercely. He had already fought this war of attrition for too long, and he didn't want to waste a single second more.

At Zhang Bao's order, the soldiers of the Elite 3rd Company moved in from three different directions, crouching and making their way closer towards the bungalow that Guo Quan and his team were stationed in.

"They're here!!"

Seeing the elite soldiers of Ning County launching their assault, Guo Quan spat out some saliva before starting to open fire with his grenade launcher at the soldiers.

There wasn't anywhere good to seek cover near the bungalow, and so the 3rd Company soldiers sustained huge losses halfway through their assault.

One by one, the grenades exploded on the poor elite soldiers of Ning Guang County, killing them piecemeal. The constant barrage of fire from the .05 Light Machine Guns was also effective at picking off the soldiers as many of them fell lifelessly to the ground.

Seeing that their comrades were constantly falling to the ground, the elite soldiers' morale crumbled apart, whereupon they immediately retreated like a receding tide. After all, they were not actual soldiers who had undergone rigorous military training and had firm resolutions. The outcome of this assault would be the deaths of another 2 recon warriors at best.

There were currently only five people remaining amongst Yue Zhong's recon warriors.

"Damn it!"

Zhang Bao frowned as he could feel the determination of Yue Zhong's forces. Breaking past the defenses of the bungalow was not difficult in itself, but the morale and fighting spirit displayed by the warriors inside the bungalow gave Zhang Bao a huge sense of unease!

"We can't drag this out any longer! Dong Zi, go and take care of them!"

Zhang Bao gave the order to Dong Zi in a low voice.

Dong Zi's eyes flashed with a cold gleam as he activated the Shadow Steps Skill, which he had enhanced twice.

He was an Agility-based Evolver in the first place, but with Shadow Steps active, his speed was over 11 times greater than that of normal humans.

Chapter 239: Reinforcements!

The moment Dong Zi charged forward, his entire person looked like a specter speeding towards the bungalow.

As Guo Quan and the remaining warriors watched Dong Zi draw closer, they raised their guns and fired wildly at him. It was just that their eyes could barely keep up with his movement trajectory, whilst their gun handling simply wasn't fast enough at all to hit him accurately.

Dong Zi zig-zagged his way towards the bungalow at high speed, making full use of his Level 3 Danger Perception Skill to help him avoid incoming attacks. Those bullets would be enough to take his life if they landed on him, but as long as they did not hit, even 35mm Grenades would not be able to cause him any harm.

Dong Zi had a smug look on his face as he dodged each of the bullets with relative ease, before arriving in front of the bungalow. He fired several shots at the lock and destroyed it as he viciously kicked down the door.

The moment he kicked the door open, his smug look was wiped clean from his face, which promptly turned ash grey.

With a resounding 'BANG!', the claymore that Guo Quan had placed behind the door exploded upon the impact of the door being kicked in. The fearsome expulsion of flame and whistling shrapnel completely engulfed Dong Zi, directly blasting his head off and turning his body into a fountain of tattered, bloody pieces.

"Dong Zi!! Damn bastards!!!"

Zhang Bao's eyes were filled with fury and shock as Dong Zi, an Evolver with tyrannical strength, had actually died to a claymore!

Evolvers were naturally gifted. As long as they were nurtured, their latent potential far outstripped that of normal Enhancers. If it was a normal battle on the ground, Dong Zi, as an Agility-based Evolver, could easily take care of Guo Quan and his men. However, due to his carelessness and complacency, Dong Zi had fallen for the claymore trap set by Guo Quan. This led Zhang Bao to feel angry, since he had always been proud of being an Evolver and believed Evolvers to be a special existence. Yet Dong Zi had been killed by a normal person, which led to his belief being shaken.

When Dong Zi was killed, the morale of the Ning Guang County soldiers plunged. Dong Zi, Zhang Bao and Niu Sheng were the strongest Evolvers in the whole of Ning Guang County, yet one of them had actually died while trying to assault the bungalow! Coincidentally, this gave rise to fear in the remaining soldiers' hearts.

"Haha, we killed that bastard!"

Inside the bungalow, Guo Quan and the other 4 remaining warriors were celebrating with raucous cheers.

Dong Zi's dodging capabilities and wraith-like speed had allowed Guo Quan and the other recon warriors to experience for themselves the fearsome abilities of Evolvers. The fact that they had actually managed to bring one down filled them with pride.

One of the warriors piped up worriedly,

"Squad Leader, our ammunition is running low. Each of the .05 Light Machine Guns have only a handful of bullets left. We are also left with only 4 grenades, while hand grenades number about 39. I'm afraid we won't be able to hold out much longer."

As they had been constantly laying down suppressing fire in attempts to push back the enemy troops, they had expended a huge amount of their ammunition.

Guo Quan brought out a canteen of water and he took a large gulp before saying lightly,

“We’ll just allow them get closer before using the hand grenades to bomb them!”

Guo Quan looked at his fellow soldiers who had fought hard, as he spoke out apologetically,

“I’m sorry my brothers, initially we were to pull back after destroying one of their vehicles. I should have brought you guys and retreated. This time, I’m afraid that I’ve caused you all to face death in battle with me!”

Gu Lian looked at Guo Quan as he guffawed,

“Leader, why are you standing on ceremony?! We are definitely willing to fight by your side all the way. Since we have become warriors, there will definitely be a day when we have to die. Even if it’s not during a battle with enemies, it will likely be during a battle with zombies. Being able to die with you, I have no regrets! After 18 years, I’ll be a hero once again!* Haha!”

[TN: A Chinese saying where people believe that after death, they get to reincarnate and can still lead a good life, especially if they are worthy in the current life/good karma. Adulthood is reached at 18 years of age, so after 18 years in their next life, they’ll become great once again.]

“That’s right!! Leader, we have already killed so many of those evil bastards, it’s definitely worth it!”

The rest of the warriors cheered enthusiastically. Even at death’s door, their morale remained high. They had previously led lives not worth living at Clear Wind Camp while under Lie Tianyang’s rule, and it was Yue Zhong who had given them a new lease on life. He brought them into the army, gave them strength and respect, and led them on to victory after victory. They were completely willing to fight for him.

Right at this moment, in the blink of an eye. The back wall of the bungalow had a hole blown right through it and Yue Zhong strode in. Upon seeing his valiant warriors in such dire straits, he said, “Don’t worry, you won’t die here!”

“Battalion Commander!!”

“Commander, you’ve come!!”

Upon seeing Yue Zhong appear, Guo Quan and the rest stood up excitedly.

Yue Zhong patted Guo Quan’s shoulder and said,

“This time, it’s all thanks to you guys that they have been stalled. Join me and we shall stop their advance for a while! Let’s kill them all!”

In fact, Guo Quan and the other recon warriors had dragged out the advance of Ning County for so long, that it actually went far beyond Yue Zhong’s high expectations. After all, although the recon warriors had excellent equipment, they were still only a 10-man team that was up against a force over 1000 men strong!

[UBPC: This! Is! SPARTAAAAAAA! XD]

The efforts of the recon warriors gave Yue Zhong's side precious response time, and a huge 'net' was being cast out swiftly right now to surround and decimate the invaders in one go.

"Yes!!" Guo Quan and the rest cried out, full of exhilaration.

Yue Zhong then threw a large bag on the ground, revealing its contents: a great amount of ammunition! When the recon warriors saw it, they immediately stepped forward to take 3 magazines each, reloading their weapons.

Next, Yue Zhong activated his Encompassing Body Armor, before walking to the front of the bungalow to observe the enemy's current situation.

Zhang Bao hesitated for a while, before ordering the advance of the Elite 3rd Company once again.

Under the pressure of Zhang Bao, the elite warriors set out on another assault attempt.

Yue Zhong watched the incoming soldiers before laughing coldly at their actions. Taking out his .05 Submachine Gun, he proceeded to fire in wild swathes at the elite soldiers of Ning County.

Regardless, Yue Zhong's shooting skill was now extremely valiant after he had polished it countless times in the past; he constantly shot at the elite soldiers charging at him, killing them one by one.

Those elite soldiers also began to return fire at Yue Zhong one after another. However, he did not dodge as the bullets simply ricocheted off of his armor. He was like an indestructible killing machine that was constantly bringing death to all the enemies, decimating the elite Ning Guang County soldiers one after another.

Once twenty of the enemy soldiers had been wounded or killed by Yue Zhong, the Elite 3rd Company's morale plummeted once again. They flooded backwards in retreat, leaving behind corpses and injured comrades alike.

After several charges, the 3rd Company had already lost 45 of its members, the loss amounting to more than half of their initial size. The final result was the loss of all fighting spirit. Of course, it would be the same even for actual military troops before Z-Day, not to mention these soldiers who have not even gone through strict military training.

Only zombies with no intellect or Mutant Beasts would be able to continue attacking under this much mental pressure.

Zhang Bao gritted his teeth as he ordered fiercely,

"Elite 4th Company, you're up! Bring 4 of the rocket launchers, destroy that building and annihilate the enemies!"

Zhang Bai had coincidentally packed along 8 rocket launchers with 40-round drums. He had intended to use them against Yue Zhong and Lie Tianyang, but he had never expected that such a small resistance force could force him to reveal his hand. He had no choice but to thoroughly exterminate them.

Heavy weaponry like 40-round Rocket Launchers were considered valuable assets in Ning Guang County, and they were obviously limited in numbers. Zhang Bao was also quite conservative in their usage. However, after being forced to such a state, he had no choice but to blow them away.

If Zhang Bao didn't give his all in exterminating this troublesome enemy, he wouldn't be able to dispel the shadow in his heart.

"40-round Rocket Launcher! Are they finally using heavy weaponry?"

Yue Zhong gazed at the four enemy soldiers hoisting the precious weapons as he laughed icily. With a few gestures, he ignited 4 Devil Flame fireballs in the air, before sending them away swiftly to bombard the four rocket launchers.

Following four horrifying sounds, the four 40-round Rocket Launchers immediately exploded! The resulting blast directly killed or injured the four elite soldiers carrying them, as well as wounding eight others in the vicinity, leaving behind little but their resounding wails of agony.

After Yue Zhong had raised his Devil Flame Skill to Level 2, he was able to summon the flame with just a thought. He could also conjure up four blazing fireballs simultaneously, which he could use to attack enemies far away.

Upon destroying the four 40-round rocket launchers, Yue Zhong took out his own deadly QJZ89 127mm Heavy Machine Gun, firing wildly at the remaining warriors of the 4th Company who had only just begun to charge at the bungalow.

The terrifying 127mm-caliber Heavy Machine Gun was like a frenzied killing machine as it spewed forth a terrifying hail of bullets. Any elite soldier caught in its line of fire would be immediately torn apart with their head exploding, shoulders blasted to pieces, and even their limbs shredded by the bullets. The entire scene of blood and carnage was quite terrifying.

The elite soldiers who had tried to rush forward earlier had instead served their lives on a platter to Yue Zhong, and within moments, another 20 soldiers had perished. The remaining soldiers discarded all thoughts of advancing as they dove for cover and shivered while thinking about the scene they had just experienced.

"An Evolver? There's an expert on their side!! It's very likely that the assault this time around has already failed, so our priority right now is to retreat."

"Retreat immediately!!"

Zhang Bao looked at the defeated soldiers of the 3rd and 4th Companies, his expression turning sour as he quickly issued orders to flee.

The moment the Ning Guang County soldiers heard Zhang Bao's orders, they immediately began to scramble back towards their vehicles; not a single person was willing to stay here even a moment longer.

"We're finished!! The return route is blocked!!"

"Tank!! It's a tank!! Oh my God, there's actually a tank!!"

Just when the soldiers were preparing to escape in their vehicles, four Type 69 tanks suddenly appeared behind them and cut off their retreat route, leaving them momentarily stunned. The appearance of the tanks filled all the soldiers' hearts with a creeping sense of dread and despondence, as none of them were equipped to deal with tanks.

Chapter 240: Seizing Ning Guang County!

When Zhang Bao saw the four Type 69 tanks, his face immediately turned deathly pale,

“Tanks!!!! They actually have tanks!! How is it that they have things like them?!”

On land, tanks were the kings of modern weaponry. As long as the target was hit, one shot fired by the tank was enough to turn even an Evolver like Zhang Bao into mincemeat. The 2 battalions of elite troops from Ning Guang County would be almost completely crushed once the 4 tanks began their assault, whilst those remaining would be slaughtered by Yue Zhong and his men.

Niu Sheng ran to Zhang Bao’s side, his face deathly pale as he exclaimed,

“Brother Bao! Let’s quickly escape!! If we stay here any longer, we will become Yue Zhong’s captives!”

He had already noticed that there were military vehicles mounted with machine guns coming towards them, indicating that Yue Zhong’s main forces were now hurrying over.

If Yue Zhong’s main forces managed to reach them, the Ning Guang County soldiers would have absolutely no way of escaping.

Zhang Bao glanced at the army vehicles and tanks that were noisily approaching. He was very clear that his side didn’t possess the necessary strength to even defend against a single attack from Yue Zhong’s forces. Eventually, he gritted his teeth and made a prompt decision to abandon the elite soldiers from the two companies as he escaped together with Niu Sheng into the wilderness.

When the Ning Guang County soldiers saw that their two leaders were escaping, they, who already had low morale, lost all of their remaining willpower, causing their force to completely collapse as they escaped one after another.

“Throw down your weapons, we won’t kill those who surrender!! Surrender and you shall be spared!!”

Yue Zhong’s forces closed in on the despairing soldiers, managing to round up a huge portion of them. However, some of the luckier ones managed to evade capture as they ran away.

Due to the outstanding efforts of Guo Quan and his team, Yue Zhong’s side had only lost 5 men in the throes of battle, yet they had caused 98 casualties on the opposing side, captured 687 of the remaining enemies and even killed an Agility-based Evolver. They had even gained 2 whole companies’ worth of equipment and a large number of vehicles.

“Battalion Commander! What do you need me for?”

Liu Erhei shouted as he excitedly ran forward towards Yue Zhong. Just now, he had led some soldiers to chase and round up those Ning Guang County runaways, causing him to become elated about his success.

Yue Zhong said heavily,

“Bring some people and take the captives back to town. I’m taking our forces out to take down Ning Guang County. Until I’m back, you have to defend Mahogany Town well! All you need to do is coordinate with Chen Ming to protect the town and you will have rendered a great merit!”

Liu Erhei’s greatest strength was his ability to follow orders,

“Yes! Battalion Commander!”

Yue Zhong lightly nodded before bringing Zhang Niujiang and Xiong Zheng with him. Both warriors were armed to the teeth. Their subordinates drove the four Type 69 tanks and a large number of other military vehicles that were fully loaded with arms as they sped towards Ning Guang County.

In the current era, the strong devoured the weak. The attack by the 2 battalions from Ning Guang County had revealed that their soldiers lacked training. Their morale wasn’t high, nor was their fighting spirit strong. Adding to the fact that they lacked heavy weaponry, Yue Zhong couldn’t resist the desire to obtain this tasty piece of meat.

When Clear Wind Camp was at its weakest, Ning Guang County had tried to take advantage of the fact to swallow them up. Yue Zhong now wanted to turn the tables and make use of this chance to subdue them instead. As long as he could obtain Ning Guang County’s food and people, Yue Zhong’s forces would grow tremendously.

Ning Guang County was not like Qing Yuan County with a huge city wall surrounding it. However, to prevent possible assaults by zombies or Mutant Beasts, there were many tall wooden fences that surrounded the roads leading to the main town.

At the same time, they had garrisoned soldiers who were in charge of keeping watch along the main road.

A Ning Guang County soldier, who was carrying a Type 03 Rifle, was currently yawning from time to time. As he lazily gazed into the distance, he suddenly straightened his eyes and hollered loudly,

“Attack! There’s an enemy vehicle fleet approaching!!”

The other 7 soldiers on duty immediately stood up and looked into the distance. Upon confirmation of the enemy, their faces turned pale as they shouted,

“Tank! There is actually a tank!!”

In the distance, four steel behemoths were constantly getting closer. Following behind the tanks, there was a long line of military vehicles fitted with various machine guns.

Right as the eight soldiers were considering whether to escape or not, a young man carrying a white flag strode up to the 8 soldiers and spoke in a manner that was neither servile nor overbearing,

“I am Xu Feng, a representative for Mahogany Town’s Yue Zhong. I would like to request an audience with your Highest Commanding Officer Tao Zhengyi.”

Inside Ning Guang County’s CPC county committee conference hall, Tao Zhengyi was currently staring at Xu Feng and the person standing beside him with an ashen face. The person acting as Xu Feng’s bodyguard was actually Yue Zhong. Tao Zhengyi spoke coldly,

“What do you want?! Speak!”

Xu Feng and Yue Zhong had already been searched, and did not possess any weapons. Tao Zhengyi had also brought along 11 Enhancers for his own protection, and so he wasn't too concerned about his own safety.

Xu Feng immediately came on strong and said,

“President Tao, the 2 battalions you previously sent to attack us have already been annihilated. This time, we have brought along our own forces and hope for you to surrender unconditionally. In exchange, we would protect your assets and guarantee your family's safety. If we have to force our way in, I'm afraid we can't promise the same.”

Tao Zhengyi's small eyes glinted maliciously with a look of shock. He retorted coldly,

“Are you threatening me right now? Ning Guang County has a population of 15,000 and a 4000-man strong army. We even have an entire military camp's worth of equipment, if you dare to attack my Ning Guang County, just know that my 4000 soldiers are not vegetarians.*”

[*TN: It's said that vegetarians have not seen blood, so if you are not a vegetarian... you get the gist.]

[UBPC: Celery bleeds green >.>]

“Nevertheless, this matter truly was an error on my part first. I'm willing to hand over 3000 tonnes of rations, 20 beautiful ladies, 1 tonne of fuel and 150kg of gold as compensation.”

After ‘flexing his muscles’, Tao Zhengyi immediately attempted a soft approach.

Ning Guang County had 5 main battalions, as well as an additional battalion that was dedicated to public security, making its forces number about 3000 people in total. Tao Zhengyi's claim of 4000 soldiers was just a figure of speech, and it didn't mean that his numbers equated to strength. Amongst the 5 battalions, Yue Zhong had already subdued 2. There were 4 battalions left, and if the soldiers in charge of public security were to try and fight with their cold weapons, it was tantamount to suicide. As for the other 3 battalions, only they had proper military equipment, but they did not possess enough heavy weaponry.

Ning Guang County had 2 infantry fighting vehicles that could be dangerous, but like Yue Zhong, they lacked the manpower and knowledge to operate the advanced weaponry. Therefore, when facing Xu Feng's intimidation, Tao Zhengyi wanted to display his own power and threaten them before offering another way out. This was all in the hope that they could try to reconcile matters between Yue Zhong's side and his.

The four Type 69 tanks outside Ning Guang County were also giving Tao Zhengyi a huge amount of pressure. Tanks, they were considered the kings of land-based modern warfare!

Yue Zhong looked at Tao Zhengyi and he instantly activated his Art of Fear Skill, causing a terrifying spiritual pressure to spread out with him as the centre.

