

Dungeon S 1041

Chapter 1041 - Revisiting Nian

A week had gone by with Jin busy on the sidelines and most of the seasoned Pandarens had already cleared the Nian Raid due to its all new progression system. When the first clear had been over, most of the Pandarens had decided to take it easy to explore and enjoy the view. There was even a 'Game Complete' version where the Pandarens were able to revisit the Mysterious Nian Island where they could interact with the locals and buy the items over there.

Unlike the start of the mission where they had to sail towards the location, afterwards, the island would require only a teleport confirmation from the Pandamonium App. It only took a moment for a portal to appear in front of the Pandarens within the Store Instance and they would be teleported in a jiffy. At that point, the Pandarens could visit the village with the villagers to complete whatever remaining side quests they had yet to do.

They could take their time to explore the wonders of Nian Island and earn exploration achievement points. It was a time filler that Jin had blatantly copied from most games to keep the more active Pandarens occupied. In fact, if one were to clear all the side quests and complete all exploratory achievements, there would be a hidden reward that was created specifically for the Virtual Reality Network phase.

There were enough completionists among his customers and eventually one had managed to explore all the nooks and cranks of the area, getting all the exploratory achievements and finishing all the sidequests. Unfortunately, what he earnt was a mere ticket voucher that was locked when he tried to access it in the Pandamonium App.

Unable to access it, he posted it into the forums and people were starting to speculate whether this particular voucher was a precursor to the next upcoming raids. Even some of the Pandawans had shared their opinions since they too had received a voucher stating that it would be a ticket to the elusive Gentlebear Dungeon Instance, yet the colour and type of their rewarded ticket seemed totally different from his.

The Pandaren who had completed everything had a symbol of Nian on the voucher and the paper was coated in glossy red. It was not until the developer of the dungeon instances chimed in, stating that it will be a fairly valuable item in the future. At the same time, because its feature had not yet been implemented, Jin decided to change the coding a little and provide the lucky explorer with a lump sum of 300 Panda Bronze Coins to those who had completed the achievements and got the voucher. However, he did indicate that when the feature had been implemented, that additional 300 Panda Coins reward would be removed from the achievement rewards.

Upon hearing that there was a free 300 Panda Coins to be earnt, this news spread like wildfire. It was uncommon for Jin to be generous to give free coins since this was after all a business to be made. So most of the Pandarens agreed that such a feature had to be abused as quickly as possible. Even the Pandawans wanted the coins (although for the case for Xiong Da, he wanted the achievements.) and decided to band together to clear these exploratory achievements.

What they did not expect was that the achievement actually differed for the groups that entered and there was a permutation of five different sets of tasks, ranging from assisting the NPCs in the Nian Island Village to the top of the volcano island without any chi. While the former might sound like minor side quests, they were actually a mini game to 'improve the relationship' between the islanders and the Pandawans. It was like a dating simulation game where they had to earn the hearts of the NPCs so that they would gift them an item that would count for the exploratory achievement. So even as most people wished to quickly clear the achievements and get those 300 coins they ended up vastly underestimating the amount of hard work they had to put in.

As for that completionist Pandaren, he had initially wanted to keep quiet about the requirement for achieving those exploratory achievements, but faced with the allure of a monetary donation from a well known Pandawan, he decided to put out all the information he could as best as he could.

As people realised that the tasks were random to a certain portion, his input amounted to only one tenth of an actual completion guide. (Quite ironic for a completionist!) Still, some groups benefited since those advice that he wrote was useful to those who received the same tasks as him.

And because of this particular revisit to this dungeon, Jin once again saw an increase in the number of Pandarens joining the Nian Islands, both new and old customers, buying him some time to prepare for the Demopolis City Raids. While he was going to break Demopolis City into pieces with a hard reset, it meant that it was a showdown against those who opposed the current government. Going forward, rumours had been spread by Tsu and Kai's internal affairs department claiming that there would be a major crackdown against the mafias. This caused the mafia to hunker down further after the confirmation had been made that no one was allowed to leave the borders.

This, unfortunately, caused panic to the entire city population until an official royal decree had been sent that the Demon Citizens who were clear of their 'sins' would be moved to the Pandapolis as a temporary measure to avoid the fights. Shelters, food and even compensation would be given to those who would comply with the order.

In addition, those who confessed their sins on the spot would be given two choices. To serve their time to make up for the sins they did and be compensated when they were done or return to the city for the ultimate showdown. As most of the citizens had already seen how the King had managed to get the truth out of his corrupted politicians, they knew better than to try and get away with anything and understood the severity of this deep cleansing of the city.

To ensure they would be taken seriously Kraft had taken the initiative to construct a special statue and had placed it in the middle of the city. It was reminiscent of Atlas who was carrying the burden of the world on his shoulders, only that it looked awfully similar to a certain Mafia Boss. Additionally, the round sphere acted as a large countdown timer until the raid would start.

Some of the Mafia Bosses had not bothered to wait and had already started terrorising the police stations, which in turn became a boon to the current government. The terror attacks were widely advertised and this instilled fear in the citizens as they saw the patrol officers had been shaped up to capture those mafia members who had caused trouble. This indeed spurred the good serving citizens to head for the border immigration where it was now the heaviest guarded area in case of surprise attacks.

But with the System around, most of these wannabe perpetrators were captured before anything bad could happen.

While Demopolis was spiralling down into chaos, other cities were cautiously looking at them and the biggest spectator of them all was the Church of the Afterlife. They were extremely curious and delighted that those people that could cause trouble to them were killing themselves inside out.

They even cautioned the surrounding cities to not interfere with their meddling and once their Dungeon Core got switched to a new owner, they were welcome to feast upon it. However, those were merely some... words of advice. Those cities could do whatever they want and some of the greedy city leaders mistook this for a perfect time to wipe the demon capital out from the face of their map.

After the countless times Demopolis had raided the human cities for loot and resources, who could blame them for looking forward to their neighbours' downfall?.

Yet in hindsight, those Church Agents would realise that their actions were the snowball that would get out of control and bury everything underneath. For this turn of events could be the mark of the new Demopolis, and one of the cities that would cause the biggest threat to the Church in the near future...

Chapter 1042 - Extra- The Surge in Customers

"The citizens are moving according to the schedule. 17.6% left to finish the reallocation of the Demon Citizens." The System reported to Jin as he yawned once again going over the finishing touches to the Demopolis City Raids. In the meantime, Kiyu had, as always, worked wonders in the PR department. She had strongly hinted to the Pandarens that there would be another Raid incoming.

While the revisiting of the Nian Islands had everyone pumped up to get the free Panda Coins, Jin understood that there needed to be new content for him to continue to entice his Pandarens and their wallets.

Because of the Chinese New Year Holidays, he had thought he would be seeing a drop in customers, but boy was he wrong. Visitors from other provinces and cities had heard about these miraculous Tree Mall and took the chance to visit it.

