

Dungeon S 1051

Chapter 1051 - Ambush Attack!

"P1 in position." Lee An announced through the secured team chat channel.

"P2 in position too. Get ready for your part." Bin Yong replied, his eyes on a group of Atrocity Mafia demons on the second floor of a derelict building. All of them seemed to be resting and enjoying their off duty status as they had just switched their shift with another group of demon guards who had barely left to patrol around the area.

The Pandawans had been watching this particular guardhouse movement for a short period of time after their information had been verified from one of the goons they extracted information from. Before this, they had managed to subdue a series of small parties of Atrocity Mafia Demons but with quite a bit of difficulty.

They noticed that no matter how they tried to cover themselves up with stealth, they still managed to catch onto their presence. (Xiong Da was unhappy he was being blamed for the cause of it all.) But eventually, the Pandawans found out that they were just that perceptive so they had regrouped and decided to hit one of the main guardhouses which Captain Hei had pointed to them previously. This was also because they hoped that the small groups they hit would not be noticed.

After quietly subduing a guard on duty at the side gates of the opposite building across the guard house by using Jia Le's magical kunais, Bin Yong's team tried their best to enter it without attracting too much attention. Jia Le, Shi Zuo, Xue Ping who were in Bin Yong's team took their positions behind the second floor windows and readied their guns.

"Once Bin Yong's group start, the other guards who had just departed for their guard route should return. Let's make sure they won't be able to interfere." Lee An reiterated their responsibilities as they were the primary strike team of the two groups.

With two heavy hitters such as Xiong Da and Luo Bo in the group, his group would be engaging the patrol that had left the guardhouse a few moments ago. The flashy attack from Bin Yong's team would be the distraction to ensure that there would be no other teams reinforcing the recently disembarked patrol when Lee An's group ambushed them.

"Let's start!" Bin Yong pulled the pin of a grenade and threw it towards the window of the other building. As the metal mini pineapple flew into the room, one of the off duty Atrocity guards instinctively grabbed it since it was flying towards him. He had no idea what it was even though it clearly felt ominously dangerous. Despite his quick reaction to pick it up, that iron pineapple in his hand was already ticking down.

The primer on the grenade had already caused the delayed chemical fuse to move, causing it to ignite the charge within the frag grenade. As it exploded, fragments of metal balls burst out of it lining the off duty Mafia guard with holes in his body. However, he wasn't the only victim. Some nearby guards had approached him to get a better look at what exactly their companion had caught, resulting in them also being hurt by the explosion.

The blast was deafening enough for the recently departed patrol to turn their heads. They saw the smoke coming out of the second floor of their guardhouse, which prompted their leader to move back to the base to check the situation out. It wasn't until he saw a few more metal canisters being lobbed into the guardhouse from the opposite building that he ordered the rest of his team to follow after him.

Those metal canisters had looked as if they were going to fall to the ground but somehow they suddenly started to speed up via a magical propulsion method in midair. They quickly rocketed into the second and third floor of the guardhouse resulting in even more explosions. To make matters worse, the on duty Atrocity guards were so caught up by the first explosion with their perception focused on the higher floors that they did not realise that a few of these canister projectiles were flying into them.

Only the on duty guard captain recognised the threat, the rest barely had time to bring their shields up. As soon as he caught a glimpse of these projectiles, he quickly went ahead to intercept one by attempting to kick it away.

However, that was the worst decision one could make as the canister exploded right when it impacted right beneath his leg, causing him to lose his entire right calf. The guard immediately fell to the ground screaming in pain as the loss of blood was immense right from the get go. The medic of the group tried to cast some healing magic but it would take some time to chant.

In the meantime, his other comrades tried to stop the bleeding by tearing their shirts and using it as a tourniquet to stop the blood from gushing out while some tried to cover the exposed femur by pushing their stained cloth shirts onto it. Simultaneously, a few of the guards shifted their position forward with heavy shields at the front to block any more attacks.

"So this is how a fully armed guard patrol looks like. They seem to have a mix of healers and defenders. Despite their rough look, they seem to be very organised." Lee An commented as he continued to observe the situation. It was very different from the small parties they killed initially. That opening volley had given the Pandawan primary strike team an insight into their makeup of groups, allowing them to learn that even a melee oriented organisation had balanced attack teams.

He realised that those canisters had made a loud commotion which had lost them the chance for an ambush but with the Pandarens already actively fighting in the district, the guard had already been vigilant.

Meanwhile, Bin Yong and the others who had used the canisters were satisfied with the last minute addition to their arsenal found in the safehouse. The rocket propelled grenades, although a cheaper version, were courtesy of Jin's Science Department.

The surprising part was that Kiva had created them as an attempt to curry favour with Ayse. Its intended use had been to save costs for the upcoming war against the Demon Rats in the Farming World, but Kraft who often visited the lady orc had coincidentally seen it and quickly incorporated it into 'his' raid. (Jin rolled his eyes whenever Kraft said that this was his raid.)

In order to create these makeshift RPG canisters, Kiva had first filled a metal can full of explosive powder and added a snippet of booster rocket inscription charm at the back of it. Of course, there had been many revisions until it resulted in the current version which allowed to stack and screw the canisters together for increased mobility or increased explosive power of the RPG canister.

This ingenuity allowed Jin to earn quite a fair bit of profit because it was more or less impossible to recreate this particular booster rocket inscription charm except for Octofussy, Jin's legendary charm inscriber.

But without too much hesitation, Lee An signalled Xiong Da to move forth and intercept the group while Bin Yong and his group continued to throw more RPG canisters before running away deeper into the building they were residing.

Chapter 1052 - Clash With the Guard Patrol

"Chase after them!" A grumpy demon shouted from the highest floor of the guardhouse. The primary Pandawan Strike Team figured him to be the leader of the guards, so Lee An had signalled for Luo Bo and Ruo Ying to test the capabilities of the 'boss' whereas he would follow up with Xiong Da after dealing with the guards outside. They might have lesser firepower but Xiong Da assured his current leader that they would be sufficient against those fools.

While the women had left to go after the Guard Leader's head, Xiong Da had already jumped out from his location and raced to the centre of the patrol team who were preparing themselves against the RPG canisters. Still, as expected from an elite group of Mafia demons, the defenders noticed Xiong Da's presence shortly after he came out even though he did not make any loud blatant charging noise as he would usually do.

Half of them quickly turned their back after slamming their shields to the ground. Since they were resolute enough to stay on the ground with the might exerted by the defenders, the patrol believed it was sufficient to stop the RPG canisters that came their way and rushed to intercept Xiong Da. However, they did not know that these canisters had been charged with not just explosives within the metal can but also chi to double the combustible strength.

It caused their iron shields to burst into pieces when the RPG canisters impacted, injuring some of the healers and guards. This caused a split moment of hesitation for the defenders and that was all Xiong Da needed to intercept them with his large warclubs.

Aye! Two warclubs, one in each hand, slamming through the group's defenders from the front. However, to his surprise, the defenders were able to match the strength of his weapons' slam and that further made him even more elated.

"This is just the beginning!" Xiong Da hyped himself up as he used whatever momentum he had left to turn his body and to deal out another wide slam. Yet, the guards were not there for show as they instantly used the opening the lawyer gave them to counterattack, causing him to fall back from the blows.

Fortunately, he was not alone. Lee An did not waste any more time as he came out with his pistol and began firing earnestly at the guards. While the guards were perceptive enough, all but one evaded Lee An's support fire. A few perished from the headshots and the rest only sustained minor wounds as they shamelessly used their comrade's fallen body as a meat shield to stop the attacks.

Xiong Da quickly recovered from his fall and Lee An diverted his firing support to the edges of the patrol team so that they would not hit the Hippo Cultivator. Still, he noticed that the guards felt that his weapon could be disarmed or less effective at closer combat and thus a few attackers from the patrol team disembark from the main group and were already rushing towards him.

"Tsk, you are just coming to a step closer to death each time you approach me." Lee An thought as he released his off hand to hover it above the knuckle knives he had slotted near his waist. Once the guards entered his range, he used a combination of punches and slashes while switching his pistol to full automatic, allowing him to fire off quick bursts at close quarters.

This time around, the guards were unable to evade despite their extra sensory perception. They never saw it coming that his pistol could be fired in such short intervals. That knowledge came too late though, as they fell to the ground in pain from the direct shots to the chest. Though it was a fairly quick death in the eyes of the police officer, the demon guards felt their pain lasted for an eternity before taking their breath.

In the meantime, Xiong Da had battled with the defenders and a few of their guards but both parties realised that the guards had an advantage in terms of agility. So the Pandawan was quick to forgo his war club for a more direct approach. As the guards rushed to attack him, he did not hesitate to grab them with his hands and grappled two of them to his chest.

At that point, he exerted his chi onto his clothes, causing them to activate and instantly the two guards were killed on the spot. Once the Hippo Cultivator released them, the remaining defenders were shocked to see stab wounds all over their dead companion. They did not know how Xiong Da had done it, but it had become clear that getting too close to him was basically a death sentence.

Sadly, things did not go their way as Xiong Da also activated his boots' inscription charms and sped towards them grabbing another two defenders on each arm before using them as an alternative to war clubs.

He held onto their legs and slammed the two defenders together in a manoeuvre that caused the bodies to splatter right in front of the healers. Seeing that most of their guards and defenders were killed, the healer demons took the right course of action to run away from them but Lee An had no intentions to allow them to regroup with those inside the building.

"It's a good thing these healers take time to work their magic. They thought that their team would be fast enough to kill us and they could focus on healing." Lee An thought to himself as he went towards them but like him, the healers were actually keeping their trump cards.

Poison daggers were brandished at the very last minute but Lee An with the cultivation of the Yondering Yak, quickly activated his skill "Force Step of the Yak." That enabled him to forcefully leap backwards a few metres and avoid the 'surprise' dagger strikes. As part of his counterattack, he raised his gun and dealt reactionary fire to the healers despite the inadequacy to coup with the inertia from his evasive manoeuvres.

Even though the aim was off because of the leap, the distance between the two parties was close to considerably injure the healers, causing them to drop to the ground wrangling in pain. Once Lee An

stabilised himself, he did not hesitate to drop another bullet to each of them, releasing them from their anguish.

With this swift assault, nearly the entire on duty patrol team had been disabled.

Chapter 1053 - Pandawans' New Weapons

Although the alerted patrol guard had been annihilated, this battle was far from over. More Atrocity guards left the guard house before they split up. The bigger group went towards the opposite building where Bin Yong's strike team had unleashed their improvised rockets from while the smaller group went after Xiong Da and Lee An.

With the entire patrol decimated, there had been no one to report the ferocity of the two cultivators so their leader had merely sent a smaller group after them. They assumed that Bin Yong and the others had been the ones to kill off the patrol outside, leaving two of their comrades out in the streets.

"Wow, I thought we were falling behind badly but it seems that these guards are actually worth quite a fair bit of points. Too bad we don't have the time to apprehend them properly." Lee An lamented as he took a look at his Monkey Emporium brand digital watch which he showed off the scoring their team had earned.

Obviously, the watch manufacturers had not had Pandamonium App in mind but Jin's shop instance featured a store that provided exclusive options to upgrade digital watches regardless of brand. They did however state that it would void the warranty of the watch, yet the perks of using it in the dungeon instances were so immense that many opted to use it.

"You mean we are number one right now?" Xiong Da grabbed one of his warclubs and returned it to his storage ring while he continued to hold the other as a two handed weapon.

"That would have been too easy. No, some other Pandaren team under the name of 'Mojo's Villains League' is holding that position at the moment, but we are gaining momentum. It was the right choice to hit a high value target." Lee An replied as he readied his stance after he reloaded his pistol and checked his wrists.

In order to ensure a quick reload time during high intense fights, he had to make sure that his pistol clips were easy enough to reach. To do that he utilised a bracelet on each arm that acted as pistol clip holders, which could hold two clips, one on each side of his arm. In a way, it acted as a basic wrist protector too since the clip holders were made of heavy duty metal. It had been a little more expensive than the usual clip holders, since it could potentially hinder his movements.

However, Lee An had seen the effectiveness of his pistol wielding abilities first hand against these demons making him trust in his decision to go with this one. On the other hand, Xiong Da was gleeing as he held his war club tight. With the (almost) unlimited amount of money on hand, he too had something that could change the tide of battle.

His warclub had been heavily modified into something akin to a gunblade, although one would more than likely just call it a shotgun warclub. While it was not usable outside of Jin's dungeons, this was potentially one of the most terrifying weapons made by Jin's inhouse weaponsmith, Vulcan (Let's not count Kraft's constant 'experiments' which gave Vulcan and Jin's science team a bad headache).

By using physics and chi, the blacksmith had created a war club for Xiong Da that utilised a kinetic energy modifier to stall the 'shotgun' charges. The lawyer merely needed to exert a little bit of his chi to fire off a scatter shot of energy into his enemies. Still, that was not the only war club that had been modified. The one the Hippo Pandawan had returned into his storage ring had the same concept except that it had chambers for shotgun rounds and even alternatives such like dragonbreath shotgun shells in conjunction with the kinetic energy modifier war club.

One might even argue that it was overkill no matter how much the number one customer of Jin's had equipped himself with. The poor guards had no idea what was coming. The first demon Mafia guard who was about the same size as Xiong Da challenged him directly to a duel. He rushed towards the Hippo Cultivator, confident in his strength to bring down one of the culprits who had killed his friends.

However, Xiong Da, who had been casually swinging his war club while waiting for his enemies to regroup, was all ready to plummet the Mafia demon into one big lump of meat. True enough, just as the Mafia demon came into range of Xiong Da, the war club smacked him from the bottom of his feet and up to the third floor.

The Mafia demon crashed through the walls, resulting in multiple injuries. Xiong Da thought that to be enough to frighten quite a number of Atrocity Mafia demons, yet it ended up having the opposite effect. All of them were enraged and even felt excited that there was a strong enemy to fight against.

They had been nearly bored stiff from the constant guard duty with no signs of the Demopolis Police despite the warnings from their higher ups. So when these unique human magic combatants with those half masks had started to appear, they had looked forward to this chance to wreak havoc.

The Mafia demon immediately recognised them as the soldiers that King Rex must have employed mainly because of the weapons they used. From the fast draw pistol to the heavily modified war club which could not be manufactured with usual means. They understood that these humans were the special forces that had been rumoured to be dropping into the neighbourhood and they quietly infiltrated into the districts.

While they did not have modern telecommunications, magic orbs and other magical items easily replaced those, allowing the various Mafias to send out transmission amongst each other. They understood that even though they had their differences, this particular "cleansing" wasn't something they could stand on their own.

This 'draining the swamp' had bonded them to look out for each other... at least on the surface. In reality, the three Shadow Kings merely wished to have as much information on their enemies, so they could be prepared for them.

This particular ambush by the Pandawan Team was a daring attack that the Atrocity Mafia didn't take kindly to. The top Guard Leader had already transmitted the information about these human special forces causing trouble, especially focusing on their new weapons, making all three Mafias enter into

high alert. The upper brass had also immediately sent out reinforcements to the damaged guardhouse to take care of the offenders.

Just as the guard leader was done forwarding that information, he sensed two humans in his vicinity, despite the awful burning smell from the aftermath of the explosions.

And it seemed that they were very keen to take his head.

Chapter 1054 - Commanding Guard Leader's Room

Luo Bo and Ruo Ying surrounded him.

There was no need for him to query the two human invaders about their intention as they stood in front of his doorstep with dead bodies piling right behind them. He only saw their result, yet the spectators of this very exciting raid in Jin's shop had seen the two women fight their way to this 'miniboss'.

Being quite the adept bow user, Luo Bo had used a rope arrow to scale the walls pulling along Ruo Ying with her. During the commotion from the front gate, the two Pandawans had snuck to the back of the building.

While Ruo Ying could have used her chains, Luo Bo had invested in a belt that had an automated axle that her rope could be attached to. Thanks to it, the two Pandawans had managed to reach the highest sixth floor without wasting their chi, all while keeping their presence hidden.

It was all going well until a guard had happened to patrol right there, right then.

Just when he had been about to sound the alarm, Ruo Ying's thrown out her spiked chain which had penetrated the thick reinforced glass and into the guard's chest. Luo Bo had similarly followed up by using a handheld mini crossbow, enhancing it with chi so that it could perform the final blow.

While it had achieved the desired result, the sound of glass breaking was bound to attract unwanted attention to their floor and the two Pandawans had been aware that they had to act fast now before guards would come to investigate.

As such, they had entered through that window with Ruo Ying in the lead since she could easily detach the chains which she had used to bind Luo Bo to herself like a rope for moving upwards. The moment they touched the ground, the Esthetical Egret Cultivator had mercilessly used her chains to find the nearest possible target it could strike.

If not for the small corridors, the guard members could have easily evaded the chains, yet the current interior design had allowed Ruo Ying's snake-like chains to mercilessly zoom and aim for the guard's vital spots such as their necks and chest. Whenever a chain had missed its target, she had used the walls to make it rebound hitting the guards from unbelievable angles. Amidst the explosive commotion from the second and third floor, their own fight remained largely undetected, allowing them to enter the Guard Leader's room.

Still, to become a Commanding Guard Leader in the Atrocity Mafia was no easy feat. Even as the noise and fights in the streets had grabbed much of his attention, Ghimley had similarly sensed it in his bones that there was internal strife within the building. However, his first priority had been to inform their current headquarters about any new developments.

"Thank you for waiting." Ghimley said as he placed the 'phone' down with a sigh of relief. With his duty fulfilled he was ready to take revenge for the guards that these two humans had killed. He knew that his underling would eventually get resurrected but it was one thing to reincarnate outside of the city and another to do so in Demopolis.

Unfortunately for the Mafia factions, the final say for anyone resurrecting within the city currently lays with King Rex. Such matters would be usually handled by the staff from the Church of the Afterlife within the city, yet the new king had actively scoured them even before the mass migration and a number of them had gone missing.

The Mafia factions could only infer that King Rex had done so to control who was allowed to resurrect within the city. Without the Church of the Afterlife staff to facilitate the resurrection, it meant that the Mafia forces were bound to dwindle in due time. That was one of the reasons why the three Shadow Kings who had deep feuds among themselves had decided to put their hatred aside and assist one and another.

For example, the Atrocity Mafia's healers had been bestowed by the Eld Enclaves. However, one look and it would be obvious to anyone that they had been given a batch of healers who could barely be called as such. Most of them had been merely recruits of newly joined demons who knew way too little about healing.

It had been a slap in the face despite the truce they had agreed to, especially since a previous clash between the Atrocity and the Eld Enclave Mafias had been one of the worst catastrophes in Demopolis City's history. Both sides had never liked each other, yet the new king's actions had forced their cooperation.

Ghimley had believed that the King's forces would have focused on eradicating the weaker Mafia groups first since they had been placed at the edge of their districts and closer to the Royal Palace as well as the main Police Headquarters. As such part of his reported intel had been about the current surprise ambush that defied the Mafias' expectations, informing them that human commandos with half masks had been sent out to do as much damage as possible.

He did not like it and counted himself unlucky that he had to fight them especially when he saw Xiong Da's warclub smashing through his defenders despite them putting up quite a fight for him. And to make things even more unpleasant, two human magical commandos who had slaughtered his guards were right in front of him. Seeing that he might have a disadvantage fighting them in the room, he roared out loud while flipping his table right in front of him.

It was no ordinary table flip as it flew straight towards Ruo Ying and Luo Bo, blocking their field of vision, giving Ghimley the opportunity to escape out into the open. He had mistaken those two as close quarter combatants that could annihilate his guards in minutes but he couldn't be more wrong.

Luo Bo and Ruo Ying rejoiced at the fact that their target refrained from engaging them in such close combat.

Chapter 1055 - System Traders

"To the left!" Bin Yong said through the intercom for the current squad he was commanding. Unlike the others who had prepped their arsenal of weapons to the brim in their storage ring, Bin Yong decided to have a more supportive role in this current battle mainly because he knew that he was a one to one duelist compared to his pal Shi Zuo who could go crazy and face multiple enemies at once.

Those RPG canisters were part of his stash when he found out that they were on sale when they activated the safehouse's save point. However, there were more than just explosive canisters and he bought at least a couple of every variant that was on sale, hoping they would prove useful in this particular raid. Everyone knew that this was a gimmick in Jin's store to provide a variety but they could not deny the effectiveness when the situation arises. Still, the act of overconsumption was thoroughly encouraged by the NPC trader who gave major discounts.

As if the System had reversed engineered Jin's cheapskate behaviour and flipped the switch into their NPC traders, they could be rather persuasive in getting people to buy more than just what they needed. But that was not all, to make people serious about the third main objective of the Raid, which was to collect the Demon Citizen's belongings, the System had developed an in-raid currency that could only be used within the period when the raid event was active. Each belonging returned would have an amount of currency attached to it. For example, a diamond ring has the value of 10 Demon Panda Emblems. (As much as it sounded evil, it was actually an emblem of a Baby Panda biting a tiefling plushie.)

However, the System Traders had heavily emphasised not to be confused with the currency that the current Raid was giving. This particular set of emblems would automatically be exchanged to the latest set of Raid Tokens when the raid was done. (A period of two weeks would be given to the Pandarens should they wish to exchange any last minute items with the System Traders.) However, it would not be a 1 to 1 exchange and it depended on the currency market like the Panda Coins that Jin had implemented.

This was because the items that the System Traders are selling were not limited redemption items but combat items that could be replenished. The only special stuff that was in that particular session was prototype weapons which Jin had stated that they needed more data before they could release for public use. (But still, those weapons are locked and restricted in Jin's store, they could not be used in public at all.)

These kinds of weapons and tech items were stored in their weapon closets and only be allowed access when they returned for dungeon instance. In a way, one could say that Jin had rights to hold those weapons and they were deemed too dangerous for cultivators to bring it out of the store. This applied to those warclubs that Xiong Da had been brandishing as well as the guns which the Pandawans were holding. If a Pandaren forgot to return those weapons or wished to bring them out of the store, permission to beam themselves out of the store instance would be denied.

They can forcibly return those weapons with a tap in the Pandamonium App or be trapped in the store instance forever until they comply with the rules. This was something Jin had come up with recently as a way to control the weapons, not allowing them to use them out in society while at the same time continued to make fun for the dungeon players. One of the reasons was mainly because of his competitors.

It was one thing to use dungeon instance weapons which is fun and wacky but it is another issue if those fun and wacky ways to kill a monster turned out to be above military grade. Previously, Jin sold high quality low Grades weapons, catered for the new cultivators and that alone had alerted the System that counterfeits were coming out into the market. Thankfully, the Night Foxes under Kraft had managed to keep the distribution under control and brought the black market distributors to justice.

Oh, but it was not swift death but rather unlawful detainment while still being fed. Jin initially wanted to hold them until Kraft had the same idea to wash their brains from such ideas and the needless thought of revenge. However, with the advent of Kong Rong under the service of the Panda Clan, Jin merely allowed him to handle them.

All of it a perk for being a Senior Panda Executive because those distributors were surprisingly veterans in their trade and their contacts were considered a massive trove of information. It was to the point Kong Rong used some of them as double spy agents and provided them with the promise of safety not only to them but their families.

Oh but Kraft did not only take back those imitation products, he had collected all those black market weapons for the science lab to reverse engineer so that they could manufacture them for the Dungeon Raids. And thus the Emblems were used precisely for that.

Weapons not seen on the actual market and were in fact illegal for use in the real world. The cultivators had no idea that they were on a borderline of committing a major crime should they escape the shop instance with those weapons.

While Bin Yong did not have access to those weapons as of the current situation he was in, he sure had enough modern tech to make an average soldier envious.

A beetle like spy drone flew out of his storage ring and with his visor, the Beetle Cultivator had commanded it to fly ahead to check the surroundings of any intruders. It also acted as a hi tech cartographer, plotting a new digital map on the maps that Shi Zuo previously uploaded into their team's visors.

"Coast clear! Let's push forward and out of the building!" Bin Yong smiled as he looked at his Pandamonium App. The screen portrayed a little Panda carrying a bomb and the fuse was waiting to be lit with a "press and hold" button showing right at the bottom of his screen.

Chapter 1056 - Thinning the Guards

When a number of Atrocity Mafia guards had entered their derelict building, Xue Ping was there to stall them for as long as she could. The police officer was utilising her knowledge of urban warfare to create a

buffer between her and the enemies. Fighting against someone with firearms had slowed the guards down considerably as they had to be extremely careful.

A single hit from her guns would be enough to cripple their fighting capabilities by half. It was to the point the demons had trouble shielding their casters from her suppressive fire, especially after she started using her modified power fist on top of the submachine gun.

Just like Xiong Da, she had decided to splurge a bit by modifying her power fist days before the raid. The complete overhaul of the entire power fist hadn't been cheap, yet due to the deal Jin had with the police, most of it got subsidised. (She was lucky the police chief used the dirty money they had confiscated from the Rat Triad.)

The newly modified power fist could periodically charge and shoot either waves of energy or in blast projectile forms. Xue Ping was using her power fist predominantly with the latter option to keep the Mafia demons at bay. The mix of bullets and the power projectiles had hindered the movement of the Atrocity guards long enough for Xue to run out of the building.

"Come up now!" Bin Yong instructed her through the intercom after the rest had already evacuated to the higher floors of the building. Xue Ping quickly used her cultivation to sprint to the back end of the building and released one more scattershot of energy blast from her power fist before jumping out of the window.

"I'm out!" Xue Ping replied through the intercom and Bin Yong instantly picked up his fuse detonator and pressed it. The explosive charges which he had placed before the engagement exploded sequentially from the window and into the building. While those charges were not strong enough to destroy the structure of the building as a whole, it would heavily damage the Mafia demons.

The building shook rather violently as the Pandawans braced themselves against the shockwave. Although a little shaky on their toes, Xue Ping immediately urged her teammates to put on their respirators. Both Xue Ping and Lee An used to be part of the Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT) team before decided that they wanted a bit of desk work and thus the switch to inspectors, thus they knew how to perform in such an intense situation, something that their fellow Pandawans appreciated very much in this raid.

Their half mask visors activated the extension respirators, turning into full masks which allowed them to breathe through the aftermath of the explosion without much trouble. The points on their wrist watches had told them that not all of those below had died in the explosion.

True enough, many were dazed and severely injured from the attack, with those in the middle passed out, so Bin Yong and the rest quickly rushed in to finish up the guards. To their surprise, some of the Mafia guards were not giving up and attempted to put up a fight despite their injuries. As valiant as their last stand effort was, the Pandawan team quickly rushed in for a coup de grace in order to not waste any strength and regroup with the rest.

Shi Zuo dragged his axe through the ground while accumulating chi as he was assigned to clear the enemies nearest to the window in case reinforcements were to appear. This allowed him to do a sweeping slash when he saw additional guards jump to the second floor. Any injured demons who had

been caught in the attack were being thrown out of the window, ensuring their deaths through multiple dislocations.

Jia Le used her Breathtaking Bellflower Cultivation Style to detect any vital life signs within her magical range to point out any demon trying to fake their death. When it became clear that faking was not an option, those individual guards would jump to their feet and retaliate to the best of their ability.

Some even tried to stand as one and fought against Bin Yong but after all the dungeon instances they had fought in together, his girlfriend was familiar with his fighting style. She had already prepared a few support spells to aid him. A magical barrier spell appeared in front of him and magical Bellflowers would periodically appear to stop or at least soften the attacks, enabling the Beetle Pandawan to focus on defeating them one after the other.

As for Xue Ping, her power fist was nothing to scoff at as a few were sent flying through the ceiling to the third floor with her trademark uppercuts. It was a strategic wipe against the guards but their explosive actions might probably attract more than they could chew.

From the ground, Xiong Da and Lee An could see groups of Demon guards in large carriages coming towards them at high speed. Despite the initial upper hand in the situation, the Pandawans did not expect their reinforcements to come this quickly. Lee An could even detect a few strong magical signatures coming their way, indicating that they could be Atrocity's elites in Atrocity.

"We should retreat." Lee An said to the group, warning them about the impending danger. And the rest acknowledged except for Luo Bo and Ruo Ying who were chasing after their Guard Leader. Thankfully, they were heading south which was also the direction of the safehouse, so Lee An did not complain too much.

He merely warned that it could be a trap, advising them to finish the Guard Leader quickly or retreat if they got too far from the meeting point. Luo Bo confirmed the order from their resident police officer and with the experience of the consequences of moving too far away from her previous raids and dungeon instances, she intended to adhere to this rather strictly.

To ensure it was possible, it was best to immobilise the runaway before he could get any further!

Chapter 1057 - Ghimley's Absolute Death

Ghimley prided himself on being a fast runner, perhaps not the fastest of the Atrocity Mafia family, but definitely decent enough to be recognised as a capable Guard Leader. Yet, he did not expect the human soldiers to be chasing after him with much ease and even firing their ranged weapons at the same time, causing it to be quite a difficult race to run away from.

So upon realising that jumping from roof to roof was not enough, he made use of his acute senses to foretell the nooks and cranks in the alleys up ahead. Since they were able to catch up with him, Ghimley intended to outpace his pursuers through the alleys, confusing them and eventually take them out when they were tired.

Unfortunately for him, his plan had not accounted for the fact that the duo behind him was not only on par with him in terms of speed, their ranged projectiles also had the ability to stop him dead in his tracks. Never in his life, had he ever seen humans able to catch up to his speed this quickly when he noticed that they boasted themselves even further when the two female soldiers discerned that he was slowing down. There had been casters who could hasten themselves via spells, yet those would take time to chant while a guard would protect them.

Normally, he would have plenty of time to kill a mage before they could land even a single offensive spell on him. The Tiefling had thought the same to be the case for this pair of soldiers but he had clearly underestimated them and their weapons. The ranged projectiles were way too accurate for his liking. Were it not for his extra peripheral senses, he would have been brought down the instant he had fled the guard house.

"Was I wrong? Are they not mages, but specialised ranged operators?!" Ghimley thought to himself as fear started to creep into his heart for the first time in years. He changed his plan from confronting them to leading them to the next available guard house, hoping their reinforcements would be sufficient against these two elites.

Alas, he never got a chance. The next alley was destined to become his grave.

The moment Ruo Ying and Luo Bo had seen him attempt to outrun and hide within the subsequent alleys, they had recognised the need to act fast or risk losing such a valuable set of points. According to the Pandamonium App, the Guard Leader was worth as many points as his subordinates.

Luo Bo couldn't understand why the guards they had fought with previously were not as fast and agile as their leader in front of them. Her shots had already been infused with her chi and she was known to have a high rate of accuracy against moving targets.

And yet this particular enemy seemed to have eyes on his back, allowing him to barely dodge the projectiles. They barely scratched his magically toughened skin which he activated at the very last second to avoid the brunt of the attack.

Still, the hunt was nothing but satisfactory for Luo Bo, especially when she felt that it was the end of the line for the Guard Leader as soon as he entered the backwater alley. "Big Sis! Let's clear this as soon as possible!" Luo Bo said to Ruo Ying, who nodded her head with a soft hum as acknowledgement.

Similar to the encounter back at the guard house, Ruo Ying first charged her chains and propelled them into the alley chasing after him. It did not matter if those chained spikes missed Ghimley, all that mattered was that those chains were faster than him.

When Ghimley saw the chains come in, he evaded them easily, thinking himself safe for a moment... until he heard a series of multiple clinging sounds up ahead. It did not mean much to him at that point in time because he was busy watching out the trajectory of the chain spikes that were raining down on him.

Ghimley strongly believed that salvation was just up ahead as he remembered there was an intersection straight ahead as well as a few smaller corridors which could prevent detection. But as he avoided the latest chain spike, he realised those chain spikes were just the start of the death trap he was being lured into.

As he got closer to the intersection, he saw the horrors return in multiple folds. Chain spikes were moving at tremendous speeds as they blocked his path of escape because of the initial ricochets. In that instant, Ghimley understood he either had to bash through the spikes with brute force or go upwards.

But the skies turned dark when he raised his eyes to check for a way out. He could not make out the shade of darkness initially until it came too close for comfort. It was a torrential rain of arrows that was unavoidable no matter where he moved and the only way out was probably the soon to come resurrection.

Seeing that he would not have time to move out of the way, Ghimley resigned himself to his fate and stopped in his tracks. The chain spikes pierced through him and the rain of arrows fell with high speed velocity. His toughened skin was no match to the increased penetration power inscription that Ruo Ying had put on following Luo Bo's advice.

It could only be described as tragic, that the now dead Guard Leader had been thoroughly tricked by the duo. Most of the projectiles, as well as the chains, had been one elaborate illusion, the work of the 'Mirror Image' instant magic scroll. Cultivators primarily used those as part of a defensive manoeuvre, yet Luo Bo and Ruo Ying had creatively utilised its properties as feints for their own attacks.

Once it had become clear that the Guard Leader was more focused on running for his life and possibly leading them somewhere so he would be preoccupied to notice the mirror images, they had come up with this use. If he had not resigned himself to his fate, but risked his all, to evade or endure the non-existent attacks, he might have gained a second wind from seemingly surviving the near-death situation.

"+65 Points" The Pandamonium App showed on the screen for both cultivators. And as the body started to dissipate into nothingness, Luo Bo contacted the rest, confirming that their next rendezvous would be back at the safehouse.

Chapter 1058 - Aftermath of the Guard House Massacre

"Not bad, not bad. The Pandawan Team has taken down an entire guard house on their own." Nubwort rubbed his chin as he monitored the overall situation within the Demopolis. A portion of the Merchants District was in disarray after they found out that one of their guard houses had been taken down.

As these guard houses were strategically placed to cover a wide range of the Merchants District, it was a hard blow for the Atrocity Mafia that their members could be subjugated within an hour's time. The only thing the reinforcements had been able to do had been to watch and then report the destruction and end result of the massacre.

Ghimley might not have been the strongest of the Guard Leaders but he had still commanded a fair bit of clout. The guards under him had been considered to be better than average. The upper echelons of the Mafia Family had the impression that he would at least be skillful to at least occupy the enemies until reinforcements came in.

But now, with the entire guard house slaughtered, it could only mean that King Rex's special forces were not a joke. News spread like wildfire and everyone under the Three Shadow Kings believed that this was

a show of power, a statement to the rest of their factions that they could hit fast and hard whenever they wanted. It was a scary thought that a group of elites could be so effective when the rest of King Rex's hired 'soldiers' were already making their waves in the outer districts.

The fights there were fairly violent when compared to the assault on the Atrocity's guard house. But unlike the Pandawans who had accumulated a fair amount of Panda coins to spend rather frivolously when it came to weapons, it was not the same for the other Pandarens who had yet to find the safehouse. They were fighting with whatever inventory they had in their storage ring and the clash was basically about who had the guts to score more kills.

That's not to say that the Three Shadow King's Mafia family were not actively participating in these attritions of war. That was also one of the reasons why reinforcements could not arrive as quickly as anticipated for the assault on the guard house. They thought it was a good idea to send their attackers to the frontline and leave their territory lightly guarded. They knew there might be possible assaults from the sky but they could not believe King Rex's shock troopers were able to break through and into the districts.

And because of this daring move from the Pandawan Team, it had subtly changed the course of battlefield. The Mafia demons who had been winning initially against the Pandarens had finally seen a stalemate in the last few hours. However, all these were solely the Pandaren's efforts.

The Round Table of Jin's Minion Leaders had yet to reveal any of their trump cards. So far, they had merely assisted the cultivators by quietly providing caches of new weapons and medical kits for the Pandarens on the frontlines. With the System's ability to manipulate the Demopolis Dungeon Core, it was able to slip in a few goodies towards the Pandarens and ensure that they would have an advantage over the Mafia demons.

Nevertheless, whenever the Pandarens ended up killed, the loot would go over to the victor. As such, the Mafia demons were similarly able to get hold of Jin's advanced weapons, which they then used against the Pandarens (after some initial figuring out how to operate them).

However, the System and the people using the System were not stupid. Those items in the caches had been designed to only have a certain durability to them. Be it the Pandarens or Demons who used them, those items would break after a period of time. If a Pandaren User were to check it through the Pandamonium App, there was a tag within the weapons that stated that it was fragile, indicating it would break after a number of times.

But in exchange, the weapon was more powerful than the usual they used and this was up to the Pandarens to use it sparingly or for the lucky Mafia demons that managed to pick them. Jin had not been too much a fan of that mechanism, but Kraft had reassured him that not only would it be more interesting this way, but there was also a failsafe inscription that would guarantee that they would break into pieces if the System noticed that they were used on him. (That is assuming that he was going into battle.)

"Speaking off, why don't you go into battle? You have been slogging your life away to make this, so it would be a pity for you to just sit back and relax." Kraft proposed when he saw the attackers from the infamous three Mafias returning back to their respective districts as per the System's cameras and radars.

"Yeah, I think it will be a good stretch and allow us to see what you are truly capable of." Rex agreed with the idea. He himself was also itching for a decent fight but he knew that these Mafias might not be even a proper warm up exercise session for him.

"You know that if I did that, I would truly be blowing my own trumpet in front of experts like you guys, right? To display my pathetic skills before an expert would be a disgrace." Jin argued with his head shaking so hard to show his reluctance.

"Oh come on now, Boss! We all know about your grade up! We've ascertained that it was entirely different from the normal you a few weeks back and it seems even more so from all those sleepless nights you've been forcing yourself into. Not to mention, the System also needs to update its defence component in case something major happens, right?" Kiyu made sure to rope the System in to nudge its unwilling User to perform for the foxes.

"If Jin is going, would it be alright if I came with him?" Lynn volunteered as tribute. She had been watching the commotion from the side with the rest of them.

Since she wanted to be part of the entire process ever since she started working on the rest of the Cultivation Zoo instance. She figured that fighting alongside with Jin might give her some insight or even inspiration for the Cultivation Zoo. (But everyone knows that was an excuse, even Jin who could see it so blatantly for once.)

"You sure? This kind of battlefield is not something you are used to." Qiu Yue, who had been analysing the tactics various Pandarens had been using, some quite ingenious and recorded for posterity was worried for her colleague. She recalled the time she and Lynn had been out in the Giant World, but this would be an entirely different battlefield.

"All the more reason I should give it a try. How else I will learn if I stay safe the whole time. In the event that I had to defend myself with or without Jin, I would be better prepared." Lynn said as she unconsciously touched her sword that was held on her waist.

"I don't mind. In fact, if you're there maybe our lazy Panda Boss will have some motivation to show off." Kraft gave a one sided smirk and told Jin to make the move. The Dungeon Supplier sighed and knew that Lynn was doing her utmost to integrate.

He was not as dense as some shonen protagonists, so he did appreciate the thoughts that she wanted to spend time to be with him. Jin too wanted to do the same and whether that was out of guilt for leaving her out most of the time, it did not matter now.

"Don't worry, Boss. If our Queen really gets into a pinch, the Sub System will call us out to save her." Kido, her most competent Ninja Penguin suddenly appeared right in front of him to assure him.

"Alright, if that's the case. Let's go for a spin." Jin finally agreed as he asked Lynn to 'suit' up.

Chapter 1059 - Convincing Jin

With a snap of her fingers, Lynn's equipment appeared on her as soon as Jin gave the go ahead. One would think that she would proceed with a sailor moon transformation given that Jin has his System Rider transformation sequence but it was not anything fanciful at all. A battle vest with pockets as well as a utility waist belt that could hold quite a number of mini accessories. Her sword on her waist had been moved to her back where there was a magnetic attachment along with a retractable belt that facilitated movement.

This granted her better mobility and made sure she had sufficient reach to grab her sword. She had also been wearing the latest prototype of the Gearbox arms and legs attachment made by Ayse's research team. Jin had emphasised to all those present that he would only allow the Kitchen Goddess or more particularly the Sub System Users in general to accompany him into battle if they were well equipped and the Gearbox System was one of those prerequisites. (The girls called him paranoid, but Ayse viewed it as caring and more importantly useful for her research -especially since all the usage could be seen as valuable data.)

That quick 'costume' change startled Jin for a moment before sighing with a gentle smile on his face, something Lynn was waiting for, for a long time. "Let's get going then. Where do you want us to go, El Presidente?" Jin asked Kraft blatantly to make him happy for donning such a military suit. (He knew that Kraft was merely fishing for praise. Lots of praises.)

"How about the Petal District where the Tyr Gauntlets are residing? They seem to be the strongest based on our intel but of course nothing too menacing for our Kitchen Goddess debut." Kraft suggested as he placed his hand on the war table and a hologram of the district appeared. "From what we know, the Shadow King for the Tyr Gauntlets should be residing somewhere around here."

"Didn't you brief us beforehand that we don't know where exactly they are because they keep to the background?" Jin started to think back on the briefings even though he could not ascertain the facts properly since he had still been half asleep at that point of time.

"True, we don't know where EXACTLY they are, but judging by the strength of the guards around that area, it's a safe bet he should be there. That's why we get our trusty boss to go take a look and if possible annihilate him or her." Kraft replied with a glee in his face.

"So I suppose I can call in reinforcements whenever I feel terribly outnumbered?" Jin questioned as if he was treating this as a trial for himself until he realised they merely wanted to see his powers unfold. "Or maybe I should just retreat."

"Haha boss, you are such a funny guy. Obviously, you should annihilate the threat when he is right in front of you. Why bother wasting time retreating?" Ixel answered as he subconsciously flexed his muscles.

"If anything unforeseen happens, my penguins could be the first to enter the fray. My Sub System is pretty much designed to make sure I can summon them in a pinch. The other big guys could come in later." Lynn replied.

"See, nothing to be worried about. Just trust her and the peggies, since they are also a force to be reckoned with. You just don't know yet." Kraft smirked and winked at dear little Lynn.

The crafty fox understood that this was also a great opportunity for Lynn to finally show off her skills to Jin. Similar to Qiu Yue, she had been secretly working out in conjunction to her usual workload. One could argue that she put in more effort than any of the minions under the System's care. The only thing she sorely needed right now was battle experience.

"Heh, alright. But I will not hesitate to call on you guys if things get too tough. It's not worth the risk of dying for no particular reason when the System controls most of the area, giving it near unlimited access like how it has for the store instance." Jin insisted.

"It's exactly because this fight is so much in our favour that you should not hold back and push your limits. If someday you don't have the System with you for some particular reason, you'll have to rely on yourself to settle matters." Rex argued with prudence.

"It will be impossible. System and User are inseparable." The System stated vehemently in their fairly robotic voice. Those around the table shrugged it off, yet the Dungeon Supplier himself had already experienced times when he did not have the System with him and how powerless he had been without it.

What about all the times when he met up with Ming? There was no System in his own unconscious plane. What if someone decided to use some high level manipulation mind games on him again?

And then there was that incident with the young Ryuli that still plagued his thoughts to this day. In fact, he was surprised that she had strangely stopped harassing him after trying a few days. Jin had been busy with other things, so he had just figured she had her own work to take care off, or that it might have perhaps been a sort of courtesy from Kong Rong.

Nevertheless, he was not going anywhere else with the Tree Mall intact, so Ryuli knew where to find him. Unfortunately, it was guaranteed that she would sooner or later come to him to find out the truth about her master when she was free...

"Ahem, Earth to Jin." Lynn waved her hand in front of Jin who had been clearly lost in a world of his own. "There's no use overthinking things. Let's just go out and do our best."

"Ah sorry, I was just thinking about what Rex just said." Jin smiled as he asked the System to teleport them to Petal District, as close as possible to the supposed location of their Shadow King. It was better to strike fast and hard than waste their time on clearing the minions.

Oddly enough, the System did not open a direct portal to the target location. Instead, they kind of disappeared into thin air, traversing through time and space to reach their place. Jin could only believe that the System was doing it to keep his teleport location nice and quiet.

The super entity had performed a flash teleport bomb to catch their enemies off guard, but it was a different situation when Jin and Lynn felt their surroundings explode around them. Only once the dust started to dissipate a little, did Jin's visor instantly identify groups of demons congregating around them.

"What the hell... the System sure knows how to pull my feet." Jin raised his sword offensively despite the need to adjust himself to the new surroundings. While Lynn was still coughing and trying to balance herself, the enemies were already on the move, happy to score a kill against their unknown opponents who had presented themselves to them on a silver platter.

Chapter 1060 - Back To A Corner

"The heck?!" Jin shouted within the System's Channel. "What kind of teleport was that?!"

"As User had surmised, it is a mid tier spell, Flash Teleport Bomb. It is to provide ample surprise against your opponents while injuring them at the same time. Given the security level of the enemies, a normal portal might have alarmed them or even prompt them to enter it." The System replied.

"Fine, I get what you did, but why did you teleport us into the midst of the enemy lines?!" Jin stressed as he saw a body moving towards him without reserve.

The Dungeon Supplier did not hesitate to bring out his System Belt in case the enemy was way stronger than he expected them to be. But before he could even attach it to his waist, the bolstering figure emerged out of the smoke and into Jin's front view, he was nearly 180cm tall clad in full metallic armour and his double sided axe were cleaving through the dust, headed right towards Jin's body.

Thus, the Panda Cultivator did not hesitate to grab Lynn and using the smoke screen of debris to his advantage, he quickly performed his signature fake fall that allowed him to move out of the way, avoiding the chop. What he did not expect was that the axe chop was immensely impactful that the flooring broke and created a crate right where he had been standing just a moment ago, causing more debris scatter as well as dust clouds.

Thus, Jin attempted to avoid it by rolling further away from the impact site. But then, a few arrows started to fly towards him and he could sense them to be highly charged with magical energy. His body was attuned to all sorts of punishment from Ming's vigorous training, so he instinctively moved backwards. At the very same time, Jin threw Bam and Boo out, powered by his Green Panda Wind Energy, allowing it to accurately counter the charged magical arrows zooming through the smoke screen.

Lynn, on the other hand, felt like she was a parcel being thrown around in a sorting centre with Jin being the courier. Despite his rough handling of her, there were no cuts or immediate bruises on the chef. It was as if Jin was holding her like a fragile packet despite the excessive tossing.

The last magically charged arrow went too close for comfort but Jin managed to take it down with a projectile shot of White Panda Ice Energy. At that point, Jin and Lynn were pushed to a corner and the entire group of warriors took their offensive stance while surrounding the cornered humans,

"For a shock squad, they are rather petite." A deep grunted voice came from the very same axe warrior who had tried to cleave Jin into two.

"Still, for the guy in that weird black and white bear mask to deflect my arrows with some style, he isn't too bad." A more husky voice emerged from the side.

"You want to take him to our liege? Perhaps he can provide more information about that fake King." A lizard shaped man spoke but Jin could only see his silhouette.

"You are giving these humans too much credit. For them to use such a half ass shock ambush, they must have come here by accident rather than on purpose." Another murmured to his colleagues.

"In any case, they should be punished for destroying our valuable intel." The stout guy said as he readied his axe and prepared to attack. If they were too weak then they wouldn't know much anyway.

"That's fine with me." Jin thought as he placed his clenched hand near his mouth and spewed a huge breath of Black Fire towards the crowd, using his hand as funnel. Afterall, a cornered Panda could still bite.

The Black Panda Fire Breath startled the group of Tyr Gauntlets Elites, giving Lynn a chance to calm her nerves and grasp the situation. She quickly placed her hand in one of her utility belt pockets, revealing a black metallic dome shaped item which she stuck on the wall. (Which actually looked like a bowl.) The black metallic dome was imbued with a high grade "Melt" inscription which caused the wall to disintegrate slowly, unveiling a path for Jin and Lynn to escape from.

"We can move out now!" