

Devil World 241

Chapter 241: Title Withheld!

After Yue Zhong gained control over Ning Guang County, he immediately increased the rations from 1 bowl of gruel to 3 bowls a day for the survivors, hence gaining the appreciation of most of them.

The original 6 battalions of Ning Guang County also went through changes, with Yue Zhong only selecting the best. With the original soldiers under him as the main core, he formed a strengthened regiment that comprised 4 battalions.

Liu Erhei, Xiong Zheng and Zhang Niujiang were all promoted to become Camp Leaders. From the previous battle in which Guo Quan's decisive actions had caught Yue Zhong's eye, Guo Quan had also now been promoted to a Company Leader.

After the battalion was formed, Yue Zhong continuously put them under strict training. The meat from the Type 2 Mutant Water Snake was also beneficial in boosting the recovery rate and strength of the soldiers who were pushed past their daily limits in training, letting them enter a period of immense growth.

"There's news of Yue Zhong!"

In Qing Yuan County's conference hall, Chi Yang had gathered all the high-ranking officers.

Da Gouzi could not help but exclaim,

"Where is Boss Yue right now??"

Lu Wen was also anxious and she asked,

"Chi Yang, where is Yue Zhong! Quickly tell us!"

"Vice Commander Chi, where is Captain Yue right now? Tell us quickly!!"

Liu Yan asked with scarlet eyes.

The rest of the people gathered also looked towards Chi Yang anxiously, awaiting info about Yue Zhong's location.

After Yue Zhong had lured the Type 2 Mutant Black-scaled Ferocious Boar away to protect the 1st Battalion's main soldiers and was declared missing, Qing Yuan County had lost their core. Some were even affected adversely. However, under Chi Yang's leadership, they stuck to their plans according to Yue Zhong's instructions. As per normal they continued to clear the zombies and expand outwards while looking for other survivors and rations. They simply didn't engage in any major operations.

Chi Yang's expression did not falter as he replied lightly,

"Yue Zhong is currently in Ning Guang County. He has subdued them and established another stronghold. He is currently the leader of over 17,000 people."

17,000 people!!

Hearing that number, the officials present could not help but let loose a cool breath. During the time that Yue Zhong was declared missing, they also had a huge number of survivors join them, but their total number was still currently only 12,000. Yue Zhong had actually established such a huge base all by himself, and in such a short period of time as well! It filled them with veneration, yet also pressure of some sort!

Guo Yu's pretty features were currently frowning as she said worriedly,

"Ning Guang County! That's the county just down from SY County right! There is a huge sea of zombies there blocking the way, and their numbers are definitely above 10,000."

Guo Yu was in charge of gathering intelligence, and so she was very clear on the information about the huge sea of zombies.

Obtaining intel was a very important task. If they received knowledge of an impending zombie horde, they could set things in motion to prepare for a counter-attack or defense. Therefore, there was a specific department set up purely for gathering information.

After Yue Zhong had 'swallowed' Ning Guang County, his total number of dependants had well exceeded the number in Qing Yuan County. However, their fighting force and administrative system could not compare to Qing Yuan County at all.

Chi Yang had a serious expression as he said,

"That's right! Yue Zhong has requested that we start an attack on the horde towards Ning Guang County. He will also dispatch people to attack from his side. From now on, our main priority is to clear the zombies on the road towards Ning Guang County. I hope that everybody will give their all as the faster we clear a path, the faster we can meet up with Yue Zhong again."

"Yes!!"

All of them replied loudly in unison and their morale reached a high.

After coming to a decision, the entire Qing Yuan County went up in a buzz. All the elite warriors of the First and Second Battalion were mobilized to head towards Ning Guang County's direction and commence small-scale attacks on the zombie hordes.

"Brother Yue, did you want me for something?"

Back in Ning Guang County, after an entire day of training, the originally fair-skinned beauty Tong Xiaoyun had now become quite tanned; she came up to Yue Zhong's side and asked curiously.

Zhuo Yatong and Tong Xiaoyun both joined in the tough military training that the soldiers of the forces undertook. Both of them originally had fair, satiny skin, which was now quite tanned.

Both Zhuo Yatong and Tong Xiaoyun hoped to gain more strength to fight alongside Yue Zhong. As for Gu Manzi, Ma Lili and Zeng Fang, they were unwilling to put themselves through all that hellish training, preferring to enjoy the lavish lifestyle within the comfort of the villa instead.

"Eat this!"

Yue Zhong took out a pink Snake Birth Fruit and gave it to Tong Xiaoyun.

Once she had received it, Tong Xiaoyun popped it into her mouth without any hesitation. After spending quite a lot of time together, she knew that Yue Zhong would definitely not harm her.

As soon as the pink Snake Birth Fruit entered Tong Xiaoyun's abdomen, it transformed into a warm surge of energy that started to strengthen every part of her body. She was immediately affected by the rise in temperature and her own body started burning up. Feeling light-headed and short of breath, she promptly fainted in Yue Zhong's arms.

"Husband! What are you doing?"

Zhuo Yatong looked at the limp Tong Xiaoyun in Yue Zhong's arms, wrinkled her nose and said tactfully,

"If you want her, just let her know. Why do you need to resort to means like drugging her?"

Tong Xiaoyun had a reddish hue to her skin and was breathing heavily. In addition to the fact that she was collapsed limply in Yue Zhong's embrace, it looked as if she had just been drugged and was about to be taken advantage of. Yue Zhong looked at Zhuo Yatong and said lightly,

"I'm just trying to help her evolve!"

Zhuo Yatong carefully observed Tong Xiaoyun again, before saying apologetically,

"I'm sorry, I've wronged you."

Yue Zhong just smiled to show that he didn't take it to heart.

Tong Xiaoyun had a fever for the entire day. She woke up the next day and the moment she awakened, she saw Yue Zhong sitting beside her.

Yue Zhong looked at Tong Xiaoyun as she awoke and he smiled lightly,

"You're awake! Feeling better?"

Tong Xiaoyun looked at Yue Zhong excitedly and exclaimed,

"Mm! I'm much better!! Brother Yue, I've become an Evolver! I am a Spirit-attributed Evolver and I even possess the Telekinesis Ability!!"

To demonstrate, she pointed to her right and a flower vase flew straight into her hands. It really was telekinesis.

Upon obtaining this ability, Tong Xiaoyun was elated and she continually moved different objects about the room, making them fly around.

Yue Zhong looked at Tong Xiaoyun indulging in her new ability and asked,

"Can you try moving me?"

Yue Zhong wanted to see if this new ability could be used on humans. If so, then this ability was truly overpowered. It could almost be invincible.

"I'll try!"

Tong Xiaoyun's eyebrows furrowed as she used her ability on Yue Zhong. However, when the power landed on Yue Zhong, it felt like a stone sinking down into the huge ocean- there was no effect.

"It's no use!"

Tong Xiaoyun said dejectedly.

Yue Zhong consoled her,

"It's alright. Your power is already strong enough as it is. I'm guessing that this ability cannot be used on living things. But you can definitely use your telekinesis to make use of objects to attack enemies. If you're strong enough, I think you could even stop bullets."

"Mm!"

Tong Xiaoyun nodded her head as she looked down at her hands. She was taken aback before running to the washroom and squealing,

"My skin is fair again. My skin is fair again!!"

After consuming the Snake Birth Fruit, she had undergone a transformation and the pollutants in her body were dispelled. Even her skin that had become tanned under the sun regained its fairness.

[Divine: Yue Zhong is going to make a fortune from selling this miraculous fruit to all those peerless oval-faced beauties with jade-like snow-white skin and charming eyes out there!...]

Tong Xiaoyun had chosen to go through the high intensity training with the soldiers. Even though she had gained strong combat abilities, she was still a girl and as she watched her skin become more and more tanned under the sun as the days went by, she also felt pained.

"Brother Yue! You're the best!"

Tong Xiaoyun ran out from the bathroom and leapt into Yue Zhong's arms, kissing his face a few times.

Being kissed by a beauty was definitely something Yue Zhong felt good about. He lowered his head to kiss Tong Xiaoyun, and she responded by wrapping her arms around Yue Zhong and began to passionately make out with him.

Once their lips had parted, a thin strand of saliva still hanging between them broke.

Tong Xiaoyun's face turned a deep shade of red once again, but this time her eyes seemed to fog over as she licked her lips seductively and said,

"Brother Yue, I'm all yours!"

Her joy at successfully becoming an Evolver, as well as her gratitude and veneration towards Yue Zhong, culminated in an overwhelming desire to express her love physically.

Yue Zhong stared at the welcoming beauty before him, a delicate, alluring girl who was still in her youth, and he couldn't help but feel some arousal in his heart.

"Husband, something's happened! The military has sent people over!"

Right when Yue Zhong was about to start doing something, Zhuo Yatong pushed open the door and walked in, her face full of worry.

“What? The army is attacking?”

Yue Zhong’s face paled, and all notions of getting frisky with Tong Xiaoyun immediately went out the door as he strode outside.

Tong Xiaoyun cursed the army under her breath for having such bad timing. She fixed her clothes and donned her protective equipment, before taking up her Tang Replica Sword and walking out.

Not far from Ning Guang County, there was an army squad dressed neatly in proper army uniform that looked extremely well-disciplined. They advanced towards Ning Guang County in Armed Personnel Carriers (APCs), with two Infantry Fighting Vehicles and two 122mm Self-propelled Howitzers leading the way.

“This is going to be tough!”

Standing on high ground with a reconnaissance company, Guo Quan observed the neatly-dressed, well-trained official military soldiers and his eyebrows furrowed tightly.

Yue Zhong had obtained ten Type 69 Tanks and even some 122mm Self-propelled Howitzers when he had opened up the Mechanized Infantry Brigade Station. However, the problem was that there was no one under him who knew how to operate these modern weapons. That time when he had taken over Ning Guang County, the 4 tanks were purely there to intimidate the enemy and not a single shot was fired.

Right now, the approaching official military force possessed two IFVs. Even more fearsome was the fact that there were also two 122mm Self-propelled Howitzers. Furthermore, they had an entire battalion of properly-trained soldiers, with fighting strength that might even exceed ten times that of the 3000 soldiers once under Tao Zhengyi.

Just when the army had reached the gates of Ning Guang County, Xu Feng brought a white flag as he walked towards the army and said,

“I am Ning Guang County’s representative Xu Feng and I hope to exchange a few words with your commander.”

Two of the soldiers stared at Xu Feng coldly before saying heavily,

“Move!”

Under the watchful escort of the 2 soldiers, Xu Feng was sent into the midst of one of the battalions to see the leader of this entourage.

“Damn! What a stunning yet cold beauty!”

The moment Xu Feng entered the camp, he saw an absolute beauty with a head of jet-black long hair and an incredibly sexy body that would not lose to that of Zhuo Yatong. However, she possessed an icy personality that seemed to even seep out from her bones, causing him to exclaim out loud.

Two other ladies dressed similarly in military uniform, also with striking features, stood to either side of that peerless beauty. All three of them seemed to form a picture of a safflower flanked by its beautiful green leaves.

“I am Shen Xue, the leader that you seek. What do you want! Speak!”

The ice-cold beauty stared at Xu Feng and coldly asked.

Xu Feng replied without skipping a beat,

“I am Xu Feng, a subordinate of Ning Guang County’s leader Yue Zhong. May I be so bold as to ask, what’s the purpose of this visit by the esteemed army to our Ning Guang County?”

One of the beauties, who was tall, extremely refined, had short hair and a goose-egg face, spoke out smilingly,

“Hi there, Xu Feng. I am Lǚ Ning. The municipal leading body of SY County has a very good impression of your group of survivors, having reorganized yourselves, rescued the masses and defended your resources. This time, the purpose of our visit is to convey the message from SY County, that there will be an appointed leader being sent down to take over. Your survivors will soon be able to return to the government and reunite with the other citizens.”

Standing to the left of Shen Xue was the short-haired Lǚ Ning, while standing to the right was a beauty with an oval face, Gao Lina. They were Shen Xue’s confidants and best friends.

When Xu Feng heard this, he knew Lǚ Ning and the rest were here to capture Ning Guang County, this big fat piece of meat. Yue Zhong had not taken over for a very long time and another tiger who had been eyeing this piece of meat had now made its move.

Xu Feng pondered a while, before replying warmly,

“Ning Guang County already has a decent government and administration set-up, we do not need any new leaders. Please head back to SY County.”

Shen Xue immediately refused flatly,

“You go back and tell Yue Zhong! Tell him to surrender immediately and I’ll spare his life. Otherwise, when my army attacks Ning Guang County, I will definitely take his life. I’m only giving you people 30 minutes to consider! Now go back!”

Xu Feng had wanted to reply, but was forcefully sent out by Shen Xue’s subordinates.

Seeing that Xu Feng had been dismissed, Lǚ Ning laughed at Shen Xue,

“Xuexue, you’re so aggressive!”

With an electric gaze, Shen Xue stared at her friend and said,

“This is wartime! You should address me as Battalion Commander Shen!”

Lǚ Ning laughed lightly and said,

“Yes! Yes! Commander Shen! You’re so overbearing. That Yue Zhong really doesn’t know what’s good for him. He actually wants to reject our Commander Shen, he really is courting death!”

Shen Xue’s eyes flashed with a resolute gleam,

“When our nation is facing a crisis, those who establish their own base of operations are the worst kind of scum. I will definitely wipe them out and let them know the prowess of the People’s Liberation Army.”

Chapter 242: Overbearing Army Soldiers!

“As expected, strength speaks volumes!”

Xu Feng swiftly relayed Shen Xue’s intentions to Yue Zhong and after some preparation, he started walking towards the front.

As he had just successfully snatched Ning Guang County, he would definitely not give it up. Whomever wanted to take it from him had to pay the price in blood. It was the same even if it was the army.

“It is indeed the military!!” After arriving at the front lines, Yue Zhong noticed that the battalion members were already well hidden behind cover in the distance. Furthermore, there seemed to be a few snipers located in some unknown areas. He could only sense the killing intent enveloping him but not the direction.

Although the opposing force consisted of only a battalion, Yue Zhong was very clear that if both sides clashed, the 4 battalions under him would not be a serious match for the enemy’s single battalion.

With a thought Yue Zhong activated his Encompassing Body Armor, and dashed out into the wilderness. He proceeded for some time in a roundabout manner, making his way behind enemy lines.

There, placed behind the army, were the two 122mm Howitzers. A squad of soldiers were stationed as guards for these 2 advanced weapons, surrounding them in a group fashion.

[https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/122_mm_howitzer_2A18_\(D-30\)](https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/122_mm_howitzer_2A18_(D-30))

These 2 Howitzers could be considered the most important weapons for the army! With just the cumulative firepower of these 2 monsters, they could wipe out almost anything. It was also an instrument that could seriously impact the morale of enemy troops. Facing that kind of firepower was enough to cause feelings of desolation in any soldier. Cruelly crushing and eradicating any hope of fighting back. Only the toughest in terms of mental strength could stand in the face of such weapons and fight to the death without retreating.

Yue Zhong slowly made his way nearer to the 2 metal behemoths before suddenly erupting! Making his move, he drew his PF98 120mm Anti-Tank Missile Launcher and fired a shot at one of the Howitzers.

<https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/PF-98>

A flash, immediately followed by a huge explosion! The 122mm Howitzer instantly became a huge ball of fire and scrap.

Yue Zhong's utterly crazy actions had shocked the soldiers surrounding the two Howitzers for a second; just as fast, they started firing at him.

The difference in shooting capability between the military soldiers and those under Tao Zhengyi was basically heaven and earth. Even under the barrage of firepower as well as Yue Zhong's constant evasion, a number of bullets still found their way to his body, only to ultimately be repelled by his Encompassing Body Armor.

Dodging another hail of bullets, Yue Zhong rolled on the ground as he once again aimed the PF98 and fired a shot at the final remaining Howitzer.

With a flash, the huge metal monster exploded into flames.

In response, the military displayed their fearsome aiming skills. As soon as Yue Zhong had fired the anti-tank missile, 2 separate bullets from distant snipers managed to find their way to the spot between Yue Zhong's brows, only to be repelled by the Encompassing Body Armor once again!

Without White Bone's ability, Yue Zhong could have well died under even one of those sniper shots.

After eradicating the 2 Howitzers, Yue Zhong took out several hand grenades. Aiming at the line of enemy soldiers, he threw them using his strength that was 5 times that of a normal person. Upon impact, the grenades immediately exploded on their targets.

A total of 7 soldiers were caught by the huge explosion and were blasted to smithereens!

Yue Zhong made use of the ensuing chaos to leap from his position and swiftly escape off into the distance.

While it was true that normal rifle bullets could not do anything to Yue Zhong, that was not the only weapon the military had! There were also grenade launchers, rocket launchers, mortars and many other different types of weaponry. The moment the warriors recovered enough to group together and attack him, he would be dead in a matter of seconds.

Ping! Ping!

The telltale sounds of 2 gunshots rang out once more as Yue Zhong, who was in the middle of escaping, received another 2 bullets, this time to the back of his head. However, they too were deflected off by the Encompassing Body Armor and seemed to not affect him in the slightest.

Yue Zhong escaped into the forest some ways before climbing up a huge tree quite easily. He took out a JS12.7mm Sniper Rifle and aimed towards the line of remaining soldiers.

[Kun: Couldn't find this rifle for reference. Any of our gun readers know?]

[Dcblol: <http://baike.baidu.com/view/1447109.htm> ← (explanation of some sort in Chinese). But yeah, do any of our gun readers know anything about it?]

With a 'peng!', one of the soldiers immediately died on the spot after suffering a fatal headshot.

The remainder of the soldiers immediately opened fire towards the location from which the shot originated, but due to the great distance, the bullets flew randomly and not a single one was able to hit Yue Zhong.

Having climbed up the huge tree, Yue Zhong proceeded to take down the enemy soldiers with ease.

After another 5 soldiers were quickly picked off by Yue Zhong, they didn't dare to risk showing themselves again. Instead, they did the only thing they could and sent for reinforcements.

Shen Xue was currently in the middle of discussion with Lǚ Níng and Gao Lina on how to situate the matters of Ning Guang County after they had successfully taken over. All of a sudden, they heard the sounds of the violently explosive destruction of the Howitzers.

"They have made their move!! The time limit we set is still not up and yet they dare to make a move first???"

When Shen Xue heard the huge explosion, her expression froze before she gritted her teeth and forcefully spat out each of those words. She had never imagined that before her imposed time limit of 30 minutes was even up, Yue Zhong had already taken the initiative to launch an attack first.

The Army represented the most superior force after the apocalypse. All along, no one had dared to go against the military. Not to mention even attacking military soldiers, Yue Zhong was the first to actually attack an entire military base!

If it wasn't for Shen Xue forcing Yue Zhong, he really would not have resorted to such extreme measures just to end up antagonizing these fully equipped and well-trained soldiers. However, the 4 battalions he just established were simply not enough to go against this 1 battalion. Their combat prowess was incomparable! His only choice was to rely on their sheer numbers as well as his own tyrannical strength.

Lǚ Níng also found herself gritting her teeth as she said,

"That was from the direction of our Howitzers! That asshole is too cunning! Arggh! He actually destroyed our Howitzers!"

Those two 122mm Howitzers were their most prized killing machines. With a single shot, they could instantly decimate the opposing firepower.

The bungalow that would be in the way of Shen Xue and the military was manned by Guo Quan and his team of 9. With just a single blast from the Howitzer, they would be pulverized, completely regardless of how strong their fighting spirit was!

Without those Howitzers, Shen Xue and her battalion would have a much harder time trying to fight their way through.

Gao Lina's eyes met Shen Xue's before saying,

"Commander Shen, should we assign men to take care of the hassle behind us or do we proceed to attack Ning Guang County directly?"

Shen Xue had seen through Yue Zhong's weakness and made the correct decision,

“The person behind this is most likely Yue Zhong himself! He is an extremely powerful Evolver, so if he wants to escape, no matter how hard we try, it would be difficult to kill him. Accordingly, my decision is to directly attack Ning Guang County. As long as we rout them he can only surrender at the end of the day.”

You must remember when compared to Shen Xue and her battalion of trained soldiers, the fighting capabilities of Yue Zhong’s men was still considered inferior. If Shen Xue had called for the majority of her troops to deal with Yue Zhong, it would be playing right into his hands.

With this decision, the entire battalion started making their way towards Ning Guang County. On the frontlines in charge of defending against the assault of the military was Guo Quan and his team. They were considered the elites amongst the soldiers Yue Zhong had trained up.

From the moment the battle commenced, Guo Quan could feel the immense pressure issuing forth from the enemy.

With a hail of bullets, the soldiers on the military side began to fire rapidly at Guo Quan’s location. The snipers hidden amongst the soldiers were also firing tirelessly, and any soldiers under Yue Zhong unfortunate enough to stick their head out would immediately be picked off by the enemy snipers.

Concurrently, the military soldiers were extremely efficient and systematically firing nonstop, using rocket launchers to concentrate fire on that single location.

Both sides had been engaged in a crossfire for at least 10 minutes, and given the terrain, the Army could only send out smaller companies to engage in the firefight. Guo Quan’s company had already lost their 1st line of soldiers. If they weren’t the most elite amongst Yue Zhong’s troops, they might already have lost all their fighting spirit long ago.

“Company Commander! We can’t hold on for much longer!! If this goes on, the brothers will be wiped out!! Let’s make a break for it! Please let the brothers preserve their lives!”

One of the platoon commanders was begging Guo Quan. Out of the 30 men he commanded, 13 had died, while 5 had sustained heavy injuries. They had basically lost the greater half of their fighting force

Guo Quan maintained a resolute expression as he ordered,

“Permission denied!! We have received orders to hold this position for 30 minutes!! Regardless of anything, we have to complete this mission!! If the brothers below are wiped out, you will stand your ground. If you are all wiped out, then I shall stand my ground! No matter what, we have to stay for 30 minutes. Get back to your position!”

This strategic entry to Ning Guang County was small and didn’t allow too many people to cross it at once. Guo Quan knew he had to wear down the enemy numbers and stamina at this bottleneck, otherwise the battle would be even harder once the military broke past this point.

The platoon commander cursed using a loud voice, before he crouched down and went back to his position.

“F*ck!! Let’s fight to the death then!”

Under the command and leadership of Guo Quan, although Yue Zhong's first company was not enough to win against the enemy company, they were at least able to hold their ground and fend them off. Both of them were still engaged in heavy fire, and the Army also found it difficult to fully suppress the warriors of Yue Zhong's First Company, who were hiding behind cover.

When the army launched their assault, Yue Zhong, who had been suppressing that platoon of soldiers with his superb firing skills, suddenly felt a sense of urgency and his face paled:

"Damn it! They have already commenced their attack!"

"Seems like if I don't risk it, we won't be able to win!"

Yue Zhong took a deep breath, his eyes flashing with a resolute gleam as he jumped down from the tree and charged towards the Army's camp.

That platoon of soldiers had been hiding behind cover and didn't dare to even poke their heads out. If Yue Zhong had maintained this sort of confrontation with the soldiers, by the time Ning Guang County was broken into, he still would not have settled this issue.

Having seen that Yue Zhong had appeared again, the 2 hidden snipers immediately cocked their sniper rifles, firing two bullets which flew towards Yue Zhong.

Chapter 243: Yue Zhong takes on the Military!

Right as the bullets were about to land on Yue Zhong, he did a side-step and easily evaded them! He took a glance at the location of the hidden snipers: ever since he had evolved, his senses heightened, which allowed him to pinpoint their location accurately. He cocked his .05 Silenced Submachine Gun and fired rapidly in their direction, immediately killing one.

The other sniper had a stronger perception of danger; after that gunfire, he immediately ducked behind other cover.

Yue Zhong did not continue harassing the other sniper- instead he rushed towards that platoon of soldiers like a tank.

After the earlier skirmish by Yue Zhong, that platoon had only 10 soldiers left. As Yue Zhong suddenly broke through to their location, he fired continuously and killed the remaining 10 soldiers.

After annihilating the line of warriors, with a flash, Yue Zhong continued towards the back of the military.

"What a freak!!"

The remaining sniper hugged his own rifle, as he looked at Yue Zhong rushing towards the military's camp. His face was white, as he had just witnessed the prowess of someone who, by his own strength, managed to decimate an entire squad of elite military soldiers.

The sniper also knew of the existence of Enhancers and Evolvers while he was at SY County. Those who could wipe out an entire squadron on their own, even amongst the 12000 survivors in SY County, numbered 10 at most.

Yue Zhong had just continued not far, before a Type 92 Infantry Fighting Vehicle appeared in front of him. There was a ZPT90 25mm Machine Cannon mounted on top of it, releasing a huge wild burst of gunfire towards Yue Zhong.

Yue Zhong's Danger Perception Skill had already notified him of the danger; just as the ZPT90 set its sights on him, he had already dashed swiftly to the side.

The majority of the bullets from the ZPT90 hit blank air and caused the area to be filled with potholes.

The soldiers from another company were currently using Type QLZ06 .35mm Grenade Launchers and .03 Rifles to fire crazily at Yue Zhong.

(Similar to this: https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Type_87_grenade_launcher and this is gross: <https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/QBZ-03>)

A few soldiers were also continuously firing mortars at Yue Zhong.

The resulting explosions continued to ring out and the gunfire didn't seem to cease at all. Yue Zhong activated his Shadow Steps and his speed jumped up to a level that was 10 times that of a normal being. In that huge barrage of bullets, Yue Zhong continued to evade only the heavy firepower that posed a danger to him, while the other bullets continued to land and deflect off of his Encompassing Body Armor.

Yue Zhong didn't dare to stay at the same location for more than a second, as he had no confidence in surviving.

Just when he managed to roll towards a huge rock by the road, he felt his heart skip a beat. Without time to take a breath, he leapt again towards the other side.

With a 'Bang', the stone that Yue Zhong had dodged from was instantly smashed into smithereens by the anti-tank missile.

Yue Zhong himself had just jumped out from that rock, when he felt 2 grenades exploding about 2m to his right, and the shrapnel and shockwave propelled him to another side.

"He should be dead by now!"

Seeing how Yue Zhong was faced with attack after attack, most of the warriors in the army had that single thought in their minds. Watching Yue Zhong face the hail of bullets earlier had given them a sort of shock and feeling of crisis.

After Yue Zhong was bombarded by those projectiles, he braved the shock wave from the grenade explosion, before rolling on the ground and standing up immediately. He opened his hands. A number of hand grenades flew out from his hands towards the soldiers and exploded.

Those soldiers who were unfortunate enough to be caught in the blast radius died one by one.

Yue Zhong continued running, carrying his .05 Silenced Submachine Gun and firing continuously into the army camp.

(<https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/QCW-05>)

Although his aiming and firearms control was superb, the soldiers were spread out too far and were hiding behind cover; in the end, Yue Zhong only managed to kill 2 soldiers in his first bout of bullets.

“This battle is too tough!”

Yue Zhong continued to run away frantically, while dodging the constant attacks from the military.

Seeing that normal rifle bullets could not do a thing to Yue Zhong, the soldiers had added heavy weaponry and explosives to their attacks, giving Yue Zhong immense pressure and preventing him from advancing any further.

“I can’t go in like this. Otherwise, Ning Guang County is sure to fall!”

With a flash of his intense speed, he dodged an incoming missile, before a gleam appeared in his eyes. He swapped out the .05 Silenced Submachine Gun for a PF98 Anti-Tank Missile Launcher.

In the midst of his running, he had thrown a glance towards the entire camp from afar. Swiftly, he aimed at a small mortar troop and fired a shot!

Yue Zhong’s current agility was at 111 points, his actions faster than the human eye. Before the soldiers even had a chance to react, they received a huge rocket in the midst of their mortar troop.

When that rocket exploded, a fearsome shockwave and a huge amount of shrapnel immediately shot outwards in all directions, killing 5 soldiers and heavily injuring 7 others, causing them to scream in agony.

The moment he attacked, Yue Zhong was like a spectre and swiftly swapped out another rocket in the PF98, before taking careful aim and firing at a Type 92 IFV.

With another ‘bang’, the rocket pierced through the armor of the IFV and exploded, resulting in a huge fireball. The 9 warriors in the IFV as well as 4 others hiding beside it were instantly killed.

Yue Zhong shifted his body again and continuously fired the anti-tank missiles into the army camp.

Loud explosions occurred one after another and soon, the entire army camp was plunged into a fiery hell. Many soldiers were either killed by the explosions or trapped in the fires. Throughout the camp, chaos ensued.

Under that continuous fire from Yue Zhong, the casualties increased and a total of over 70 soldiers had been either killed or injured, diminishing their overall strength greatly.

After confirming that he had caused enough chaos to bring down the fighting capabilities of the camp, Yue Zhong continued to rush forward like a spectre, with the intention of wiping out all the soldiers.

“Commander! Please send aid!! I need aid!! If you don’t send anybody, the soldiers will be killed by that monster!!”

The 3rd Company's leader Gu Jian who was tasked to delay Yue Zong was currently pleading with a pale face and exasperated voice.

Shen Xue glared at him coldly, with her fury and killing intent billowing out:

"Gu Jian!! I told you guys to delay Yue Zhong, how are you guys this bad? You still haven't killed him and yet you dare to ask for reinforcements?"

Gu Jian gritted his teeth and replied,

"That Yue Zhong is impervious to bullets and his aim is too efficient. He can still pull out PF98s to fire 120mm rounds at us. The amount of firepower he has is infinite, how do you expect us to fight against this freak?!?!"

Shen Xue replied coldly,

"I don't care! You have to use whatever men you have to delay him for another 2 hours!! After these 2 hours, we will have conquered Ning Guang County. Once we have conquered Ning Guang County, it is our victory!!"

Under the fierce attack of the army, Guo Quan's forces had already been worn down by a large extent; as long as they gave it more effort, the army could proceed to attack Ning Guang County soon.

Shen Xue knew that with a civilian army like Yue Zhong and Guo Quan, the ones who actually knew warfare and could put up a fight did not number many. As long as they could take down Guo Quan who was stubbornly holding on, there shouldn't be any other major threat to the army's advance into Ning Guang County.

Shen Xue looked coldly once more at Gu Jian and ordered,

"Obey my commands! Immediately go attack Yue Zhong with all you have!"

Gu Jian's lips quivered. In the end, he could only bite down as he saluted Shen Xue and replied, "Understood!"

Right at this time, Lǚ Níng rushed into the room with a shocked expression as she reported in a fluster,

"Commander Shen!! The 3rd Company... the 3rd Company has been wiped out by Yue Zhong!!"

Gu Jian's face promptly turned deathly white.

Shen Xue crossed her fingers together, and her face took on an unsightly green. She had a total of 4 companies with her and 1 entire company had been taken out by Yue Zhong, if this continued, it was hard to say whether they could even survive against his attacks.

Right at this time, another soldier was shouting into the radio,

"Commander!! This is the 4th Company, the enemy's firepower is too strong! Requesting for aid!! Please send reinforcements!!"

Shen Xue immediately made a decision and gave it: "2nd Company, immediately send all your troops to support 4th Company. 1st Company, stop your attack and return to camp! Lǚ Níng, Gao Lina, follow me!"

When Shen Xue gave her orders, the 2nd Company that was standing by immediately poured towards the back of the army camp.

When the soldiers of the 2nd Company arrived for help, the pressure on Yue Zhong rose exponentially, and the increase in firepower suppressed him till the point that he couldn't even lift his head.

"The intensity of the attack has risen! Another company must have joined in!"

Yue Zhong did not stop running as he didn't dare stay in the same spot for too long. He kept running and seeking cover, while constantly assessing the enemies' strength. The greater the pressure grew for him, the less pressure on Ning Guang County.

When Shen Xue arrived at the front lines and saw the countless injured soldiers and dismembered bodies lying around, her face turned ashen.

All of a sudden, 2 grenades flew high and landed on the battlefield, resulting in huge explosions, killing 3 soldiers, while another 2 immediately fainted upon receiving broken bones.

After a few seconds, another rocket was fired, and the heavy machine gunners, as well as the light machine gunners were all decimated. Even 3 normal soldiers were injured by the resulting shrapnel, as they fell to ground and screamed in agony. The entire battlefield was filled with blood, gore, and the countless sounds of agony and pain. All the while, the military soldiers' morale was steadily dropping.

Chapter 244: Revolt and Chaos!

Half of an entire company, which was equipped with modern weaponry and had undergone strict military training, was actually suppressed by a single person, all the while facing the deaths of their comrades as well as explosions. The desolate scene caused the fighting morale amongst the soldiers to plummet.

Shen Xue almost wore down her teeth with her grinding; if this continued on, the 2nd Company and 4th Company would most likely face the same outcome facing Yue Zhong. Even if she brought her troops to attack Ning Guang County, she might not even have enough troops left afterwards to deal with Yue Zhong, and would likely face death as well.

"Yue Zhong!! I am Commander Shen Xue, I have told my men to stop all advance and attacks on Ning Guang County. Please stay your hands immediately, and let's discuss terms!"

Shen Xue had gone to the broadcast machine and used that crispy clear voice of hers to speak to Yue Zhong.

Initially of course, Shen Xue was filled with confidence that her trained troops would be able to overcome this motley crew of bandits. However, now that she was facing the fact that an entire

company of hers had been wiped out by a single Yue Zhong, she had no chance but to lower her head to ask for mercy and negotiations.

Only those with equal strength had the justification to negotiate. If one of them didn't possess the necessary strength, then asking for negotiations was a joke.

Yue Zhong was currently hiding behind a huge rock as he coldly called out,

"Leave behind a company's worth of equipment as compensation, then you can leave! Otherwise, I will kill your guys off slowly!"

After becoming an Evolver, Yue Zhong's strength had gained an immense boost. As long as he didn't face a direct explosion head on, the shockwaves and shrapnel actually did not cause him any permanent harm. This was a great boon for his survival on the battlefield. In addition to his Encompassing Body Armor and the inexhaustible amount of firepower in his storage ring, he was truly a fearsome killing machine. Wiping out the battalion of soldiers under Shen Xue entirely was only a matter of time.

"What guts!!"

"....."

"We'll fight to the death! Even if I, your father, were to die, I would still go down taking a bite out of you!"

Hearing Yue Zhong's arrogant words, the soldiers on Shen Xue's side were all infuriated and decided to fight it out with him!

Shen Xue was also riled up by his words and her chest heaved, while her eyes flashed with a murderously cold light.

Right at this time, Lǚ Níng walked up to the broadcast radio and spoke placidly,

"Yue Zhong, I am Staff Officer Lǚ Níng from the 3rd Battalion of the XX Regiment. The 3 battalions are just a small part of SY County's army, if you decide to continue fighting us, regardless of the outcome today, SY County will not sit back and rest. Your power may be strong, but likewise, SY County has a number of experts- adding on to the strength of the Army, it's enough to thrash the Ning Guang County that you have established countless times. This time, it was a misunderstanding on our part. Can we negotiate properly to address this and not resort to damaging our relationship any further?"

Lǚ Níng's words had struck Yue Zhong's weak point. Yue Zhong had obtained information from different survivors on the fighting capabilities of SY County, which far surpassed that of Qing Yuan County. Although those survivors did not know everything, they could confirm that SY County's military possessed helicopters, Type 69 tanks and all sorts of other types of modern weaponry. Their total strength was much more superior!

Yue Zhong could suppress a platoon by himself, whilst he could destroy a company with some difficulty. Engaging an entire battalion in combat was enough to make him evade with all his might, while he could only continually pick off the soldiers one by one. If he were to face an entire regiment, even by the time they had finished attacking Ning Guang County, Yue Zhong could not finish off the entire battalion.

In Ning Guang County, Yue Zhong had 4 battalions of warriors, but facing against the well-trained troops of the military, even just 1 battalion was enough to thrash his troops.

Yue Zhong contemplated for a while, before he responded coolly,

“Alright! Leave and I will not pursue this matter!!”

As he still hadn’t bridged the gap between him and Qing Yuan County, Yue Zhong did not possess the strength to face SY County’s military yet. If he waited for the distance to be bridged, reestablished connections with his base at QingYuan County, and armed his people there with the weaponry he had retrieved from the Mechanized Infantry Brigade Station, he would then possess the confidence and strength to face SY County.

Shen Xue intercepted coldly,

“3000 tonnes of rations!! Give us 3000 tonnes of rations to compensate our losses!”

After the apocalypse, food rations had become the currency and in SY County, the strongest currency was precisely food. 3000 tonnes of food was not a small amount. However, compared to Shen Xue’s loss of the 2 Howitzers as well as the 100+ soldiers, it wasn’t worth comparing.

“Then you can all go and die! SY County may be strong and I know that. If they want to force an entry, I am naturally unable to hold them back! After killing you all, I will immediately head over to SY County and assassinate all the officials. I will kill more than 10 a day- after a month, I see how many officials your SY County will have left!”

“Even in the worst case scenario where I cannot assassinate them, I would have no issues killing all the small fries. Each day I will kill over a 100- after a month, an entire regiment would be wiped out by me! By that time, the entire SY County will be mine! Why should I even waste my time talking with you here!”

Yue Zhong’s fury and killing intent billowed out, resounding across the entire field. He would definitely not soften in front of Shen Xue: whoever gave in during this time and period, other people would then follow suit to take advantage of that weakling.

Tao Zhengyi had chosen to attack Yue Zhong’s Clear Wind Camp because they had run out of ammunition at that time, making them tantamount to a fat piece of meat waiting to be gobbled up, and he had wanted to be the one who ate that meat. Due to that, Yue Zhong had retaliated and saw that Ning Guang County’s fighting capabilities were subpar. In this world, no one dared to showcase their weakness.

Hearing those words filled with killing intent, the entire battalion shuddered in their hearts. Yue Zhong possessed supernatural shooting skills, plus he had that armor on him which deflected almost every single bullet. Furthermore, he seemed to possess unlimited firepower; with his abilities, it would be easy for him to assassinate all the officials, needless to say the killing of the normal soldiers. If Yue Zhong really went ahead, it would spell disaster for all the common soldiers in SY County.

“Damn rebel!”

Shen Xue's entire body was trembling with fury from Yue Zhong's threat, as no one had dared utter such words in her presence before.

Lǚ Níng grabbed Shen Xue's hands, while shaking her head, before using the broadcast radio to speak to Yue Zhong again,

"Yue Zhong, you don't have to be like this. We just want 3000 tonnes of rations. However, let's make it an exchange, we will give you 150kg of gold."

(UBPC: 330.69 pounds)

As the saying goes, hoard antiques in times of wealth, buy gold in times of trouble. Gold was the common currency in the world, which could affect people's greed. Even when the world was in turmoil from the changes, gold represented a source of currency as well. Initially, in Qing Yuan County, other than food rations, gold was the next source of currency that could be used.

Yue Zhong pondered for a while more before replying,

"Alright! I promise you. Now please bring your army and retreat beyond 5 km, we'll carry out the exchange tonight."

Lǚ Níng keenly captured the change in attitude amongst Yue Zhong's words, as she smiled and said,

"Yue Zhong. I think you must have run into some problems, do you need us to help you? As long as you are willing to give the right amount, we are willing to assist you."

Yue Zhong replied blandly,

"No need! Indeed, I have some issues that cropped up, but it doesn't concern you guys."

Yue Zhong had indeed met some problems.

"The government has sent the army to deal with Yue Zhong!! Kill!! Kill his men!! As long as we kill his men, when the army enters the city, all of you will be rewarded!"

Within Ning Guang County, Tao Zhengyi, who was flanked by Zhang Bao on his left and Niu Sheng on his right, was hollering at the top of his voice.

When he got wind of the news that the Army was attacking, Tao Zhengyi made use of the opportunity to kill the warriors who were keeping watch on him with Zhang Bao and Niu Sheng. After he left his compound, he then made use of his past influence to gather a small troop. He was currently killing and pillaging in Ning Guang County, creating chaos.

Tao Zhengyi was vicious in his methods as well. He knew that Yue Zhong's warriors were strong, yet compared to the actual military, they did not amount to much. He wanted to plunge Ning Guang County in chaos and control the army from within. When the city was successfully breached, he would be the person who had contributed the most. Not only could he make use of that to get on the SY County's army good side, he could exact revenge on Yue Zhong for taking over Ning Guang County.

Tao Zhengyi was currently leading a force of over 40 people and wreaking chaos in Ning Guang County, killing, raping and setting fire, creating a commotion.

Within the unrest, many of the survivors were also affected by the chaos and madness. They began killing, raping and setting fire as well, and the entire Ning Guang County was in a mess.

“Everybody return to your living quarters!! All those who are still on streets will be shot on the spot for treason!”

As the head policeman, Wang Jian had immediately brought his well-trained police officers and they were diligently putting down the unease and troublemakers.

Wang Jian started executing those survivors who were swept along with the madness one by one. A large number of the survivors had now returned to their own accommodations to wait out the uncertainty. Whoever became the new overseer of Ning Guang County, they could only accept it helplessly.

“Kill him!”

Tao Zhengyi noticed Wang Jian and his team of policemen who were suppressing the chaos, and gave an order to Zhang Bao and Niu Sheng to take him down.

Zhang Bao roared in anger and activated his Werewolf Transformation Skill. His entire body started sprouting fur and the muscles on his body became larger and taut, while his hands turned monstrous with huge claws. With his entire body elongating, he soon became a terrifying werewolf over 2m tall.

On the other side, Niu Sheng’s eyes gleamed as he held up a huge shield weighing over 200kg and charged at Wang Jian. He was a Strength-based Evolver and the 200kg shield in his arms was considered light to him. Under the protection of that shield, none of the bullets could not penetrate or hurt him.

Zhang Bao and Niu Sheng had both activated their skills, and were charging towards Wang Jian with frenzy.

Wang Jian looked at the two oncoming enemies as he frowned and shouted out,

“Open fire!”

The 20+ policemen beside Wang Jian immediately cocked their weapons and opened fire at Zhang Bao and Niu Sheng. In that hail of bullets, Zhang Bao and Niu Sheng could not dodge them entirely. Some of the bullets penetrated Zhang Bao’s body, leaving behind numerous wounds, although they did not pose any danger to his life. As for Niu Sheng, the bullets only hit the shield with sounds of metal hitting and could not penetrate through at all.

“Swap to the grenade launchers!”

Wang Jian saw that their attacks were useless, so he gave this order.

The 20 policemen immediately switched to QLB06 35mm Grenade Launchers and aimed them at the 2 Evolvers before pressing the trigger.

Bang! Bang!

Following the sounds of explosions, the shield-bearing Niu Sheng was immediately caught in the blast and the shield in his hands was knocked away by the explosion, while his body was blasted into pieces, fresh blood dyeing the ground.

Zhang Bao saw Niu Sheng's manner of death and a chill arose in his heart. He leapt up high and immediately jumped into one of the surrounding houses belonging to a survivor. Facing the assault of 20 QLB06 35mm Grenade Launchers head-on would mean certain death, even for an Evolver like him.

"Take them out!!"

Wang Jian eyed the rebels with Tao Zhengyi in the distance, his face turning grim, and he shouted out the order.

The 20 policemen swapped out their .03 Rifles again and started firing at Tao Zhengyi's troop.

The rebels under Tao Zhengyi immediately abandoned him and tried to escape in all directions.

"I surrender!! Don't kill me!! I surrender!! I am willing to give up all my property and women to exchange for my lowly life. Please!! Don't kill me!!"

Tao Zhengyi looked at the policemen running towards him, as he knelt down on the floor and begged miserably. He wanted to live!

Wang Jian eyed the disgusting pig in front of him with a look of disgust, before ordering,

"Tie him up and bring him back to the station."

If it was Yue Zhong, he would have immediately crippled Tao Zhengyi by shooting his limbs. Wang Jian, however, was a policeman, and regardless of how much he hated and despised Tao Zhengyi, since he had now surrendered, he would not kill him.

3 of the policemen stepped forward to cuff Tao Zhengyi.

Right at this time, from the survivor's house, Zhang Bao suddenly jumped out while still in his werewolf form. He broke past the group of policemen, before slashing his claws in 3 successive motions. The 3 policemen beside Tao Zhengyi had their throats ripped out and Tao Zhengyi regained his freedom.

Before the other policemen could react, Zhang Bao had grabbed onto another policeman as a hostage. He placed his sharp claws at the policeman's throat and threatened Wang Jian,

"No sudden movements! Otherwise he's dead! Let us go, as long as we can leave here safely, I'll release him."

[Dedication: How did you not see that coming?]

Chapter 245: Suppress the Insurgency!

The policemen were currently aiming their grenade launchers at Zhang Bao, their eyes filled with hatred. 3 of their brothers had just died miserably at his hands, and if it wasn't for their other comrade being held hostage currently, they would have fired at him long ago.

The Werewolf Transformation could allow Zhang Bao's 6 attributes to receive a boost, and he could even block most bullets. However, if he was hit by the grenades, they could also blow him to smithereens.

Wang Jian was in deep thought as he looked at his subordinate who was helpless in Zhang Bao's grasp:

"Let him go! I'll let you leave!"

To Wang Jian, every single member he had trained was like a child to him, and he was unwilling to give any of them up.

"I don't trust you, back off!!"

Zhang Bao hollered.

Right at this moment, on the rooftop of a building not far away, Zhuo Yatong was lying prone on the ground cocking a Barlett Sniper Rifle; with the crosshair on Zhang Bao, she pulled the trigger.

'Bang!' The sound echoed across the compound and an armor-piercing round directly penetrated Zhang Bao's head, causing it to explode like a watermelon. Fresh blood and brain matter splattered on the ground.

Tao Zhengyi was still trembling on the floor, shouting,

"I surrender!! Don't kill me! He took the initiative to kill, I wasn't involved!!"

With Zhang Bao's death, Tao Zhengyi no longer had any backing, support, or any threatening strength.

"Take him away!!"

Wang Jian ordered coldly.

Another 4 policemen rushed up and handled Tao Zhengyi roughly, as they tossed him in the back seat of a car and drove towards the jailhouse.

Once they had settled Tao Zhengyi, Wang Jian brought his men and continued their rounds around Ning Guang County to contain the unease.

Zhuo Yatong was currently looking for another target from her position.

Those who went through evolution naturally were chosen geniuses. They could swiftly adapt and learn all sorts of knowledge and abilities. Although Zhuo Yatong was a Strength-based Evolver, under Yue Zhong's training and guidance, she picked up marksmanship and sniping very quickly.

Of course, her sniping skills could not compare to those who possessed the Sniping Specialization, but it was enough to deal with most situations. Therefore, Yue Zhong had chosen to put her behind the fighting lines for the first time, to act as a support sniper covering Ning Guang County from within.

When Tao Zhengyi's insurgency was quelled, the rest of Ning Guang County also regained its composure.

Shen Xue's troops had retreated to a distance of 5km away under Yue Zhong's coercion, whilst at the same time, Yue Zhong returned to Ning Guang County.

Guo Quan had fought back his sorrow to report to Yue Zhong,

"Captain, our First Company did not let you down, we have completed our mission."

Guo Quan had led the First Company to defend against Shen Xue's relentless assault. Yet they had paid a huge price: after the fight had ended, out of the 90 warriors in the First Company, there were 47 who lost their lives, 26 who sustained heavy injuries and the 17 who had survived looked as though they could not fight anymore.

Even with the protection of the Mutant Water Snake Scale Armor, under the relentless attack of Shen Xue's soldiers and bombardment of rockets, mortars and other heavy duty weapons, several of Guo Quan's warriors had died. Without the protection of the Water Snake Armor, the entire First Company might have perished.

Yue Zhong had established 4 battalions, and those with the best fighting capabilities and spirit were gathered in one company. However, they had actually been defeated by Shen Xue's own company. The difference between the 2 types of armies could be seen.

Yue Zhong replied in a heavy tone,

"You guys really did great. This time, due to the efforts of the First Company, Ning Guang County was defended, I want to reassign the First Company into 5 squads. You guys may select the members from the rest of the 4 battalions! Those who are injured, I will do my utmost to see them healed. The brothers who have perished, we will properly collect their remains, I want to see them properly buried."

"When comparing my troops to the actual military, there really is still a huge gap."

Yue Zhong felt upset as well, this battle was the first time he lost so many soldiers that he had groomed. Even during the battle against the zombie horde in Qing Yuan County, the elite soldiers that he trained didn't suffer too much damage- in fact, it was the cannon fodder and scum battalion who made up most of the deaths.

"Yes! Regiment Commander!"

Guo Quan's emotions had calmed down a little as he saluted Yue Zhong, before bringing his people to collect the remains of his dead comrades.

"Regiment Commander!!"

"Regiment Commander!!"

"....."

The moment Yue Zhong entered the medical centre for the wounded soldiers, all the injured warriors stood up and called out emotionally.

"All of you rest well! Let the doctors treat you!"

Yue Zhong looked at all of them before ordering in a heavy voice.

Within the medical centre, there were doctors and nurses everywhere, currently treating the injured warriors. There were over 15,000 survivors in Ning Guang County, and those who were doctors by profession before the apocalypse numbered in the 30s. These doctors were all supported by Yue Zhong, as he led them to become medics, with the main focus to treat injuries and illnesses caused by warfare. It was considered one of the benefits for the warriors.

Hearing Yue Zhong's orders, the soldiers quietened down.

Yue Zhong took out a huge bag of Life Saving Grass powder from his storage ring and handed it to the staff of the medical centre, before ordering,

"Use this to treat my soldiers immediately. Apply externally, and maximum amount per person shouldn't exceed a small bag's worth."

Yue Zhong's storage ring was filled with arms, food, medicines, food, and other necessities. As for the Life Saving Grass, Yue Zhong had amassed 2 cubics' worth of this treasure, enough to save many lives.

One of the older doctors, Wang Yinian, actually furrowed his brows as he asked impolitely,

"Commander Yue! What kind of medicine is this! Please tell me honestly, otherwise, I am unable to give this to the injured. I need to bear responsibility for my patients."

Wang Yinian was a surgeon and had many years of experience in the operating theatre. His temperament was stubborn and straight, and even after the events of the apocalypse, he didn't change much.

Seeing Wang Yinian actually talking back to Yue Zhong, the other doctors and nurses all turned pale as they looked towards him in fear. After the apocalypse, human lives were cheap; under Tao Zhengyi's rule, a doctor had actually been executed for checking his woman out. These medical professionals had seen the cruelty of the post-apocalyptic world. They were afraid that Yue Zhong might execute them as well, due to Wang Yinian infuriating him.

Although Wang Yinian was a stubborn and direct person, he did have the ability, and his medical expertise was valuable. All the doctors and nurses needed him.

Yue Zhong glanced at Wang Yinian, as he cocked his eyebrows, but he didn't make a scene. He immediately took out his Dark Magic Blade and sliced his hand, opening a long wound, before applying the Life Saving Grass on himself.

Under the effect of the Life Saving Grass, coupled with Yue Zhong's own strong vitality, the wound started recovering at an astonishing pace, healing within a matter of seconds.

Yue Zhong asked Wang Yinian,

"Is this enough for you?"

"Do as Commander Yue has ordered and go apply medicine to the warriors!"

Having witnessed the miraculous efficacy of the Life-saving Grass, Wang Yinian immediately ordered the other doctors and nurses.

Those warriors who had the Life-saving Grass applied to them immediately felt their bodies become much better, as their wounds also began to stop bleeding.

As Wang Yinian watched the warriors' wounds quickly stop bleeding, his eyes straightened and he couldn't help but ask,

"Commander Yue, what is this miraculous medicine? Can you tell me?"

Wang Yinian had practised medicine for many years, yet this was his first time seeing medicine as miraculous as this.

Yue Zhong replied faintly,

"The collective term for this type of medicine is 'Life-saving Grass' and it is composed of several precious medicaments that have been mixed together. It is my exclusive secret recipe and so it cannot be randomly told to others."

A treasure like the Life-saving Grass that could quickly heal injuries could be considered as one of the trump cards in Yue Zhong's hand.

As his position in Ning Guang County was not concrete enough, he did not want to reveal the truth about the Life-Saving Grass to outsiders.

Wang Yinian looked disappointed, but he still left and continued treating the injured.

After confirming that the condition of the First Company's warriors had stabilised, he left the medical centre.

Chen Ming came to Yue Zhong's side holding a report and said,

"Master, there were a total of 193 people involved in the insurgency this time. How will you deal with them?"

Yue Zhong gave an unprecedentedly cruel series of orders,

"Throw the leader Tao Zhengyi into the zombie horde to feed them! Those directly under him are to be executed in public to warn the others! Same goes for those indirectly involved who have committed murder. For those who didn't, throw them to the scum battalion to become cannon fodder against the zombies in the future."

Chen Ming nodded his head as he asked another important question,

"What about the family members of those rebels?"

Yue Zhong coldly declared,

"Those men above 16 who have a relationship with the insurgents will be thrown into the scum battalion. The females will be sent into the women's camp and await future assignments. For the children who have yet to mature, they are to be sent to the Dark Camp, to be disciplined and taught proper morals and values."

Regardless of the period, era or governing bodies, the punishment towards rebels would always be the most cruel one possible. If those who revolted succeeded, then it was a done deal, but if they were to be suppressed and captured, they would definitely not have a good ending.

Following Yue Zhong's orders, 46 men who had followed Tao Zhengyi's call were decapitated in front of the entire county. 32 other belligerents who committed murder were also executed. The excessive bloodshed thoroughly shocked the survivors in Ning Guang County, giving them an insight into Yue Zhong's decisive and ruthless measures.

Tao Zhengyi looked at his subordinates who were being executed one by one and pissed himself in terror, his eyes filled with fear and despair.

The other people involved in the rebellion were thrown into the scum battalion and kept in jails, while their women were sent to the women's camp to await allocation in the future. Those who indirectly supported the rebels' actions were also thrown into the scum battalion, and in just a short while, the jail was filled with prisoners.

Chapter 246: Tao Zhengyi's Fate!

"No!! Don't throw me out here!! Please!! I'm begging you!! I'm begging you!!"

On the highway linking Ning Guang County to Qing Yuan County, Tao Zhengyi was trussed up like a pig, miserably begging Xiong Zheng.

At a distance of 10m away, over a hundred zombies were currently shambling towards him.

Xiong Zheng laughed coldly as he kicked out at Tao Zhengyi, causing him to fly 2m away. He guffawed,

"Damn pig! You dare to betray us at a critical time! You can go and die for all I care!"

"NO!!! AHHHH!!! I CURSE YOU ALL!! AHHHH! SAVE ME!!!"

A zombie grabbed onto Tao Zhengyi and opened its mouth. It bit down viciously, biting off a huge chunk of meat from Tao Zhengyi's face. The rest of the zombies had reached him as well and began ravaging his body, gorging on his flesh and blood.

"Sister Yatong! Isn't this too cruel?!"

Tong Xiaoyun could not help but cry out as she watched Tao Zhengyi being eaten alive.

Xiong Zheng glanced at Tong Xiaoyun as he laughed and shook his head,

"Heh! Cruel? Miss Xiaoyun, you're too kind-hearted! Based on this dogsh*t's crimes alone, even dying 10 times over would not be enough to atone for his sins. Do you know what we discovered when we ransacked his place? He had kept a private room in his villa where he tied up many girls who were not that much younger than you! 10 of them! 6 had already turned into corpses. He's this kind of scum and yet you're still pitying him? It's too laughable!"

At first, Tong Xiaoyun did not believe Xiong Zheng's words. However, she was reminded of the scene at Clear Wind Camp, where she had seen the gory insides of the factory. She shuddered involuntarily and held onto Zhuo Yatong's hand tightly.

Zhuo Yatong's beautiful eyes flashed with a complicated gleam, as she patted Tong Xiaoyun's hand and said,

"Xiaoyun, if these people were successful and gained control, our plight might be much worse. The current situation is vastly different from the world we lived in before, you will have to adapt to it."