Everyone was caught off-guard, and other than Yue Zhong, everyone was engulfed in the huge area of effect of the Art of Fear. Since Xu Feng and Tao Zhengyi were only normal people, they immediately

fainted. Out of the 11 Enhancers that Tao Zhengyi had brought, 7 of them also fainted directly while 3 others could only hug their heads in agony.

Only the strongest, Tao Zhengyi's only remaining Evolver Tie Ya, remained conscious despite the sharp pain in his head. His eyes were filled with shock and fear as he pointed at Yue Zhong and exclaimed,

"Evolver!!"

Yue Zhong looked at Tie Ya, saying coldly,

"You're also an Evolver right? Surrender or you'll die here!"

"Go to hell!!"

Tie Ya bit the tip of his tongue as a scarlet glow flashed past his eyes. With a wave of his hands, many blades of air were flung in Yue Zhong's direction one after another.

Tie Ya was a Spirit-based Evolver. He possessed the Level 3 Skill: Air Manipulation, which had already undergone 2 enhancements to reach Level 5, making its power truly fearsome. The sharp blades of air could even cut through a gun! Furthermore, the air blades were formless and left no tracks, making them very hard to defend against.

[Deduction: Gun? What type of gun? For all I know, this might be a plastic gun designed for undercover missions. Ambiguous way to let me know his strength. Pfft...]

"It's useless! You're too weak!"

Yue Zhong activated his Shadow Steps Skill and with a flash of his body, he easily dodged the air blades. He then appeared behind Tie Ya and grabbed his neck, before forcefully twisting and breaking it with a resounding 'Crack'!

Yue Zhong then directly poured a drink onto Tao Zhengyi's face, waking him up.

He took out a gun and held it to the space between Tao Zhengyi's eyebrows as he spoke with a voice full of killing intent,

"Will you surrender to me right now! Or should I cut your head off and show it to all your subordinates? Do you want to try and see who will still fight to the death for you after your death?"

Yue Zhong had risked entering Ning Guang County purely for Tao Zhengyi. If Tao Zhengyi had surrendered willingly, then that would've been it. Even if he had refused, Ning Guang County would be without a leader after killing him, and so seizing the county would be easier.

Tao Zhengyi could feel the gun pressed against his head as he looked at the fainted soldiers and the defeated Tie Ya. Laughing bitterly, he spoke,

"I admit defeat. I surrender, please spare my life."

Tao Zhengyi was not a soldier who did not care about death. Like most people, compared to death, he would rather live on.

Tao Zhengyi then asked carefully,

“May I know who you are?”

Tao Zhengyi’s perception was rather good, and he could tell that the person in front of him was not ordinary. He guessed that the person before him had to be Yue Zhong. In Clear Wind Camp, the only person who could take care of his Evolver Tie Ya so easily was Yue Zhong himself.

Yue Zhong gazed at Tao Zhengyi for a moment before replying blandly,

“I’m Yue Zhong.”

Tao Zhengyi laughed bitterly. He didn’t expect that he had actually brought in such a huge shark, nor did he expect that Yue Zhong would actually enter the enemy camp by pretending to be an envoy, even when he was the backbone of Clear Wind Camp.

With Tao Zhengyi’s cooperation, Yue Zhong’s forces successfully entered Ning Guang County easily and occupied all the strategic locations. At the same time, they disarmed the 4 remaining battalions and carefully gathered all the equipment.

All of this was witnessed by the indifferent survivors of Ning Guang County.

Although Ning Guang County possessed 80,000 tonnes of rations, like many other rulers, Tao Zhengyi had only provided his direct subordinates with ample supplies. As for the normal survivors, he gave them barely enough to survive. It was the same tactic that Yue Zhong and most other leaders would have used.

After all, the current situation was still quite bleak and crops could not be grown yet. They would save as much as they could, just so it would last longer in the future. Tao Zhengyi naturally wouldn’t squander the rations in his possession.