Not to mention, it was one of the main attractions that the Shenzhen government had been advertising ever since a few officials realised that it was raking in money crazily during the Christmas period. With the advent of the Tree Mall, the Shenzhen Tourism Board had enjoyed an increase in hotel stays around the area and had decided to exploit that to the fullest. By advertising the Tree Mall, it inadvertently promoted Jin's Dungeons since it was one of the main attractions of that mall.

However, something was wrong.

Despite the increased travels to the Tree Malls based on statistics and town wide camera monitoring was astoundingly high that the surrounding hotels' stays remained just fully booked and not overbooked. The tourism officials did not understand the numbers since the people going into the Tree Mall and the people staying around the area were disproportionate.

As such the officials decided to take a closer look by going to the Tree Mall itself to learn more about it. When they arrived, they noticed that the Tree Mall itself was fully occupied both inside and outside. Aside from the customary Chinese New Year decorations being placed on the Tree itself, it appeared that Jin had created mini treetop pavilions for cultivators to rest, eat and even study. The only requirement was to keep the place clean. Any acts of vandalism and those ignoring the only requirement would be harshly dealt with.

This made the Tree Mall look as if it was an art of work with little tiny 'humans' within the vicinity relaxing and chatting with friends. But this was not the main point for the officials as they searched the area to find there were no illegal squatters within these pavilions.

Only after a foreign couple was wheeling their luggage out from the Dungeons and Panda did they find out the real reason for their missing numbers. (Obviously, those officials were undercover agents and they were posing as curious couples.)

"Huh? Don't you know about the Hotel Pandastic in the Dungeon Store?" The male foreigner asked them in fluent Chinese. "I never thought Dimension Technology could go this far and this totally blows my mind! Won't hesitate to come here again, right dear?"

"The food and shopping! And all the tax rebates are instant! If we have more time, we would stay here and try more than just one dungeon." His companion said as they gave more information to the undercover tourist officials.

"I overheard you are looking for Hotel Pandastic?" Yun was behind them as she asked the question, giving them a slight shock. Those officials themselves were also cultivators but to have somebody emerging behind them without any noise was something they were not accustomed to. "Let me guess, officers?" Yun asked as she scanned them from top to toe with her eyes in a glance.

The duo officers who were posing as a couple decided to feign their ignorance but Yun pointed at the bulge in the male's pocket and there was a card there that was partially revealed. Seeing that Yun had noticed them, they showed their badges saying that they were merely tourism officers who had been tasked by their superiors to look around and hopefully discover the root of the problem.

Yun chuckled lightly and told them that she had been expecting them causing the officers to be taken aback by such revelation. "Don't you worry about it. Let's just say you are not the first group to come here to check us out. There are other hotels and business spies who have come to take a peek at their competition. So, we figured that sooner or later, the official government agents would come to take a look too. Thus, I apologise for thinking that you were another group of our competitors and decided to confront you head on." Yun bowed her head with some courtesy.

"But upon noticing that badge there, I figured you are officers," Yun explained to them the current predicament they were facing. While Jin had closed the entire Pandapolis, he had already opened Hotel Pandastic, the hotel which hosted the Royal Zodiac Snake soldiers before the big epic battle against the Demons.

While this might sound a tad ironic given that the Demon Citizens were moving into Pandapolis, Jin needed more money to feed the Demon Citizens. Sure, he might have gotten some funds from Claire

after her flip in Black Market stock investments but he still needed it as a sort of war fund against the rats.

Thus, he had opened the series of hotel chains including Hotel Pandastic to get more moolah from his customers. It also provided an avenue for the Demon Citizens to work so long as they signed the System's Contract. This enabled Jin to tap on skilled labour while allowing these Demon Citizens to learn more about the tourism industry.

Naturally, the animal folks from the Giant World had been put in charge of serving the Pandarens, but honestly, they could not have done anything much without the assistance from the Demon Citizens who had settled early. Jin had purposely liaised with Rex to get the jobless Demons in first so that he could rope them into this opportunity. And some of the friendlier Demons with less or no prejudice against humans were able to serve the frontline.

However, there was no doubt in Yun's mind that these officers won't believe their eyes when she shows them around and she was already looking forward to it.

Chapter 1043 - Extra -The Surge In Customers -Part 2

When the Tourism Agency Officers were confronted with the potential of Hotel Pandastic and Jin's other chains of hotels, they were flabbergasted. While there were matters of Dimensional Technology and the dangers of it, Yun was convincing enough in guaranteeing them that it would not cause any issues.

"We've naturally already applied for Hotel licenses and it has been approved a week ago. Feel free to check in the database if you wish and get back to us if required." Yun offered. Despite it technically being a Dungeon Instance, Jin had made sure to acquire the certification to house people to avoid any problems. And while the Tourism Officers were a little sceptical, it was undoubtedly an opportunity for them to promote the Tree Mall even further, providing a unique point for their own campaign.

While the Tourism Board should have known and been informed about such new hotels coming out, Yun apologised on Jin's behalf. "After all, these dungeon instances are one of a kind and there was really no way you could have known unless you visited us personally or through our Pandamonium App."

And what Yun said was true.

Most of the advertising had been through word of mouth. While there was the 'Great Firewall' in place to not allow foreigners to access their products, it did not mean that Jin kept his handy app to national borders. With the rising popularity of Kiyu, they had engineered a version of the Pandamonium App outside of China, leading to the arrival of a good portion of foreigners.

While they could not enjoy the dungeon features outside of China (at least not yet), the Pandamonium App itself had quite a number of nifty features (like the message boards which automatically got translated to their respective languages, or more importantly Pandaflix with subtitles), it had managed to entice those Dungeon Instance Enthusiasts around the world.

Despite the restrictions when it came to weapons, Jin's shop had guaranteed that most of such weapons could not work unless they were in a dungeon instance. Immigration Customs Officials were nearly baffled when they found out that such weapons existed and confronted Jin's employees.

Unfortunately, they were indeed within their immigration guidelines and the System had ensured that the weapons and armour sold online followed the customer's respective guidelines too. But because of the portability and availability, most of the prices ended up tripled or quadrupled. Some were even in a so-called Panda Auction house where certain grade 2 weapons were considered a rarity.

It did not take long for people to appreciate the quality of weapons that Jin and the System were selling for the Dungeon Instances and the sales were hot enough to warrant interest by the international community to visit Jin. For example, the Fire Shamans from Germany had advertised their recommendations to their club members and through the word of mouth, a number of high school students were solely based on their recommendations to check this Dungeon Supplier out.

And with the advent of the Hotel Pandastic which gave a 20% discount to those who had bought Jin's items before, the bookings for the hotel had been selling like hotcakes. It was not precisely a well known travel location but to the Dungeon Instance enthusiasts, it had slowly become a name for itself.

Even when Jin was not looking at his shop, the effort he had placed on it previously had started to take root. He, however, had overlooked that Yun had been actively looking after it ever since Jin got too busy handling the other world issues. While she disliked taking over his responsibilities, she understood that he was busy getting those worlds up just for his shop. So, as an employee, Yun had also utilised the Demon Exorcists once under Grandma Yuan to find contacts and introduce people to the shop.

Also, an interesting tidbit on the delivery portion. Even though the Pandamonium App had been charging exorbitant shipping fees and immigration costs, only the first few weapons that went on sale had gone through the proper channels. Afterwards, the System had already analysed the immigration processes and went ahead to 'approve' the sales themselves and quality checked before sending to their customers. Thus, the usual waiting time, stock availability and shipping time was based on how much they were willing to pay for it.

If the User deemed to have taken the most luxurious option to purchase the item, the System ensured that its 'shipping time' would be cut short extremely by sending out its Pandafull Delivery agents via a portal and to their place within 2-3 working days. But assuming customers chose free shipping options, the System would purposely backlog their orders until a delivery agent was available or if an express shipping customer were within the vicinity.

In short, the power of money made the System produce faster. And one would wonder why the System always complained there was a lack of processing capabilities. This was one of the smaller details that the System had assimilated with Yun's help. (Even though Yun was part of the System, she would obviously say that this was her idea and not the System's.)

Going back to the Tourism Officers, they subsequently realised that their Boss had immediately approved their tourist advertisement for the Tree Mall mainly because of the influence of one very special man.

Kong Rong.

While his unique team of special agents had already taken the responsibility to protect the Royal Zodiac Panda Clan with its inception during the New Year, they were not meant to take care of Jin from just the physical dangers of other clans, but economically as well.

Yet, Jin and Yun had felt it was a tad unnecessary, Kong Rong would definitely give the excuse that he was doing it as a part of being a Senior Panda Executive. With the Dragon Clan influence stretching to all parts of China, it was no surprise that he was advocating the Tree Mall as part of the economic protection for the Royal Zodiac Panda Clan.

However, that did not mean he did not encounter resistance from his family or peers. The rise of the rumoured thirteenth Royal Zodiac Clan brought tensions up to an all time high as new alliances were forged behind the Dragon's back. And even though all these foreshadowed backstabs were already taken into account by Kong Rong's 'Panda Protection' Team, Kong Rong knew that Jin would still ultimately come out as the victor if he played his cards right.

Similar to the Dungeon World's newbie protection barrier, there was a time limit to everything that Kong Rong could do. If he were to base his word of protection on ancient laws, Kong Rong's grandmother said that the entirety of the Dragon Clan could only grudgingly assist the Panda Clan up to six months before they had to let go. To most clans and even the Royal Zodiacs, six months was a very short period of time.

Kong Rong understood that six months was a luxury that even the Dragon Clan might not be able to afford with the current volatile situation of a budding new Royal Zodiac approved by the Godly Representative. Yet to Jin, each extra waking day counted until the end of his protection and he was already doing his best to do whatever he needed to not just protect himself, but to guarantee his shop would rise to become the number one dungeon supplier shop!

Chapter 1044 - Extra- Raking Couples' Money

"It's done. It's finally done...." Jin heaved out a heavy sigh of relief as he lied back on his chair, slouching as much as his body could possibly handle. His eyes were white and if one could detect spirits, they might see Jin's spiritual form flying out of his own mouth.

However, the System was not willing to let him go just yet. No matter how tired he was, the show still had to go on and the next thing on the agenda was the Demopolis City Raids.

"Well done, Master. You did take quite a while with this one." Kraft berated him as he took the opportunity to spin Jin's chair, causing him to slip out from it and nearly fall flat on the ground.

"The System had too many backend processes that it took almost forever to make sure that it's in sync with the Demopolis Dungeon Core," Jin said as he merely leaned onto the Dungeon Console Maker and started yawning, causing Kraft to instinctively move aside, in case Jin would try to take revenge by shooting Panda Yawning at him.

"Even I have to be aware of your yawns. You can be a very dangerous cultivator, Jin." Kraft pointed out and this time Jin was the one smirking.

"Somehow I feel like after suffering through all of this constant admin work, I might have gained enough experience to reach the next grade." Jin mentioned jokingly but Kraft took it at heart and started to check if there were any real gradual changes happening to Jin.

At least for now, his aura still felt the same.

"I bet you cannot see the difference, eh?" Jin smiled as if he was hiding yet another trump card from Kraft and the Devil Fox enjoyed the excitement. Be it just a bluff, Kraft wouldn't mind a duel with Jin to fully explore the powers of his new grade.

However, Jin was not lying. During this stretch of creating the Demopolis City Raids, he had to go through a series of super time compression sleeps in order to keep to the datelines he set for himself. In fact, it was actually Kiyu who had sabotaged him by releasing a random date at the end of February during the trailer for the Demopolis City Raids.

And that caused a great frenzy for Jin mainly because of another event that most Dungeon Suppliers would have neglected because they felt it was not necessary for them to even participate. And that was Valentine's Day. While Jin did not exactly create a brand new dungeon for Valentine's day because of the lack of time, he did digress his usual work to catch this opportunity to earn some extra money.

Furthermore, that required the help of Lynn since the food and beverage industry was one of the major business players when it comes to the festival of love. Even though Lynn had to juggle between the promise of improving the Cultivation Zoo and handling her daily work, she actually had adequate experience for this particular day from her past job. So much so that she did not mind being one of the lead planners to aid Jin in earning money.

From creating a Pandastic Hotel Valentine Package to arranging a one-on-one date with your precious partner, she had already used all the shrewd techniques she had once learnt from her former sensei to take advantage of the current situation.

As for her own love life, Lynn knew that it was a little hard to catch Jin's attention at the moment since he was swarmed with self imposed deadlines and many other issues to handle. Still, that did not mean she had not attempted to hint to Jin at her own desire for a date with a certain dungeon supplier.

Sadly, nothing happened between them as Jin was locked in a perpetual state of busyness which even the System could not deny the amount of workload to make sure that the Demopolis citizens were well taken care of while ensuring the eventual raid would have a high chance of success.

Ultimately, Lynn managed to get Jin to reward her with a pricey dinner outside of the dungeon store because of the work she had done for him. (Which was actually quite tremendous, considering the amount of profits being raked in on that particular week.)

Infamous Hippo Pandawan Xiong Da and Egret Pandawan Ruo Ying had taken the priciest of all packages and did not regret a single bit. They received a one night staycation which covered essentially everything which made Xiong Da feel like he was on a holiday without even thinking too much. (Well, that was the purpose of the itinerary.)

Checking in from noon, they found out that the Store Instance had been heavily revamped to portray Valentine's Day mood. From all sizes of Cupid Panda flying around the shop instance to a secluded

panda couple getting lucky in the Bamboo Forests, it was tolerable for singles who still wanted to continue their dungeoneering experience.

Not only that, Xiong Da and Ruo Ying had activities all day long such as a mini game roulette in the WunderPanda Theme Park and an exclusive Restaurant Train Trip around a few selected islands in the Open World Instance. (Although they had no idea it was going to be open to them in the future when the Virtual Reality Network comes online.)

After which, a dinner within the Restaurant Train itself with the beauty of Aurora lights shining under them. Even though they knew it was just a Dungeon Instance, the realism of it was still something to behold. And not to mention, a special couple spa session by the Panda Masseur from the Emerald Mountain Hot Spring Instance before leaving them some privacy in Hotel Pandastic's most luxurious suites.

And to top it off, Xiong Da was bestowed with a bouquet of purple shaded roses with a unique set of Panda Cupid plushies to seal the deal for the night. Even though it might seem a little too simple, the amount of organisation the System and Lynn had to deal with was a nightmare. Moreover, Jin knew that too well so his promise to bring Lynn out for dinner had been a must.

But for now, it had to deal with the Mafias.

Chapter 1045 - The Shadow Kings

"My Lord, The Home Guard are ready," Vault reported as he entered the coveted Dungeon Maker War Room which once housed the War Room against the Demons. Rex nodded his head, but in reality, he was just here as a spectator or at most an advisor. After all, the coordinator for this particular raid was someone else.

Kraft. (Also known as The Bubbling Social Media Director / Bodyguard / Most Awesome Original Bellator / Ultimate Fox Lover / Cyber Hacker / Counter Intelligence Agent - at the rate his title was going, there would eventually be no space for a hand palm sized name card.)

Apart from the usual suspects such as Moloch, Nubwort and Qiu Yue, the entirety of the Fox Bellators were also present in the War Room. Last but not least, Jin who was at the side sitting on a chair with his legs crossed was giving his Devil Bellator the limelight since he had asked the Devil Fox to help with the raid. To mark the occasion Kraft had even changed into an attire making him look eerily similar to a military dictator. (He even wanted Jin to call him El Presidente)

While their initial plan had been to cleanse the internal menace within the City of Demopolis, the situation had changed after they had decided to use this opportunity to relocate the citizens into Pandapolis. In fact, it was a rather successful shift since Pandapolis had been unoccupied and now Demon Citizens of all classes enjoyed a comfortable place to rest.

At the same time, the System also took the opportunity to deep scan each and every citizen that had immigrated into the Pandapolis. It did not take control of them directly but rather, scoured deep into their past memories invasively through a high level mind control spell. Most were unable to resist such a

spell being cast onto them but there were a few who were wary about it and did attempt to fight against it.

Whenever that had occurred, Pei had been summoned to handle such cases but those outliers had not even crossed into the triple digits, which indicated that their level of spell casting was not as mighty as Jin had thought them to be. Rather, they had relied a lot on brute strength and numbers to overcome their enemies. If not for Pandapolis intensive preparations to deal with their manpower in the first place, as well as their cheat-like ability to convert enemies into friends, Jin believed that they might not have won against them.

During the immigration process, Demon Citizens who had confessed their affiliations with the Mafia and wished to start anew were given plenty of chances to make up for their mistakes. They were still given jobs like working under the Hotel Pandastic or the other entertainment chains under Jin and they received a roof under their heads for the night. Similar to the other citizens, they had been given a stable wage and food to eat.

Unfortunately, not many were that honest during the process and the System was able to find all the hidden 'moles' related to the Mafias. Unlike those who had confessed beforehand, they were punished for hiding the truth and were sent to the labour camps aka the Giant World under a heavy military escort to pick herbs and vegetables for Lynn's Kitchen.

Yet, they were still given a shared 'luxurious' prison space within the Pandapolis as well as a hefty three meals and a short thirty minute break for the entire day. Compared to the eternal 'Paradise' of Demopolis, some of those moles started to change and repent for the better when they learned how their fellow counterparts were doing in this new city.

Separately, the rest of the Mafia groups had stayed behind and fortified their position. Since the normal goody two shoes citizens had left for Pandapolis, the Mafia groups quickly took over a large portion of the city in order to have more grounds against the military. They were surprised that the Home Guards did not swoop in and actually gave them time to raid the area and set up more defences.

They had become daring enough to even bring out their weaponries and create makeshift barricades with whatever time they were granted. But as the Demopolis got emptier, the Mafia had started to boldly occupy the area. They began to bring up even more solid defences such as casting shapeshifting spells to create high walls and hijacking homes to create traps as such. Their scouts had seen how well defended the Royal Palace was, especially now that their soldiers were armed with ranged projectiles that could bring them down easily.

A few groups of separate Mafia members tried their luck but none of them ever made it back to their bases. Instead, they were riddled with bullet holes and being hung right in front of the Royal Palace as a sign stating not to 'f.u.c.k with the King'. This enraged the Mafia groups even further and caused them to set up their own territory even further to the point that all the Mafia groups had agreed to have a temporary truce among each other and weathered the storm that was coming.

Ironically, by doing just as he had expected they were all playing right in Kraft's hands.

Now that the districts outside the Royal Palace had been taken over by Mafia groups, the Shadow Kings within the depths of Demopolis had also entered the picture. Kraft and Rex had been waiting for the

three Shadow Kings that controlled the major mafia groups within Demopolis to feel safe or greedy enough to attempt to take over.

The Eld Enclave, The Atrocity and Tyr Gauntlets.

Although each Mafia group might have a name of their own, at the end of the day, they would merely be a subsidiary of one of the top three factions. Each had a mix of fighters and mages, but all had their own specialities. The Eld Enclaves specialised in dark magic and in particular Old World Magic. The Atrocity relied on brute strength and their members never gave any thought about killing their opponents in cold blood. As for the Tyr Gauntlets, they were a little more special.

One could say that the Tyr Gauntlets were something similar to the defender of the wicked. Ex soldiers, police and even rescue workers worked under Tyr Gauntlets because they had grown sick of the Nobility and their inability to serve the community.

Their numbers were considerably smaller than the other two Mafia factions but one Tyr Gauntlet member could match to a couple of Eld Enclaves and Atrocity members. Their sense of justice was a little twisted, basically all vigilantes, and they were always against the other two Mafia groups. That was also the reason why they had gained traction and popularity especially among the poor.

Years of infighting had caused them to harbour a deep feud against each other and the decadence of King Baal's greed for power had made their fight even more intense. It was mainly because Kiva had funnelled a lot of money into them in order to control the public as well as the nobles for his own benefit. Not many Demopolis Citizens could survive on a decent honest job and it was because of Kiva's fault. (But fear not, justice had been served ever since he had been placed under Ayse's command.)

With the arrival of the New King, the three Shadow Kings had been thinking how to win over Rex's favour since their liaison with Kiva had disappeared. Unfortunately for them, ever since the act of executing and jailing the corrupted nobles, they knew that this king could be hard to deal with. Yet it was the death of a minor Mafia Boss, and subsequently Kraft turning him into a piece of art, that had confirmed the new King's intention to annihilate them. So for the first time in history, all three Mafia had unanimously grouped up against a common threat.

The Royal Crown.

Chapter 1046 - Getting Hyped for the Demopolis Raids

While the Mafias had been shoring up defences in their territories, Jin's side had been doing the same. Kiyu's advertisement had been on point, garnering a high volume of responses by cleverly displaying how the new City Raid would work. Whereas Pandapolis had been all about defending the city to the very last man, Demopolis theme would be 'search and destroy'.

Kiyu had hyped it up to be one of the most dynamic raids ever, only second to the Pandapolis raid. With an entire city as their battlefield to fight, the urban landscape was theirs to destroy as they pleased. However, the objectives remained distinctively clear.

One – Search the city for any Mafia members to apprehend them.

Killing them was also a valid choice, yet capturing them alive would grant the Pandarens double the raid points. Escorting them to the police station might prove to be a hassle, yet the point difference was quite potent, especially for the higher value targets. (Mafia Boss Cold Stone had given them enough intel to make out the higher echelons of the three major Mafia factions.) Why Jin placed the capture first and kill later is mainly because capturing is a harder thing to do than killing. Hauling a demon alive would take a lot more work than letting them die on the floor meaninglessly.

Two – Save as many townsfolk as possible. Points wise, this offered most points for completing this task. One could render a person unconscious and capture someone, but escorting an innocent to the backlines safely? That would take more than just coordination from the team, the effort placed to rescue a kid or even an elderly was significantly more dangerous than capturing someone alive.

Also with the tweak from the System the visors were now colour coded to display IFF (Identification friend or foe), the Mafia groups who had been openly fortifying their defences had provided the surveillance goblin tech team with the information needed to tag the enemies. Still, it was not entirely a foolproof system and if necessary, the System would state a question mark in the visors for those not within its database, hence why Jin advocated capture over kill on sight.

The Pandarens praised this as just a part of the added realism of the raid. Unfortunately, saving townsfolk would not be an easy task as the Mafia members would be gunning down anyone not part of any of their factions. However, this could be overcome with the battle perks which would be explained later.

Three – Collect the rescued townsfolk possessions.

Each of the Pandarens would be given a standard storage ring meant to collect the Demon Citizens' valuables. From dungeon dollars to art decorations. With the exception of big furniture, everything could be collected even pets that were left behind as long as the storage ring had sufficient space in them. Else, they had to return to the police stations or outposts set up by the Demopolis Police to swap the rings for new ones.

With the objectives of the City Raids being straightforward this time around, Kiyu had also announced the use of the Demopolis points to redeem items such as the latest iterations of exclusive plushies as well as all the new cosmetic weapon inscriptions that could be used as glamour for their dull looking weapons. As the theme was Demopolis, the cosmetic weapon inscriptions were slightly demonic and would remain exclusive for the moment. (Eventually, they would be added to the possible price pool in the shop of Lynn's father)

Not to mention, the Demopolis points could also now be used to redeem other items that were previously locked since Jin had decided to make the raids seasonal. Nevertheless, those past raid items had their prices increased in order to give those who had played before the feeling of achieving something.

For Pandarens who had coins or points from the past raids, they could be used in conjunction with the Demopolis Raid Points, resulting in a slight discount compared to those who bought the past seasonal items with just Demopolis Raid Points. Else they could convert all of them into Demopolis Points.

Naturally, the conversion would be subpar and Jin had also placed a disclaimer that the past raids could possibly return, rendering their current coins and points valid once again.

The change in the redemption system brought many smiles to both new and old Pandarens as they started chatting while setting groups within the New Panda Airport. As the Nian Instances were still ongoing till the end of the month, Jin did not wish to crowd the area too much and had suggested using the New Panda Airport as the rendezvous point. On the plus side, it was easier and more cost effective to teleport the Pandarens via the planes than teleporting each and every one of them individually into Demopolis.

Thus, Pandarens and Pandawans were recommended to create groups of eight and await further instructions via their Pandamonium App. Once they had formed into their respective groups and everyone had bought the Demopolis Pass, the app would give them their electronic ticket to participate in the raid. Like an electronic air ticket, a gate number was shown on their Pandamonium App where they were supposed to depart.

"First come, first serve!" The Panda Attendant loudly announced before allowing the groups of eight to board the planes and choose their own rooms. Unlike a standard travel aeroplane, the modified C-130 planes had been revamped for the teams to have their own rooms so that they could convene for a group meeting before the major sortie.

Once the previously agreed upon team leader enters, they would get to choose which 'room' they wished to occupy. In reality, not only was it similar to the cruise ship of the Nian Island, all their room settings had been imported the moment they chose a section of the plane to convene with a slight alteration in theme.

These compartmentalisations had been convenient not just for the users but for the System too. To top it off, the System was earning money for being cost effective in its partition of the rooms. To the System, it was merely coded data into physical items and the storing of the Pandarens' belongings. But such ease of convenience became a necessity for the Pandarens and many started to realise that it was a goal to reach or get when they found out that their rooms could be imported before the raid as advertised.

It became more important for the revered team of Pandawans who had started to find this store as their second home. (or third for some.) While it was true that this store was draining their money on a constant basis, there was this pull factor that would always make them come back for another fight even though they started to feel a sort of stagnation in their grades.

Naturally, this raid had attracted some of the prominent Pandawans.

Bin Yong, the Bombardier Beetle Cultivator who specialised in Sword and Buckler.

Jia Le, the Breathtaking Bellflower Cultivator who used Kunai and used her magical cultivation.

Shi Zuo, the Mad Monkey Cultivator who used Axes of various sizes.

Luo Bo, the Illusive Rabbit Cultivator who has Bow Arts that wowed the crowd previously.

Xiong Da, the Hungry Hippo Cultivator, the crowd's favourite and his jaw breaking War Club was nothing to be scoffed at.

Ruo Ying, the Esthetic Egret Cultivator who used her chains elegantly and had always kept up her support for Xiong Da's daring attacks

There were two other Pandarens that had joined them to form a team of eight because they finally had the time off from their busy work schedule. They were none other than Lee An, the Yondering Yak Cultivator that utilised Knuckle Knives and Xue Ping, the Prancing Puma Cultivator with her Power Fists.

But of course, all of the members of this 'All Stars Team' brought a number of weapons in their storage rings despite their weapon specialisations. After their experience fighting the Demon Army led by King Baal, they had acknowledged the need to get creative to survive and this had led them to over prepare for this raid.

From emergency medical kits to snack sized chi potions that could refresh their chi on the fly. Not to mention, the entire group of eight had enjoyed a hearty breakfast in Lynn's restaurant to buff themselves up before the raid. They were not taking any chances as they understood that this could be a protracted raid from the sounds of Kiyu's advertising.

They aimed to be the number one team in terms of points and get ALL THE PLUSHIES!!!

Chapter 1047 - The Crowd!

"It's quite a surprise the police gave its top detectives some time off." Bin Yong said as he showed the Panda Flight Attendant his electronic ticket, verifying his participation for the Demopolis Raid as well as the appointed de facto team leader for this particular All Star team.

"We're merely here to spend our vouchers that Jin had offered us as part of the contract to keep us in shape. To be frank, this particular raid had raised quite a number of eyebrows from the policemen and women in the station." Xue Ping replied as she raised her phone with the Pandamonium app on for identification purposes.

"Is it because the trailer mentioned we would be fighting against some demonic Mafia monsters?" Luo Bo questioned and Xue Ping nodded her head.

"While we know that Jin's dungeons are mostly fantasy based, there are still quite a fair bit of tactics the monsters deploy against cultivators that are rather original. Although it is a bit far fetched in the real world, it can't hurt to learn something from it and draw inspiration from it." Xue Ping explained.

"Bah, what nonsense. Although Police Captain Pai Huo might claim this could be a good exercise, you just wanted to fight and work off some steam by smacking some monsters." Lee An, her husband, waved off all the previously mentioned logic of his wife.

Xue Ping did not hesitate to pull his ear and reminded him to concentrate for they were here to explore whether it would indeed be good for the rest of the police staff in the Tiangong Police Station to take part in this raid.

"I guess it can't hurt to try it out. We saw the trailers that this is set in the urban city. Compared to the Pandapolis raid, which happened to be at the outskirts of a city and later chaos within the city, this

seemed to be really concentrated in an urban landscape." Shi Zuo remarked as he adjusted his bag and entered through the security gates after showing his identification.

"Yeah. The Deep One Escape City is madness for a one team dungeon instance and this seems to be an improvement over it." Luo Bo still felt sour that so far they had been unable to complete the Deep One Escape City Dungeon Instance. In fact, so far nobody had managed to fully clear that dungeon and the Pandawans had come up with a theory that it could possibly be a 'marathon' kind of dungeoneering rather than a find the objective and rush to it.

Bin Yong and his team had tried a dozen more times but they had failed to replicate their first 'complete' run. It was as if it had just been a fluke or the AI within the dungeon instance had gotten less complacent with their team at that point of time. When they heard that Demopolis Raid featured an entire city that is equivalent to three major districts worth of streets, they knew that this raid could not be finished in a single day.

The previous Pandapolis Raid had already felt like a week long, so they imagined this one might turn into months long. In actual fact, the Pandapolis Raid had only lasted around two Dungeon World days and the System, as usual, had purposely recreated the scenes and played them on repeat for a week after the actual one. It was not so different from what it had done for the Goblin Wars as well as the Salamander Lord Castle Raid.

Still, everyone who had been to Jin's dungeon store long enough would know that the first iteration would always be the most unique one, as if it was to give the early bird cultivators the special privilege of testing it out, although some just claimed that it was to calibrate the difficulty level. Whatever the case, this was no exception with the fact that both Jin and his minions had indeed anticipated this fight to be a very protracted one in order to save System resources while earning money.

However, the Foxes begged to differ. According to them it would last less than a week, seeing how the crowd for the new Demopolis raid had grown quite immense. There were estimated to be nearly two thousand cultivators within Jin's store instance, all camping to try out the new fight. It was all thanks to the Shenzhen's Tourism Board as well as his new 'pals' from the Royal Zodiac Snake Battalion. But if the System were to analyse the crowd properly, it would be entirely another reason.

While higher echelons of the Royal Zodiac Tiger Clan were at odds with Jin, it did not mean that everyone associated with their clans hated him. Some even admired his show of strength on the first day of the Chinese New Year. The news of him being the newest Royal Zodiac Panda Clan leader had reached to the ears of various leaders and had made them very curious about this unique dungeon supplier.

From the Royal Zodiac Clans to minor clans as well as military and police leaders, all had sent out their lackeys to observe this particular event. They knew that Jin might not exactly be directly involved in the event but the rumours of a rising leader because of his dungeon store had made people interested in the features of his dungeon supplier store.

Although the store instance was already a power blow to their current mindset about dungeon suppliers, the Demopolis Raid instance would be a whole new level and Jin welcomed these people to try their luck and strength in this raid. After all, the Mafia families controlling the city right now were no

ignorant brutes. The fight for the Shadow King titles had been a constant struggle for control and that meant lots of bloodshed as well as the rise of veteran fighters.

If the Demon Army was considered a menace that required Jin to use heavy ordnance to stop them, this would be far harder considering they wished to keep most of the stuff intact. As ironic as it sounded considering that King Rex and Jin were going for a restart in Demopolis City, there was another good reason for this.

Kraft and Kiyu's deep infiltration within the ranks of the Church of the Afterlife had not been for nought. Their 'enslaved' tempered agents had already told them all about the Church's desire in demolishing the Demopolis and this entire fight could possibly be a farce...

But for now, Jin kept his cool and watched on the sidelines as he allowed Kraft to take the stage.

Chapter 1048 - Secret Vouchers in the Achievements

"Welcome to the flight deck of our C130 Modified Plane Series P4ND4. We will be departing shortly to Demopolis and will reach our destination in roughly 30 minutes. In the meantime, please preview the information gathered by our trusty Panda Spy Associates and get ready for a rocky landing. You're not required to put on your seatbelts for this flight as the planes' gravity has been adjusted such that it would fly like a baby in a lullaby rocking bed. Do enjoy the flight and be ready to depart once the green light at your front door blinks." The Plane's intercom clicked twice before deactivating and the sounds of the planes' engine could be heard loudly for a moment before it got muffled by the sound barriers that the plane's interior had raised.

While there was the option of viewing the takeoff through their rooms' miniature portholes room, most of the Pandarens and Pandawans chose not to do so. From previous experiences, it had become clear that they had to get as many points as possible from the start especially when they had the lead. However, that also meant that they would be prone to suffering a heavy blow at the start if they went in too reckless.

What's more, the first Demopolis Raid had been deemed to last at least a week, mainly because Jin had implemented a resurrection procedure for the enemies. He could have done that for all of his raids but this time around, he wanted a more persistent kind of battleground where it would be a battle of attrition more than conquering the territory. (Nobody told his customers that Demopolis was part of the Dungeon World and that resurrection was a fairly common thing even though it did cost money to accelerate the process) That is, however, only to the smaller fries of this entire raid fiasco and limited to locations where the System deemed that the Pandarens aren't getting enough action.

This meant that they had to capture high value targets or complete the objectives as set out by Jin and with the simplicity in the nature of the objectives, they believed there would be some sort of a 'combo' which they could exploit. True enough, Jin did set perks and achievements for meeting the goals of the main objectives. From mere quantitative achievements such as killing 1000+ mafia demons to unique ones such as protecting your fellow teammates and other teams in a scuffle for 30+ minutes.

As the Pandawan Team (which at the moment included the two Police detectives for inclusion's sake) studied the 'research notes', they found out more about the series of achievements that could yield them Panda Coins, Demopolis Points as well as a secret voucher similar to the one that had been given out in the full complete exploration of the Nian Island. Even though few Pandarens had managed to get the voucher, there was actually an NPC that had brought them to a discreet location to show them the details of said voucher.

As much they would want to show it out to the Pandamonium Forums and display it out in full view for the rest to be jealous of, the Panda NPC re emphasised that this feature was not fully implemented and thus requested the Pandarens to sign a non disclosure agreement to ensure that such information was not leaked out prematurely.

Still, each time a Pandaren obtained the voucher. The Panda NPC was able to publish a small portion of a photograph of the said item which made people guess crazily what it was. Some conjured it was a picture of Nian but there were Pandarens who painstakingly tried to compare every detail of Nian with the Dungeon model especially since the cultivators were able to take screenshots with their visors with a quick voice command. They found that while there were striking similarities, yet at the same time it seemed to be a different model.

Some customers tried to find these completionists for an answer but it seemed that the System had enabled certain anti bullying and tracking measures to ensure that these customers were not harassed within the store instance.

Aside from the few who publicly revealed to have vouchers, most of the other completionists were able to keep out of sight of this unique situation. And since there was another of such vouchers available for grabs in the achievement section of the Demopolis Raids, there was a high amount of interest on this particular voucher.

The Nian Island completionist achievement secret voucher might have seemed hard, but this Demopolis Secret Voucher was even more demanding. And yet Boss Jin personally had claimed that it would be worth it because once the feature was released, it would be quite an exclusive item and a sort of keepsake for those who had worked hard for it.

The research notes included not only notes about the rules and rewards, but also a physical map plus a digital map that could be accessed within the groups' main meeting rooms. The map featured a total of 50+ districts of Demopolis and which gangs had occupied them.

The Merchants District was being held by the Atrocity mafia, the Petal District was directly under the command of the Tyr Gauntlets and the Cosmo District was filled with the presence of the Eld Enclave Mafia Family.

For the start of the raid, Jin had limited the choice of each team to one of these three districts, waiting for the first Pandarens and Pandawans to take over these districts before spreading out into the surrounding areas.

The Pandawans decided to go to the Merchants District mainly because they believed the 'brawns' faction were the easiest to deal with compared to the 'brain' or the 'all-rounders'. Not to mention, they were melee cultivators who wanted a good fight too.

The team did think of hitting the weaklings and working their way through while learning more about the battlefield when they saw the monstrosity of details in the map, but Xiong Da disagreed. "Fortune favours the brave and right now, we should set the example for the other Pandarens and set what we intended to do in the first place." With a sweet talker like him, he managed to cement the initial conviction for the rest to take on Atrocity.

Hence, everyone within the Pandawan team agreed to hit hard fast and while finding a place for retreat as time goes by so there would be enough time to recuperate as Jin had now placed a mini cooldown timer for those who were killed in action as part of the new rules. (More would be explained further as the action unfolds but there was a way to get their teammates back and avoid the cooldown period.)

All that was left to do now was to wait for the green light to appear at the top of their meeting room to battle the 'weakest' of the three factions...

Chapter 1049 - Paradrop

"DENNGGGGGGG, DENNGGGGGGGG" That long awaited light bulb finally blinked and sounds were blaring as they were discussing another possible route to run if they were surrounded. If not for the expertise of Lee An and Xue Ping, they would not have considered that many alternatives to their initial plan.

"Yo Pandawans, you guys are up next." A harsh voice could be heard through the metal doors when the light bulb above it remained lit and the alarm had waned. It was then the figure who talked, opened their doors and revealed himself to be Captain Hei.

"Since you are going into such a high risk territory as well as spending money to be in the priority first wave, Boss Jin wanted me to inform you that you will receive assistance for the first five minutes as well as during the paradrop." Captain Hei said as he shook his shoulders a little to release the slight itch of the battle combat vest that he was wearing. The rest of the group were happy to see him as he was a familiar friend and teammate that they could rely on easily.

However, Captain Hei was still strict with his words even though he was merely an NPC. "What are you guys waiting for? Get dressed for the fight!" Captain Hei yelled and bang the door twice, causing everyone to instinctively reply with a 'Yes captain!' while scuffling to their own rooms to get any gear that came to mind at the very last minute.

"Hurry, hurry, hurry! Or else we will fly over the drop zone and you losers will end up fighting boring maggots!" Captain Hei clapped his paws to spur them on to take their things. Although they were not military trained, Captain Hei was imposing those restrictions mainly because their plane was approaching the edge of the Merchants District.

Technically, they could always just fly one more round to accommodate the Pandawans but Jin had insisted that all the cultivators should be treated equally (even though some paid for the priority ticket such as the Pandawan Team.) It was also to ensure that the planes would keep to their schedules as

they still needed to return to pick up the other teams. That way there would be a steady flow of reinforcements to keep the Mafia groups pressured.

"Shi Zuo, let's get going or else Captain Hei is going to leave you behind!" Luo Bo yelled at the door as she made sure that her parachute vest was fastened properly before walking to the unloading bay door.

"Coming! Comingggg!" Shi Zuo called back as he quickly uploaded the details of the plan that the police officers duo had suggested into his Pandamonium App which would later be transmitted to the half mask visors within their team. This latest minor feature was quite impressive in Shi Zuo's opinion. For a supposed store app to be as versatile as this, Shi Zuo had slowly begun to treat Pandamonium as a companion app that was an integral part of Dungeons and Pandas.

Ironically, he had considered it to be quite redundant at first, thinking of it as just another store forcing their sub-par product on their customers, craving to gain some digital presence. He had downloaded it back then simply because it had been a requirement, but boy did he quickly change his mind.

As the store grew within the few months since its inception, it had proven itself to be very responsive with little to no bugs despite Shi Zuo's pet peeve (or rather work compulsion) to try to break it down consistently. In fact, the few bugs he had encountered had been quickly corrected within a day without any need for reporting.

For an app to be this robust could only mean that Jin must have a highly sophisticated tech support. Since Shi Zuo had been there since week one of the store's opening, he suspected that one of Jin's friends or colleagues had to be a powerhouse not to be trifled with and he would love to meet the one in charge...

Yet none of that mattered at that moment, since Luo Bo was shouting rather angrily for her boyfriend to stop dilly dallying.

"Go, Go, Go!" Captain Hei said as he started ushering people out of the plane, never giving any of the Pandawans the chance to catch their breath. The police officers had been the first to pretty much get booted off the plane, as they were trained in combat. (Though that did not mean they were well versed with being kicked out from the plane!)

Luo Bo could not wait for Shi Zuo any longer as she took a bow gun out from her storage ring and used a rope arrow to bind Shi Zuo. Thankfully, there were no piercing arrow claws onto the rope arrow this time around but rather, a glue-like web that sticks to Shi Zuo's hand temporarily.

Infused with her chi, she shamelessly pulled Shi Zuo towards her through the corridor and to the end of the plane despite the onlookers peeking through their main rooms to see how Captain Hei treated the Pandawan ruthlessly. (Some even thought that they were like playthings to the Panda Captain!)

And in order not to be late from the jump and with Hei already ensuring they had used up the maximum amount of delay, Luo Bo was picked up by him and being thrown out of the plane. But ruthless as he may be, it was also one of the reasons why Captain Hei hurried the rest to jump off first so that he could buy Luo Bo and Shi Zuo enough time before jumping out.

Shi Zuo screamed like a little girl, but otherwise maintained most of his focus in adjusting the last few options in the Pandamonium App to ensure the plans and markers would get uploaded. In the

meantime, Luo Bo pulled him closer knowing that he would be too busy minding his own business. Captain Hei was also right beside them and transmitting information to the rest of Team Pandawan.

From above, the city beneath looked extremely vast and sophisticated with the number of low rise buildings. But for now, they seemed to be undetected as they realised that the C130s that brought them here had been covered with either a high tech camouflage capability or a magic spell that enabled stealth.

As such, once they landed they would still have the element of surprise on their side!

Chapter 1050 - A Successful Landing

The Pandawan team might still be complete amateurs when it came to paragliding, but thanks to the assistance of the System through their visors, they were told when to pull their parachutes out. Worst possible case scenario, they would drop flat to the ground if they could not handle the parachute instructions. (And restart all over again since they would be severely handicapped from the long fall if they did not have enough chi to soften their impact.)

Despite the multiple times Bing Yong's group had been paratropping for the raids, the Bombardier Beetle Cultivator never got the hang of it. He was baffled how his girlfriend could enjoy this thrill. He had always dreaded it to the point that one time he had decided to completely forgo the paratropping, instead opting to jump from the plane to kill monsters. That was especially true with the use of his trusty small little buckler infused with chi to make quite a big splash in previous raids (And of course provide entertainment for the other Pandarens watching them doing so.)

But this time around, secrecy was of the utmost importance. If they were able to pull it off, they would have an edge in their upcoming fights. Even the usually loud Xiong Da had agreed that it was quite important this time around.

Jin had provided them with some details on this particular raid like they knew that this particular Mafia faction had many fighters focused on melee combat. Still, the Pandawan team was unaware of how many members or the numbers exactly that awaited them in the Merchants District. Was it a huge gang with an unlimited number of lackeys or a group small but strong enough to topple the standard Pandaren parties.

Hence, to them, stealth was of vital importance prior to scouting.

The airdrop was mostly a success thanks to the stealth inscription they used to descend into a nearby garden. They were similar to the ones used by the C130 plane that brought them to this particular raid instance with the only difference being that the parachutes only benefited from it for a limited time before the inscription powers wore off. That was also the reason why they had agreed to land inside the garden. They could have chosen a higher vantage point to plan their attacks but that would require them to have better coordination as well as some skills to land where they wanted to.

Not to mention, there were guards on certain rooftops and their unskilled landing could become the alarm needed to alert the rest of the Mafia group. The Pandarens might not know it but the Atrocity

Mafia's demon combatants were not to be trifled with when it came to their extra sensory perception. Their training and combat skills honed through daily struggles in their fights to survive in the underworld had made even the most average guards very perceptive, enough to see through stealthy spies landing near them.

And since the Pandawans had no zero ideas or information on their target, the ever cautious officers had decided against risking anything. With the aid of the half mask visor's instructions, they all were able to land safely in the garden's field. Only Bin Yong was uncoordinated enough to land into a bush of flowers but Jia Le managed to help him out, though he did try to hide his embarrassment by taking a bunch of flowers to present to his girlfriend.

To their surprise, there were no guards around the garden while Bin Yong had struggled to come out of the flower bush. Captain Hei ended up being the last to land, skillfully removing his parachute vest, he made it disappear in his storage ring before looking at the group. The Pandawans quickly followed suit as they understood it was best to leave no evidence.

At that moment, Captain Hei raised his head as if to sniff his surroundings for a moment before beckoning them to follow him. With their training in urban police combat, the officers broke the team down further into groups of three with the officers and the Panda Captain in the lead.

This made Captain Hei's job easy as he gave quick, precise commands to the officers to delegate so they were able to keep their presence in the shadows hidden. Under the cover of darkness, they were headed towards a designated checkpoint. While the Demopolis City Raids were placed in the city itself, none of the Mafia members had any idea that the System was technically still in control of the place.

If the System wanted to, it could easily destroy the entire city on a whim. The citizens would be kicked out of the city and be left stateless (or city-less) until the Demopolis had been rebuilt from scratch. However, since both Jin and Rex had sensed a golden opportunity (one to earn money, the other the goodwill of the people), they had utilised the System's ability to arrange special places within the city via the Dungeon Core to create a sort of sanctuaries for the cultivators.

As they had seen in thriller movies, Captain Hei was leading them to a safe house which the System had specifically designated where the Pandarens could rest and reorganise themselves. In addition, those safe houses would act as shops, allowing them to restock and save points for people who had decided they had had enough of the raid.

By paying a fraction of the initial ticket, they would be able to return to the raid once again through those safe houses and even find parties to join if any teams were lacking in teammates and were unable to replenish their numbers. As a service, the System would portal them to the nearest available safe location (in short, out of sight from the Mafias) and allowed such Pandarens to rejoin back with their new teams.

When they reached the safe house, which was in a basement of a secluded alley, they found that the safe house had a checkpoint that Captain Hei emphasised to activate in case they were killed. "Unless you wish to experience the pleasure of going for another ride and parachute drop. Either way, it's your choice. I am done helping you guys for now. At this point, it's all up to you, Pandawans. Time is ticking. Three teams of Pandarens have already started fighting with minor Mafia groups in the outskirts of

Demopolis and the most efficient one has gained 6 points." Captain Hei announced before he informally saluted them and went through a door with the sign "NO ENTRY."

While Team Pandawan was a little disappointed that Captain Hei did not actually join them in a firefight, they were thankful that they had a place to gather their bearings and did a final restock of items within the safe house. It was quite a bit back breaking effort to reach the safe house but in doing so, Captain Hei had already pinpointed to them a few major locations that were swarming with Mafias. This was updated into the digital map Shi Zuo had loaded into their Pandamonium App group chat and into their visors.

After which the restock, Lee An took the first step out of the basement and started to lead the group, only this time they split into teams of four, ready to kill some Mafia demons!