"Mm!"

Tong Xiaoyun grabbed Zhuo Yatong's hands tightly as she nodded and replied.

"Let's go!"

After Tao Zhengyi's anguished screams had died off, Zhuo Yatong brought Tong Xiaoyun and the warriors of the First Company to charge at the zombies.

All the warriors of the First Company were fitted with Tang Replica Swords (Tao Zhengyi had amassed a number in his storage over time), and all of them wore the Mutant Water Snake Scale Armor. They rushed into the horde like tigers attacking a herd of sheep, easily killing off the zombies and gaining enhancements.

The warriors of the Second Company were holding .03 Rifles and were firing at the zombies. The zombies were picked off row by row like squishy moving targets. Yue Zhong was currently standing behind observing the horde's movement, and standing beside him were Shen Xue, Lǚ Níng and Gao Lina.

Lǚ Níng looked towards Yue Zhong and smiled sweetly,

"Yue Zhong, how is it? Have you considered? As long as you bear the ammunition cost and pay us 5000 tonnes of rations, we will help you to clear these zombies."

In the military, there were many trained shooters. Helping Yue Zhong to clear the zombies was not only a good training for her soldiers, but also a way to obtain precious rations. Lǚ Níng thought that it was a good deal to engage in. However, Yue Zhong brushed it off and said,

"No need!"

The zombies on this road that connected Ning Guang County to Qing Yuan County did not seem to be under the command of a Z-Type, and hence they were much less dangerous. It was the perfect place to cultivate his Enhancers as well as to train his troops. Yue Zhong would naturally not give a free meal to the Army.

3000 tonnes of food was not a small sum, and as Yue Zhong did not promise to help transport the rations, the army could only rely on their own vehicles to transport the 3000 tonnes of ration towards SY County. However, the distance to cover required a few days, and so Shen Xue and her 2 friends stayed by Yue Zhong to observe his actions.

Shen Xue was currently eyeing the shooters of the Second Company as she laughed coldly,

“Based on your subordinates’ skill, without our help, even a week is not enough to clear the road to Qing Yuan County.”

The shooters of the Second Company were indeed not up to standard, as even within a range of 100m, they could not deal lethal blows. Many bullets were wasted on the non-fatal parts of the zombies, which did nothing to slow them down. Compared to the elite army, Yue Zhong’s Second Company was like a militia.

Yue Zhong stared at Shen Xue coldly and said,

“This is our business and it doesn’t concern you!”

It was precisely because of Shen Xue that Yue Zhong had lost a large number of his elite soldiers from the First Company, making him not even have a single shred of goodwill towards this ice-cold beauty. If it wasn’t for the huge and powerful army backing her, he would have already executed this woman.

Shen Xue looked at him and smiled coldly, not uttering a word more. She did not harbor any good feelings towards Yue Zhong either. She knew that she wasn’t his match, otherwise she would have executed him as soon as the opportunity arose.

Yue Zhong suddenly spoke,

“Is SY County facing a ration shortage?”

Shen Xue and the other 2 ladies were shocked in their hearts.

Lǚ Níng glanced at Shen Xue. She wanted to smile and say something but Yue Zhong cut her short.

“You can keep mum! However, I have my means of finding out. Within 3 days, I will know the truth of the matter.” Yue Zhong called out coldly.

[Dedication: Keeping ‘mum’ is another way of saying to keep silent or a secret.] [Such as keeping “mum” about that plate of chicken n chips yesterday...-UBPM]

Lǚ Níng hesitated for a while before replying softly,

“Yes! We are indeed facing some issues in SY County.

Yue Zhong frowned and asked,

“How? I remember that there was a huge granary near SY County that you guys obtained. There should be more than enough to last for awhile.”

Lǚ Níng laughed bitterly and proceeded to explain the situation to Yue Zhong.

Indeed, there was a granary containing 150,000 tonnes of rations near SY County. The first thing SY County could manage was to gain control of it. Although there were various issues like corrupt sale for personal gain, some bad food mixed in with the edible food, the total amount gained was still a whopping 100,000 tonnes.

Under the efforts of the government and the army, they managed to take in over 100,000 survivors; with sparing distribution, the amount was enough to last for another 2 or 3 years, hence it wasn't an issue at first.

Not long ago, the son of one government official had abducted a pretty housewife and raped her at his home: under the influence of drugs, he had accidentally caused her death. In the current world, such deaths were common and the official's son did not give it much thought. Unfortunately, the husband of that woman was a powerful Evolver. His own wife had been violated to death, causing the Evolver who was very much in love with his wife to be furious.

He brought the case to the government's attention, hoping to seek redress and to punish that official's son. However, due to the fact that he was dealing with a high-ranking official, he was instead captured and thrown into jail. In a bout of rage, the Evolver killed the jailers and made use of the dark of the night to kill the soldiers guarding the granary. He then proceeded to set fire to the granary, destroying about 80,000 tonnes worth of rations, before escaping in the midst of that chaos, plunging SY County into a serious situation.

The remaining 10,000+ tonnes of food was only enough to feed the survivors for about a few months, and this naturally caused the government and army to panic. Due to the situation, Shen Xue was dispatched to attack Ning Guang County and wrestle back control over it, using their food to tide over SY County's own problem. This had led SY County to witness and fear the rampage of infuriated Evolvers.

Yue Zhong asked blandly,

"After such a mess, is the son dead yet? "

Lǚ Níng hesitated for a while before laughing bitterly,

"He's grounded for 2 months!"

"2 months?!"

Yue Zhong laughed coldly before he looked at Shen Xue and said,

"And you expect me to throw in with SY County. If it were me who was played by this bastard, how long would he be grounded for? 3 days? Or 1?"

"You aren't anything better!"

Shen Xue retorted with a cold gaze,

"The women and children were innocent! What did those rebels' actions have to do with their kids and wives? You had to deal with them with such ruthless methods? How are you different from those bastards! Privileges and special treatment, these exist in all countries and powers. Even if you forced yourself on the women in Ning Guang County, who would be able to stop you? Who is capable of punishing you? You fight so much, isn't it also about protecting your own interests, not to mention your own benefits!"

Yue Zhong replied icily,

“Since you’ve made it so clear, I can’t be bothered to argue with you. Commander Shen, do you require anything else? If not, please leave. I don’t have time to engage in pointless banter.”

Shen Xue glared at him coldly before leaving him with,

“You think I want to waste my breath on you? You’re just a warlord causing divides amongst the country!” Gao Lina followed behind Shen Xue.

Lǚ Níng looked towards Yue Zhong apologetically as she said,

“I apologize for them, Commander Yue! Commander Shen’s temperament is a little obtuse! Please don’t take offence.”

Lǚ Níng’s role in Shen Xue’s team was mainly responsible for foreign affairs and public relations. Based on Shen Xue’s temperament, it was not suitable for her to handle such matters.

Yue Zhong eyed Lǚ Níng and said detachedly,

“Whatever you have on your mind, say it!”

Since Lǚ Níng had not left yet, it was evident she had something to discuss with Yue Zhong.

Lǚ Níng looked at Yue Zhong and smiled,

“I hope to use 500 jin of gold to exchange for 5000 tonnes of ration!”

Yue Zhong stared at Lǚ Níng icily and replied,

“Impossible! The 3000 tonnes of rations were the limit of my goodwill. I will not give way for a second time.”

Lǚ Níng replied somewhat regretfully,

“What would you want then? I hope that we can establish a stable relationship for trade. Be it steel, tools, clothes, shoes... all these commodities, as long as you need them, we can ship them over. Of course, you will have to pay the equivalent amount in rations and the usage of fuel.”

[UBPC: Experienced soldiers wanted!]

Chapter 247: Joint Forces!

Yue Zhong glanced at Lǚ Níng and said indifferently,

“Military training! I want you to assign an instructor to train my men on the operations of tanks and mortars. I will give you 3000 tonnes of rations in exchange for a battalion of artillery soldiers to be fully trained by your military instructors.

Yue Zhong had obtained a large amount of advanced weaponry and ammunition from the Mechanized Infantry Brigade Station, so the only thing he was lacking now was soldiers with the technical know-how on operating them.

“That’s impossible! Please state another condition!”

Lǚ Níng immediately rejected the proposal. The army could not create another strong potential threat to themselves.

“Then I’ll take the time to reconsider!”

Yue Zhong then left Lǚ Níng behind as he proceeded to charge into the zombie horde slashing this way and that, his Dark Magic Blade slinging blood as he slaughtered the evolved zombies.

Over the next 5 days, Yue Zhong led the 4 battalions in a relentless assault on the zombies between Ning Guang County and Qing Yuan County. With Yue Zhong blazing a path, his troops left behind swathes of devastated zombie corpses. This was only possible because he was swapping members out whenever they grew short of Stamina.

On Qing Yuan County’s side, Chi Yang had mobilized all 3 of his battalions and attacked the zombies head on as well. His tactics also included rotating the forces when necessary. After 5 whole days, they had cleared almost 100,000 zombies on the main road between the two counties.

As a result every single warrior in Ning Guang County’s 4 battalions had become a low level Enhancer. Zhuo Yatong and Tong Xiaoyun both possessed decent equipment and through the nonstop battles, Zhuo Yatong had levelled up to become a Level 24 Evolver. Accordingly, Tong Xiaoyun had become level 21. One must remember that Evolvers possessed stronger potential for growth and better base fighting capabilities. As long as there were enough high-level enemies to kill, the speed of their growth could very well be astonishing.

In a stroke of genius, the countless corpses of the zombies were also piled into trucks and brought to the Mechanized Infantry Brigade Station. The genius bit was that they were to be used as zombie fertilizer at the bottom of the Snake Birth Fruit Tree. Of course, some were also used as fertilizer for the Life-Saving Grass on Qing Yuan County’s side.

After Yue Zhong had gained control over the Mechanized Infantry Brigade Station, it had become an exceedingly top-secret project. Other than Yue Zhong, no one else was allowed to enter. Standing orders stated that those who disobeyed were to be instantly executed.

Once the channel was cleared between the 2 counties, Chi Yang brought along the main powerhouses of the First and Second Battalions as well as the main governing officers, and rushed to swear fealty to Yue Zhong.

Yue Zhong’s disappearance from Qing Yuan County had been for a long period, and when most governing bodies lost their core power, it would affect the morale of the officials. Chi Yang’s motive for bringing them was to show Yue Zhong that he had been confident in him all along. After all, he was Yue Zhong’s closest buddy and he knew that this was a crucial detail.

Yue Zhong looked at Chi Yang in front of him and a strong sense of warmth surged in his heart. “Chi Yang, it has been really hard on you all this time!” Chi Yang wasn’t as capable as Yue Zhong in battles and fights, nor was he as shrewd and calculative. Unlike Yue Zhong who often jumped to take over other powers at the first opportunity, he was more of the calm and assuring type. Enough to maintain the sense of peace and trust the survivors had in Yue Zhong simply by his presence. Just based on this, it was

a very important trait of his that Yue Zhong admired greatly. If it wasn't for Chi Yang stabilizing Qing Yuan County after Yue Zhong's disappearance, who knows what would've happened. The entire Qing Yuan County might have even imploded on its own during this time.

Chi Yang nodded to Yue Zhong with discipline and directly replied,

"I'll be heading back to Qing Yuan County first! I'm afraid that if I'm gone too long, there might be problems!"

Chi Yang had only rushed over to swear fealty once again and to see his friend. After that, as a man of action, he wanted to rush back so he could and return to his important duties in Qing Yuan County.

Yue Zhong took out one of the pink Snake Birth Fruits and gave it to Chi Yang.

"This is for you, brother Chi Yang. After you consume it, you should run a fever and pass out for about a day. If there's nothing that goes awry, once you recover, you will have become an Evolver."

Upon receiving the Snake Birth Fruit, Chi Yang didn't say a word more as he just nodded his head and disembarked on his vehicle, heading back to Qing Yuan County in a rush.

"Deputy Commander Xu, all of these items here, can the Armored Company use them?"

Yue Zhong had brought some of the modern weaponry back from the Mechanized Infantry Brigade Station and was pointing them out to Xu Zhenggang, hoping for clarification on their usage.

Wu Guang took a look at all the captured advanced weaponry. His eyes opened wide as though he had just caught a glimpse of the world's most beautiful lady. He gulped as he immediately started salivating,

"Tank!! Type 69 Tank!! 122mm Self-propelled Howitzer!! Red Arrow-9 Rocket Launcher Vehicle!! 40-round round 122mm Rocket Vehicles! Commander Yue, where did you get all these amazing things?"

When the rest of the team saw these modern weapons of war, their eyes lit up, sparkling with delight and excitement. If they could utilize these to equip their forces, then their entire fighting capability would increase by more than tenfold!

Kong Tianyu, Liu Yan, Chen Shitou and the rest of the higher ranking officers were staring slack-jawed at Wu Guang, Xu Zhenggang and the rest of the military officers. The administrative officers didn't know the full prowess of these weapons of war, and they could only look at Wu Guang, Xu Zhenggang, Lang Zi and the rest who had a military background, hoping for some explanation.

"The Infantry Fighting Vehicles can be directly used. These Howitzers can be operated by 3 of our warriors in the Armored Company. The Type 69 Tanks I have tried twice before. So if you give me 3 months' time, I should be able to train up a Type 69 Tank Operator..."

As Xu Zhenggang stared at the equipment, a feverish look could be seen on his face.

Xu Zhenggang was an extremely outstanding soldier previously, and had come across many different types of equipment throughout his career. Furthermore, amongst those soldiers whom Yue Zhong had convinced to come under his wing, there were many talents. There were a few who knew how to operate mortars, some could drive Infantry Fighting Vehicles, and thankfully there, there were even a

few who knew how to use a Red Arrow-9 Rocket Launcher. With the addition of all this equipment, Yue Zhong's Armored Company would now truly possess the might of an armored force.

Kong Tianyu looked at the Type 69 Tank inside the armory and shouted with fervor as well, "Commander Yue!! Let us have a Type 69 Tank also!!"

Seeing this, Zhao Xing could not help but blurt out,

"Commander Yue! Please give us two Infantry Fighting Vehicles!!"

"....."

At some point, the rest of the captains and deputy commanders had also started hollering. They all wanted access to a piece of the modern weaponry. Even just a company would be much stronger with a single addition of an Infantry Fighting Vehicle. Other than those Type 2 Mutant Beasts, there weren't many enemies that could withstand the might of the ZPT90 25mm Auto-cannon mounted on these road demons.

Yue Zhong frowned as he coldly snapped,

"Everyone, shut the hell up!"

With just that one sentence, all the leaders who were excited and acting beyond themselves finally calmed down. These were all people who Yue Zhong had selected and trusted, and similarly, these people had high hopes and showed reverence for Yue Zhong. This meant that they didn't dare act out of line. After all, Yue Zhong was not the Mr. Nice Guy he was prior to the apocalypse. Instead, he had matured into a decisive and vicious leader who protected them all.

Yue Zhong continued,

"After Deputy Commander Xu has finished training a suitable squad, I will distribute the weaponry. For now, go back and rest. That means all of you. After 2 days, we'll go open that huge Armory."

Now that Yue Zhong had cleared the transport channel connecting Ning Guang County and Qing Yuan County, he could now use a huge portion of the advanced weaponry from Ning Guang County to equip the elite warriors of Qing Yuan County. This would raise the attack strength of his troops by a huge margin. As for the amount of ammunition that he had obtained? Even if he equipped every warrior in Qing Yuan County and Ning Guang County, there would still be leftovers.

However, as ammunition was precious in the current age, Yue Zhong would still allocate and use it sparingly rather than just assume he had enough. That was why he still wanted to check out the armory that Xia Yue had so kindly pointed out.

Hearing Yue Zhong's words, Kong Tianyu and the other leaders dismissed themselves. They all gladly took the chance to relax and rest up. After fighting continuously for 5 days, all the warriors were fatigued- they desperately needed rest and recuperation.

Yue Zhong called Ji Qingwu over. Likewise, he passed her a pink Snake Birth Fruit, saying,

“Qingwu, this is a Snake Birth Fruit. After eating this, there’s a huge chance you will become an Evolver. However, you must take note that after consuming it, you will run a fever for a day and will be almost completely unable to move.”

The Special Forces Battalion was filled with experts. The reason Ji Qingwu could become its commander was somewhat due to her own strength, and also somewhat due to Yue Zhong’s bias. That was the primary reason she could possess this post.

After Ji Qingwu received the Snake Birth Fruit, she looked at Yue Zhong with a piercing gaze, before decisively popping it into her mouth.

Not long after, her entire face flushed red and she felt faint, seeing stars and falling face first to the floor, breathing in ragged breaths.

Yue Zhong immediately shot forward and swept her into his embrace. A faint fragrance from her body spread out, setting his heart on fire.

Ji Qingwu was breathing erratically and she looked at Yue Zhong, before closing her eyes in a reassured manner.

Yue Zhong carried Ji Qingwu back to his villa in Ning Guang County, as he personally took care of her and wiped her clean as she sweated her way through the fever. During the entire period, he never left her side.

Tong Xiaoyun saw Yue Zhong’s meticulous care of Ji Qingwu and asked with a trace of envy, “Who’s that lady? Brother Yue seems to like her very much.”

Zhuo Yatong was also looking at Yue Zhong carefully watching over Ji Qing Wu. This made her heart also feel a little sour and jealous.

“Brother Yue has mentioned before that he had established a survivor base in Qing Yuan County right? That girl must be his woman there. From the looks of it, he appears to care for her very much.”

Zhuo Yatong thought she had prepared herself for the fact that there was going to be a harem. She really had. The truth though was that upon witnessing it, she still could not fight back the feelings of jealousy. After all, which lady would be so broad-minded that she could gladly share her man with other women? What made Zhuo Yatong especially jealous was that she could see Yue Zhong truly liked Ji Qingwu, not just for her body or looks.

Early the next morning, Ji Qingwu’s fever had subsided and she regained her consciousness. Upon opening her eyes, she saw Yue Zhong by her side. It seemed Yue Zhong had been watching over her for an entire day.

When Yue Zhong saw that Ji Qingwu had awakened, he smiled lightly and asked,

“Are you feeling better?”

“Mm!!” She nodded. “I have become a Spirit-based Evolver and have gained a Sword Qi skill!”

Ji Qingwu looked at Yue Zhong with a grateful expression in her eyes.

All of a sudden, Ji Qingwu threw out a question,

“Yue Zuong.... you like me, don't you?”

Facing such a question out of the blue, Yue Zhong was obviously unsettled. In response, he became silent for a moment. Looking deep inside of himself he ultimately found the answer. It seemed that he had long fallen for this graceful and courageous fighter, probably when they had been facing death together on multiple occasions, to the point that his feelings for her were more than those towards Lu Wen.

It was just that Ji Qingwu wasn't simply a girl he liked. She was a comrade who he had fought shoulder to shoulder with, and faced multiple obstacles together with. He also knew he wasn't willing to force her into being his woman with his strength. Furthermore, he was afraid that if he confessed and was rejected, he might do some frightening things. This was why he would rather everything remain with the status quo, while quietly watching her grow.

Right now Yue Zhong felt that the situation was much more complicated than facing the Type 2 Mutant Water Snake. He pondered and struggled for a long while, before gritting his teeth and replying with an affirmative,

“Yes!”

Ji Qingwu's mesmerizing pair of eyes was fixed on Yue Zhong. A complicated look flashed within as she spoke,

“If I were to follow you, would you be willing to forsake the other women just for me?”

Yue Zhong looked back at the pair of eyes that were as enchanting as the stars in the night sky and replied honestly,

“I can't do that! They chose to follow me, and that makes them my women. Even though I like you, I cannot throw them aside just for you. It's a matter of honor.”

Ji Qingwu closed her eyes and she softly spoke,

“I understand...I want to rest now, please step out.”

Yue Zhong stood up with a heavy heart, as he knew that it was very likely that his romantic fate with this valiant and beautiful lady had come to an end.

“If you had promised to forsake them because of me, I would have despised you!”

Just as Yue Zhong was walking out of the room, the sound of her words travelled to his ears.

Yue Zhong paused and furrowed his brows in thought, yet he couldn't make head or tails of her meaning or even her attitude! With regards to girls, he never even had an inkling of what to expect.

After the entire camp had rested for 2 days, Yue Zhong brought along 2 battalions of soldiers, 4 Infantry Fighting Vehicles and 2 Armed Personnel Carriers that were mounted with two 14.5mm machine guns. There was also a large number of armor-plated vehicles that made their way towards the targeted armory.

When they arrived at the forest that was filled with Mutant Beasts, Yue Zhong stationed the majority of the vehicles outside the forest. He brought Ji Qingwu, Zhuo Yatong & Tong Xiaoyun to go in with him, all 3 of whom had evolved. They sat in a Hummer as they travelled into the depths of the forest. Their main responsibility was to wipe out any small Mutant Beasts while checking if there were any more ferocious, larger Mutant Beasts.

If by some rotten luck the armory had a few Type 2 Mutant Ferocious Black-Scaled Boars roaming about, not checking carefully and leading everybody blindly to the armory was tantamount to causing their unnecessary deaths.

Of course, the sound of the Hummer travelling resounded throughout the forest, capturing the attention of a few nearby Mutant Beasts.

All of a sudden, with the sounds of rustling grass, four 2m tall Mutant Vicious Apes jumped out of the underbrush! Screeching at the vehicle, one of the Mutant Vicious Apes directly leapt onto the Hummer, before using its entire weight of a few hundred kilograms to slam down violently onto the vehicle, causing it to vigorously shake.

Zhuo Yatong forcefully applied the brakes in response, using the huge resulting inertia to fling the Mutant Vicious Ape off of the Hummer, before it tumbled headfirst onto the ground and rolled several times in succession.

Chapter 248: Devil Flame Sword!

Yue Zhong glanced at the four Mutant Vicious Apes that had appeared and said lightly to the three girls, "I'll leave these four monsters to you!"

Mutant Beasts like these Mutant Vicious Apes were only at Level 33. For Yue Zhong to rise up by one level, he would have to kill at least a few dozen of them. Currently, Ji Qingwu was only a Level 27 Evolver, so killing just one of them would let her directly rise in level.

Upon hearing Yue Zhong's words, Ji Qingwu activated her Cutting Edge Enhancement Skill and a faint cyan radiance enveloped the Replica Tang Sword in her hands. Under the effects of the Cutting Edge Enhancement Skill, the Replica Tang Sword in her hands would be even sharper than Yue Zhong's Dark Magic Sword.

Her figure flashed and she directly rushed towards a Mutant Vicious Ape like a storm of bladed wind.

The targeted Mutant Vicious Ape's eyes flashed with an ominous glint as one of its fists swung out and bombarded Ji Qingwu with with power enough to create a piercing wind sound. This particular Mutant Beast had extraordinary strength and considerable agility. Assuming this punch hit its target, then even a boxing champion from the previous world would have their head directly blown into bloody off-sized bits!

Using exquisite footwork, Ji Qingwu's response was to turn her delicate body slightly to the side allowing her to dodge the Mutant Vicious Ape's attack by a hair's breadth. In doing so, she also slashed at the

beast's head, easily beheading it and causing fresh blood to splatter into the air, covering her entire body.

Seeing Ji Qingwu finish off this Mutant Vicious Ape so easily, a competitive spirit arose in Zhuo Yatong, who was standing at the side. She activated her Explosive Strength Skill and together with her innate talent, her strength surmounted that of twelve people combined.

She picked up a God and Devil System Level 3 Treasure 'Wolf Tooth Staff', which was 2m in length and weighed 300kg, using it brutally to smash at the Mutant Vicious Ape.

That Mutant Vicious Ape was directly smashed into several largish chunks of flesh and blood by Zhuo Yatong's terrifying strength, as well as the immense inertia from her 300kg heavy Wolf Tooth Staff. It fell onto the ground, dead, and a huge orb of experience let Zhuo Yatong directly rise up in level.

Facing the Mutant Vicious Ape that was rushing towards her on the other side, Tong Xiaoyun activated her Telekinesis Ability. A stone suddenly rolled up to the ape's feet, causing it to trip and fall face-first onto the ground.

With just a thought from Tong Xiaoyun, three Replica Tang Swords rapidly shot towards the Mutant Vicious Ape like arrows. With Tong Xiaoyun controlling them, two of the swords directly pierced through the ape's eyes as if they both had intelligence, destroying the ape's vision, while the other sword penetrated through the ape's body, tearing out a shallow wound.

Tong Xiaoyun could control six Replica Tang Swords at most using her Telekinesis Ability, but the greater the number of swords she had to control, the less the amount of power each sword had in them. She normally liked to control three Replica Tang Swords at once when confronting enemies, which let her easily slaughter zombies.

With both of its eyes blinded, the Mutant Vicious Ape struggled painfully on the ground. The three Replica Tang Swords controlled by Tong Xiaoyun constantly flew towards the ape, piercing through its head and creating countless small wounds, causing the ape to constantly bleed. After 3 minutes of this 'grinding' tactic, Tong Xiaoyun was finally able to kill the Mutant Vicious Ape.

By the time Tong Xiaoyun had killed the beast, the other Mutant Vicious Ape had already been slashed to death by Ji Qingwu in one move. As Ji Qingwu constantly rose in level and gained enhancements, the advantages of her arduously-trained swordplay were finally revealed. With her swordplay as a foundation, she was able to dodge enemy attacks with just the slightest movement. In addition to the fact that she possessed the Cutting Edge Enhancement Skill, very few people would be able to avoid her blade in close-combat. When facing swordplay experts like Ji Qingwu, the best way was to directly use a rocket launcher to bombard her to pieces before she drew close enough.

Out of the four Mutant Vicious Apes, only a Level 2 Skillbook [High Speed Movement] was dropped. Yue Zhong also took out the blood essences and gave them to the three girls to absorb. Currently, the blood essences of low-levelled Mutant Beasts as such were already useless to Yue Zhong.

[TN: not sure what happened to the nucleus thing, maybe lower-levelled mutant beasts only have blood essence?]

After finishing off the four Mutant Vicious Apes, Yue Zhong and his party continued to drive in the direction of the large-scale weapons arsenal.

When they came to a place littered with the wreckages of all sorts of military vehicles, the earth shook slightly and 3m tall Black-scaled Ferocious Boars came charging towards them from the distance like small-size tanks. They stared ravenously at Yue Zhong and his party.

“16 of them!! It’s a bit less than last time! I will go to kill them! You guys be careful!”

As Yue Zhong watched the 16 Black-scaled Ferocious Boars, a scorching heat flashed past his eyes and he spoke towards the three girls. He immediately activated his Encompassing Body Armor and charged towards the 16 Black-scaled Ferocious Boars, taking a Type 05 Light Submachine Gun with him.

As Ji Qingwu and the two other girls watched Yue Zhong rush towards the 16 beasts, a hint of shock flashed past their eyes. Those behemoths were Level 43 Mutant Beasts and every one of them possessed boundless strength. As soon as something was charged into by the Black-scaled Ferocious Boars, even a Hummer would be knocked flying and smashed to pieces.

“Too reckless!! This bastard!”

Seeing Yue Zhong’s impulsive actions, even Ji Qingwu, a calm person who had a pure upbringing and had never sworn in her entire life, couldn’t help but let out a curse. Holding her Replica Tang Sword, she rushed towards Yue Zhong’s side.

Seeing Ji Qingwu rushing forward, Tong Xiaoyun also felt a rush of battle lust, but a hand pressed down on her body, firmly keeping her in place.

Zhuo Yatong held Tong Xiaoyun back while looking towards Yue Zhong with a complicated expression and said,

“Don’t go over, with your current strength, even if you rush forward now, you will become a burden to him. Since he said he wanted to deal with those Black-Scaled Boars, he must have the confidence to do so. If you go up, you might not be able to do anything.”

In comparison with the hot-blooded Ji Qingwu and Tong Xiaoyun, the older Zhuo Yatong was much calmer.

Yue Zhong rushed towards the 16 Mutant Black Scaled Boars, hoisting his gun and releasing a burst of rapid fire. A concentrated line of bullets landed on the bodies of those 16 Mutant Boars, and although it did nothing to pierce that thick armor of theirs, it caused them enough pain to shriek, before concentrating their wrath on Yue Zhong.

The 16 Mutant Boars immediately charged towards Yue Zhong in fury.

Facing the onslaught of those tank-like beasts, Yue Zhong kept his .05 back inside his storage ring before activating his Devil Flame Skill. A dense fiery energy ball blossomed in his hands, compressing itself tightly into the shape of a 2m long sword of flames.

In the span of a few breaths, Yue Zhong had arrived in front of one of the Mutant Black Scaled Boars and he shot out 2 Bone Spears from his back to propel himself up into the air. As he aimed his Devil Flame Sword downwards, the Mutant Black Scaled Boar had just rushed towards the blade.

The Devil Flame Sword was the result of an expenditure of 50 Spirit and 20 Stamina to form, and to maintain its appearance, Yue Zhong had to expend 10 points of Spirit and 3 Stamina. It was a huge drain, but at the same time, it possessed immense power; even the Type 2 Mutant Water Snake's armor could easily be split open by this Devil Flame Sword.

The Mutant Black-Scaled Boar had charged recklessly towards the Devil Flame Sword, and under the force of its own power, it was immediately sliced in two. Its wounds were instantly cauterized, sizzling with a burnt smell.

TN: Ahh fresh meat.

After disposing of one of the Mutant Black-Scaled Boars in one strike, the Bone Spear behind Yue Zhong extended, sending him onto the head of another Black Scaled Boar, where he immediately stuck the sword into its head, penetrating its skull and incinerating its brain instantly.

After becoming an Evolver, Yue Zhong's strength underwent an earthshaking change. If he was taking on these Mutant Black-Scaled Boars as he was before the Evolution, he would have never been able to condense the Devil Flame Sword with his power and exhibit such fearsome strength.

Right after he killed that Mutant Black-Scaled Boar, Yue Zhong jumped down from its body and activated his Shadow Steps. He stepped to the right like a spectre, evading an attack from yet another Black Scaled Boar by a hair's breadth, whilst at the same time swinging the Devil Flame Sword in front of the Boar.

The Mutant Black Scaled Boar could not stop due to the energy from its own frenzied charge and it sent itself into Yue Zhong's Devil Flame Sword, instantly being sliced in 2, while its innards and blood sprayed out, splattering onto Yue Zhong.

"Congratulations on reaching Level 41! You have gained 2 enhancement points."

Just as the 3rd Mutant Black Scaled Boar fell lifelessly, the sweet sound of notification resounded in his ears.

Yue Zhong was, after all, a Spirit and Endurance Dual Attribute Evolver. Each time he leveled up, he would gain a fixed enhancement point in Spirit as well as Endurance, and on top of that, he had another 2 enhancement points to be distributed according to his own wishes.

Yue Zhong swiftly allocated those points to his Agility, as it was extremely crucial on the battlefield. He had not learnt any blade or spear techniques before, and if he were to meet an opponent well-versed in martial arts, he could only rely on his extremely high Agility and all sorts of other skills to suppress the enemy. Other than that, the benefits of having high Agility was the ability to perceive danger and act faster; if he had low Agility, even if he could sense the danger but was not able to react in time, it would still be all for naught.

After Yue Zhong had allocated his enhancement points, his body slightly shifted as he swung down onto another Mutant Black Scaled Boar, immediately opening a large wound in its head, frying the brain matter instantly.

When he disposed of this Black-Scaled Boar, he started weaving in and out amongst the Mutant Black-Scaled Boars, the Devil Flame Sword in his hands constantly dancing and flashing as the Mutant Boars fell one by one.

“So formidable!!”

Ji Qingwu’s steps came to a halt as she watched Yue Zhong dance with his Devil Flame Sword amongst the herd of Mutant Black Scaled Boars. Her eyes flashed with shock. Even dealing with a single one of these beasts would take a toll on her- never did she imagine that Yue Zhong could actually take care of them as though he was slaughtering chickens, with the same ease as that of killing normal zombies.

After killing another 7 of the Black-Scaled Boars, the remaining behemoths finally felt a little fear amidst their fury, as they turned tail and escaped.

Chapter 249: Successive Attacks!

“Congratulations on reaching Level 42! You have gained 2 enhancement points.”

After Yue Zhong had rushed up to dispose of another Mutant Black-Scaled Boar, he finally gained a level, and his Agility was finally enhanced to hit 80 points. A single regular burst of speed from him could reach 8 times that of a normal person sprinting.

“This will not do! We need to find another convenient weapon! This type of fighting is too taxing on one’s Spirit and Stamina.”

After Yue Zhong had killed those Black-Scaled Boars, the Devil Flame Sword in his hand was also about to die out, and the stamina drain caused his face to start to turn pale. The might of the Devil Flame Sword was fearsome, but its consumption was likewise huge, and in just a minute of battle, his Spirit had already been depleted by 60 points. If he were to go all out, he could at the very most last for 5 minutes.

“The drop this time is really quite bountiful!”

Yue Zhong eyed the 11 carcasses of the Black-Scaled Boars and his eyes flashed with delight. The armor of these Black Scaled Boars could be used to make the best body protection. Based on the size of the 11 dead behemoth piggies, there might even be enough armor for an entire battalion!

The scales of the Black-Scaled Boars could withstand even the might of a 12.7mm Heavy Machine Gun. So once Yue Zhong’s subordinates were to don the armor made by these scales, their death rate would instantly plummet. In the previous battles, the Mutant Water Snake Leather had already proven its worth, what more was there to say about the black scales?

The 11 Black-Scaled Boars even had 2 precious skill books as well as a green treasure box that dropped from them.

“Level 3 Skill Book: Sniper Specialization. Passive Skill, upon learning, the user will possess the skills of a top-rate sniper.”

“Level 3 Skill Book: Werewolf Transformation. Active Skill. User will transform into a werewolf upon activation. Consumes 10 Stamina and 10 Spirit every minute. In the werewolf state, all 6 attributes gain a boost. Strength of transformation is dependant on 6 attributes as well as enhancement level of skill.”

“Level 3 Treasure: QingFeng Sword! It is an incredibly sharp sword.”

Yue Zhong threw the QingFeng Sword to Ji Qingwu, swapping out the Level 1 Tang Sword in her hands. He gave the Werewolf Transformation to Zhuo Yatong and the Sniper Specialization to Tong Xiaoyun.

Although Tong Xiaoyun had Evolved, she still lacked the ability to fight against the army. While her telekinesis could be of use towards normal humans, if they were up against the army, a sniper bullet would be all that was needed to end her life. If she learnt the Sniper Specialization, she could become a top sniper and could participate in the battle against the army if needed.

Since Yue Zhong had the aid of the Level 6 Treasure Storage Ring, as long as he had enough firepower, he could decimate an entire battalion on his own. As the army had many different tricks and methods, his pressing issue now was to power up his own women, giving them a better chance of survival.

Setting to work, Yue Zhong swiftly dug out the blood essences and nuclei from the Mutant Boars' heads before continuing on his way towards the huge armory. Along the way, there were no more Mutant Beasts: after all, it was the territory of the Mutant Black-Scaled Boars, and normal Mutant Beasts didn't dare enter it casually.

Not long after, the armory came into Yue Zhong's sight. It was hidden in the hillside and a gigantic steel door was all that stood between him and the arsenal. To open the armory, one had to deal with that enormous steel door.

Right in front of those steel doors, there was an electronic lock. However, since Yue Zhong didn't know the passcode to it, he could only gaze at the steel doors. He strode up to the doors, and reached out to place his hands on them, before activating the Devil Flame. The steel started to melt quickly around the raging flame, forming a flow of liquid steel, and soon, a hole with enough space for someone to walk through was formed.

As the armory was built into the hill, its interior was about 20m in height, and while the outside was a small funnel, the interior was an entire different story, with 4 huge storehouses built.

Yue Zhong took a glance at the 4 storehouses, before calling out to Ji Qingwu,

“Ji Qingwu! I'll leave those locked doors to you!”

Amongst the 4 storehouses, there should be one that contained medical supplies. Supposing Yue Zhong used his Devil Flame to burn a hole through, he might accidentally cause an explosion.

Ji Qingwu looked at the locks on the storehouses and a chilling glint appeared in her eyes as she activated her Blade Strengthening Skill. With a single mighty swing, she broke open the lock on one of the storehouses.

Zhuo Yatong then stepped forward to push the door open, revealing the countless weapons inside.

“It's tons of firepower!”

Yue Zhong greedily stared at the many boxes in the storehouse as his eyes lit up. The building was huge, a 50m by 100m storehouse! Inside there was box after box, all on top of even more boxes. Each one stacked neatly, they completely filled up the entire storehouse.

“Type 56 Semi-automatic Rifle?”

Upon prying open one of the chests for closer inspection, Yue Zhong couldn't help but frown, as he saw that the boxes were filled with many such obsolete weapons, giving him a bad feeling.

Yue Zhong opened up a number of boxes, only to discover that all of them contained weapons that had long ago been deemed obsolete by the Chinese Military.

Yue Zhong then proceeded to open up another storage and saw the large amounts of vintage artillery inside. He now understood the true meaning of Xia Yue's words about being able to equip an entire regiment: “I'm afraid that these are all weapons that are no longer useful.”

The bad news? This entire armory could not compare to the weapons Yue Zhong found when he opened up the Mechanized Infantry Brigade. The good news though, was that the total amount of weapons and equipment here was really huge and ammunition was plentiful as well! While it might prove difficult to use effectively against a human army, this was absolutely more than enough to deal with zombies. Furthermore, the ammunition type was common and the various extra munitions for the Type 56 Semi-automatic Rifles could be used for the Type 81 Rifles as well.

Amongst the 4 storehouses, there was even a fuel facility, within which was a truly huge amount of fuel. Factoring in the amount of fuel from the Mechanized Infantry Brigade Station and Ning Guang County, Yue Zhong didn't need to worry about the fuel issue for the next 4 months or so!

After opening the armory, Yue Zhong brought the 3 ladies and left the facility. On his way out, he ordered his men waiting outside to quickly enter and start the large-scale transportation of the items contained therein.

After just a short while, Yue Zhong brought the entire vehicle fleet that was filled with various weaponry, ammunition and fuel with him as they started their journey out.

For this mission, aside from the 4 IFV's and 2 Dual-mounted 14.5mm Machine Gun vehicles, he mobilized a total of nearly 100 vehicles, allowing him to transport a huge portion of the contents in the armory all at once.

The vehicle fleet had not travelled very far before a huge flock of Mutant Birds flew towards it. The Mutant Birds were the size of hens and had grey feathers, with an average wingspan of about 20cm.

“Level 22 Mutant Beast: Steel Beak Bird! It possesses an extremely tough, sharp beak. Using its beak it can drill holes through steel, it is also extremely ferocious.”

Yue Zhong saw the sudden incoming onslaught of the Steel Beak Birds and his face paled before he shouted out,

“Open fire!”

Yue Zhong swiftly leapt from his vehicle, pulling out a .05 light submachine gun and firing rapidly towards the mass of birds in the sky.

The dual-mounted 14.5mm machine guns rotated under command and started spewing deadly bullets at high speed towards the sky. The countless number of bullets ruthlessly flew forth as they penetrated and killed numerous Steel Beak Birds, causing a fresh rain of blood filled with feathers to come down everywhere.

Yue Zhong's Type 05 machine gun was firing nonstop, shooting down heaps of Steel Beak Birds. These Mutant Birds were fast and had high numbers. Even though their beaks could penetrate steel, their defence on the other hand was extremely weak- a 5.8mm bullet could penetrate clean through their weak bodies.

However, the quantity of Steel Beak Birds was really too numerous, and a number of them managed landings on a few of the vehicles. Of course, they were currently pecking viciously at the steel armor, causing many small holes on the exterior.

Some of the smarter Steel Beak Birds opted to attack the glass windshield, fracturing the glass and entering the vehicles. Their immediate action was to then pierce holes into the frantic warriors' skulls so they could gobble up the brain tissue.

The First and Second Battalion that Yue Zhong had brought along were the elite of the elites. At the first sign of trouble, they had rushed out from their vehicles with their weapons drawn and were currently attacking the Steel Beak Birds.

Under the slew of bullets, a large number of the Steel Beak Birds fell downwards, fresh blood thickly splattering all over the ground. Faced with the relentless assault of the Steel Beak Birds, another 3 soldiers had their heads pierced and brains eaten before the entire flock of birds was finally exterminated by Yue Zhong's First and Second Battalions working together.

"Have they all grown this strong?" Yue Zhong felt a sense of pride and joy when he saw his troops had cleanly wiped out the Mutant Birds.

If it was any other troop of soldiers that had gathered together, they would have fled at the sight of the seemingly endless birds that blocked out the sun. Yet Yue Zhong's First and Second Battalion had been tempered through numerous battles and had finally formed an elite force which could engage in both close quarters combat as well as ranged attack. They even had a strong fighting instinct and morale to boot.

Once they were equipped with the advanced weaponry and equipment from the Mechanized Infantry Brigade, he had confidence that he could deal with the Army under Shen Xue's control.

After those Steel Beak Birds were slaughtered, countless other birds were suddenly startled and fled in all directions from the forest. Suddenly, 3 gargantuan yellow birds with wingspans of over 40m flew up into the sky.

"Level 46 Mutant Beast: Yellow Jade Condor! It is a ferocious bird with unknown powers."

Upon seeing the 3 Yellow Jade Condors, Yue Zhong's face turned pale, as he remembered the scene where he was easily pierced through by the Green Eagle. He immediately lifted his .05 submachine gun and started firing in frenzied bursts at the 3 Yellow Jade Condors, attracting their attention and inciting

their hatred. He had to do something immediately because he knew his subordinates would not be able to withstand even a single attack from one of those deadly birds, let alone 3!!!!

Chapter 250: SY County Survivor Base!

Yue Zhong's aim was extremely accurate, and his concentrated line of fire hit the Yellow Jade Condors consistently, brass shell casings ejecting with each clack of the guns bolt. Unfortunately the body of the Yellow Jade Condor and its feathers were incredibly sturdy, and the bullets from the machine gun could only hit and ricochet off of their Evolved bodies.

The 3 Yellow Jade Condors were of course angered by the incessant attacks of Yue Zhong, and they immediately flapped their wings brewing up a dust cloud before shooting towards Yue Zhong with power reminiscent of a speeding arrow!

The dual-mounted 14.5mm machine guns had also adjusted aim and were currently spitting a line of fire at the Mutant Birds. Countless bullets which could cause even the armor of a tank to be pierced landed on 2 of the Yellow Jade Condors' bodies violently. The repeated bullets caused small puffs of blood and feather matter to expel from the numerous impact zones. Feathers scattered, and blood sprayed from their wounds enraging the Yellow Jade Condors further.

Of course, one mustn't forget that these Yellow Jade Condors were not Level 46 Mutant Beasts for nothing! The bullets that could easily cause an average person's body to have 2 large and rather leaky holes only caused a superficial wound and dribbles of blood without actually penetrating their skin layer.

Nonetheless, it was enough to attract the wrath of the Yellow Jade Condors! One of the birds swung out its wing in front and steadily advanced while blocking the bullets of the dual mounted 14.5mm machine guns, causing a large amount of fresh blood to spurt out, before it used its incredibly sharp talons to grab the vehicle and near instantly pulverize it. With its wicked sharp hook-like talons, it pierced the machine gun-mounted vehicle, a "Screeeeench!" sound echoing out before spreading its wings to fly.

These Mutant Birds possessed immense strength, and usually hunted Mutant Water Snakes, as well as Black Scaled Boars while flying. One could imagine the necessary strength needed to haul away such huge beasts for food. Grabbing up such a vehicle was decidedly not a tough feat for them.

Just as the Yellow Jade Condor flapped mightily in an attempt to soar up into the sky, Yue Zhong who had already activated his Bone Encompassing Armor shot out a Bone Spear from his back and propelled himself up 8 or so feet becoming even with its head. Reaching the target zone, he pulled out his Stinger and quick fired 6 shots point blank at its head.

The 6 oscillating Stinger Bullets flew forth and penetrated the skull of the Yellow Jade Condor as expected. Unexpected was the spectacular explosion of the back of its skull, pulpy brain and Shiny bone bits flashing in the sun as warm meaty chunks sprayed forth upon destroying it. The Condor immediately fell from the sky, and landed with a heavy "Whump!" atop the gun-mounted vehicle.

Although the Yellow Jade Condor had a wingspan of over 40m, its body weight was only about 600jin and wasn't even a ton, therefore it did not cause that much stress on impact with the armored exterior of the vehicle.

The warriors inside the vehicle also managed to escape safely due to quick movement upon seeing Yue Zhong leap high.

Yue Zhong had just disposed of the first Yellow Jade Condor when one of its comrades immediately shot towards him like a gale of wind, its exceedingly sharp talons opened and ready to grab him.

The speed of the attack from the Yellow Jade Bird was truly quite swift! It was to the point where Yue Zhong could not evade in time, and had no choice but to chop down with his Dark Magic Blade at the talons.

In the next instant Yue Zhong was sent flying by the immeasurable strength from the attack, like a discus that was thrown violently a few metres. These airborne Mutant Beasts may not be able to compare with the land Beasts in terms of defence, but their speed and strength was commonly found to be many times than that of their land counterparts.

It was precisely because the air Mutant Beasts attack speed was so fast, that Yue Zhong had been captured by the Green Eagle before he could even react, let alone resist. Speed was the advantage that these airborne Mutant Beasts had, and was coincidentally one of the perfect counters to Yue Zhong, who prioritized the enhancement of his Agility attribute.

Yue Zhong was sent flying back a few tens of metres once more, a gust of wind blowing him as one of the other Condors targeted him and immediately flicked its wings. The end result was an attack attempt towards Yue Zhong with its claws viciously spread!

Just as the Condor was about to slash Yue Zhong, Zhuo Yatong finished hoisting a PF98 120mm Anti Tank Missile Launcher, aimed at the Condor and pulled the trigger! A rocket shot out and exploded on the body of the Yellow Jade Condor with huge effect! With a 'hong!' the 40m Mutant Bird immediately burst into myriad different sized pieces under that explosion, the chunks flying every which way!

While the defences of the Yellow Jade Condor was shockingly high it could not compare to a Type 2 Mutant Beast, and naturally would not be able to resist the firepower from an anti-tank missile.

As these high level Mutant Beasts possessed some sort of intelligence, and seeing that its 2 comrades had been killed by Yue Zhong's forces, the remaining Yellow Jade Condor let out an anguished shriek, before flying off swiftly into the horizon.

The Yellow Jade Condor that had its head exploded by Yue Zhong's Stinger dropped another Level 3 Skill Book for Sniper Specialization, and 300 survival credits; this time Yue Zhong did not stand on ceremony and proceeded to learn the Sniper Specialization skill.

The Sniper Specialization Skill obviously complemented Yue Zhong's Night Enhancement ability. It allowed him to become a hunter in the night, not just seeing in the dark but with superior aiming skills allowing him to provide more pressure for his future enemies with his varied methods.

The 2 Yellow Jade Condor corpses also gave 2 blood essences and 2 nuclei, adding up to a pretty bountiful drop.

After the episode with the 3 Yellow Jade Condors, there were no further provocations or attacks from the Mutant Beasts for the rest of their journey.

Upon returning to Ning Guang County, Yue Zhong immediately proceeded to consume the blood essences obtained from the Black Scaled Boars and Yellow Jade Condors.

“Congratulations on gaining 4 points of enhancement in Vitality!”

“Congratulations on gaining 2 points of enhancement in Vitality!”

“Congratulations on gaining 1 point of enhancement in Vitality!”

After swallowing the 3rd blood nuclei of the Black Scaled Boars, there were no further benefits.

“Congratulations on gaining 1 point of enhancement in Vitality!”

After consuming the Yellow Jade Condor’s blood essence, it was the same result. He had consumed too many blood essences from the Mutant Beasts, and low levels or ranks of Mutant Beasts could not help his enhancement, only a Type 2 and above rank Mutant Beast might be of use.

The remaining blood essences were kept aside by Yue Zhong, as he intended to distribute them to Ji Qing Wu, Zhuo Yatong, Tong Xiaoyun, Lu Wen, and Guo Yu, letting them gain more enhancements to their Vitality.

Vitality was essential in the defence against possible infections and poison as well as their regeneration capability. It allowed the person to be more resilient to sickness and injuries, and provided faster recovery, hence it was an important attribute. However, in the current world where danger was omnipresent, most people opted to enhance their Strength, Agility, Stamina and Spirit, the 4 main combat attributes, few people would choose to spend their precious enhancement points on Vitality.

Yue Zhong mobilized his troops for a few more trips back and forth to the armory, bringing everything back, and while they faced the occasional ambush from low level Mutant Beasts, there were no further attacks from any strong ones. This gave the troops a sense of security and there was even a detail that was sent to specially collect the Mutant Beasts meat back to Ning Guang County.

The total amount of meat from the 11 Black Scaled Boars amounted to a few hundred tonnes, combined with the Mutant Water Snakes and Type 2 Mutant Water Snake that Yue Zhong had killed earlier which was also a few hundred tonnes, Ning Guang County and Qing Yuan County had no food shortages in the short future. Yue Zhong also readjusted his policies. The meat from the Black Scaled Boar went to the frontline troops. The meat from the Mutant Water Snakes went to factory works. And the Type 2 Mutant Water Snake and Mutant Black Scaled Boar meat went to the higher ranking officials from Yue Zhong’s government.

At the same time, Yue Zhong started a military academy and prep school in Ning Guang County. He took the principal posts of the military academy, while the lecturers were those officers under him, and when they were not on active duty, they could give lectures on their battle experience and impart knowledge of modern weaponry.

The school on the other hand, was established and took in all the children, thus allowing them to continue with their interrupted education. Without the constant imparting of fundamental knowledge and communication skills, The Establishment would have no future. However, the difference of the school with the schools prior to the apocalypse was that, in addition to their culture studies and learning, they had to undergo basic military education as well as some physical training. Due to the fact

that the school promised the attending students enough good food and even meat, most survivors opted to send their kids to school. Inside the school, regardless of background, be it a farmer's kid, children of former white collared workers, even the precious children of government officials, they all played and learnt together, without any form of segregation.

Within Ning Guang County, the majority of the survivors took up tailoring as a profession, making use of the Mutant Beasts' hide to sew armor for the soldiers. Although the hide was tough, human machinery had ways of punching holes into them and chainsaws could be used to cut the Evolved skin. While experienced designers came up with armor ideas, and the pieces were sewn together by the workers tirelessly, making enough armor for a huge number of soldiers was only a matter of time.

Another group of survivors were rounded up, and dug up trenches all around Ning Guang County. As well as building up some fortifications, mainly to defend against zombies and mutant beasts, they also provided a means of attack against human enemies. The workers who did their work diligently could also enjoy meat from Mutant Beasts, therefore most of the survivors who chose to do the manual labor, did so quite willingly.

Yue Zhong even brought along Chen Jianfeng, the previous mayor of Long Hai Survivor Base over to Ning Guang County to be in charge of establishing a functioning government. During the extended period of Yue Zhong's absence, Chen Jianfeng had not done anything unusual, and instead he had wholeheartedly worked side by side with Chi Yang providing loads of valuable insight into the county's successful operation. Therefore, after conquering Ning Guang County, Yue Zhong decided to switch him over, and let him handle the affairs here. While Chen Jianfeng did bring along with him his bad habits and behaviour from when he was a politician, he did possess the ability and if it wasn't for his help, Qing Yuan County would have been engulfed in pandemonium by Lei Cheng.

TN: Chen Jianfeng – Chen Yao's uncle, ex-leader of Long Hai who gave command to Lei Cheng (bad guy deserter of Long Hai)

Not long after Chen Jianfeng's arrival in Ning Guang County, he managed to establish a form of law system, working together with different department heads to ensure the smooth governance of Ning Guang County. The entire County also slowly regained its previous security and day-to-day bustle.

On top of all this, the warriors under Yue Zhong also started expanding out and began Mop Up work in the villages of the near surroundings. Those zombie-filled villages were slowly cleared out by Yue Zhong's troops, turning up huge resources as well as a large number of survivors who were then sent to join Yue Zhong's establishments. Under the constant training and battle, the other battalions consistently forged themselves, gaining morale and fighting spirit.

Little Greenie had also finished its prior Evolution, as it returned to Yue Zhong's side, it immediately gobbled up the nuclei from the Type 2 Mutant Black Scaled Boar, Type 2 Mutant Water Snake and the rest of the Mutant Black Scaled Boars, before it once again entered into a hibernative state, entering the upgrade phase towards its next evolution.

TN: What a glutton. The author also conveniently kept Greenie in the sidelines.

"Commander Yue, I need to purchase 3000 tonnes of rations! Whatever you need, please state your demands!"

During Ning Guang County's frequent meetings, Lǚ níng had tried to find and negotiate with Yue Zhong, and it was her fourth attempt currently.

In this entire month, Yue Zhong had kept Lǚ níng waiting by the wayside, while engaging in various activities for the establishment ignoring all 3 previous attempts from Lǚ níng.

This time, Yue Zhong looked at Lǚ níng and said warmly: "I want to take a look at SY County's survivor base, why don't you come with me?"

Now that Qing Yuan and Ning Guang County were both slowly chugging along on the right track and were developing well, Yue Zhong wanted to take the initiative to observe SY County's Survivor Base.

With regards to the SY County Survivor Base, Yue Zhong only had an inkling of its in's and out's based on his subordinates. After the apocalypse, the ones with the strongest survival rates were those who had received military training, and SY County was a place that had over 7,000,000 people in the past! It even once commanded a regiment.

During the initial stages of the onset of the apocalypse, the army was conducting an exercise between two of its elite regiments. While they lost over half of their warriors who became zombies, as well as numerous ranked officers who turned and as a result, the loss of command, the remaining soldiers managed to rally under the command of the next highest ranked officer. In response they managed to fend off their ex-comrades-turned-zombies. As they continually fought them off over time they grew in strength and became a recognizable power in the region.

When the government of SY County had requested aid, this huge power launched their assault on SY County, killing a large number of zombies inside, and in an entire month's worth of fighting, they managed to clear 700,000 zombies and regained control over SY County. With SY County as the base, the army then went around clearing the villages and absorbing survivors.

It was precisely due to the participation of this strong army, that allowed SY County to protect its survivors all this time, providing a form of haven for over 150,000 people.

While the granary within SY County should have had more than sufficient rations, prior to the apocalypse the overseer of the granary had engaged in black market dealings and sold off a large amount of rations. He had hoped to buy back the rations at a lower price when the opportunity was right, which resulted in a large space of the granary being empty. The remaining small store in the granary was broken into by large herds of Mutant Rats which ate almost any available grain, thereby throwing SY County into a food shortage issue.

If the overseer had not sold such a huge amount of food, SY County would not be facing such a difficult situation, after all SY County used to be a huge import and export powerhouse. If it was known that such a reputable food county was facing its own food problems, it would truly be ironic.

Facing Yue Zhong's words, Lǚ Níng could not reject his proposal, and the next morning, surrounded by his escorts, Yue Zhong made his way towards SY County together with Lǚ Níng.

Under Lǚ Níng's guidance, Yue Zhong's entourage managed to enter SY County without that many problems.

SY County openly prided itself as the successful conqueror of Shaoyang County. Truthfully, it had only begun to clear the Downtown area, and some minor clearing of some of the nearby zombie-filled villages.

A huge number of survivors were gathered under SY County's banner, and within a few areas inside the city there was a natural water channel that acted as a barrier. The survivors within SY County Base only had to ask for the support of a few soldiers to guard the channels, and it could cause the zombies from the north to have difficulty advancing. As the zombies were mainly advancing southwards, with the defence of SY County, Tao Zhengyi had led a carefree life as a tyrant for a while. If it wasn't for the fact that they were starting to lack rations, they wouldn't have sent Shen Xue and her troops to attack.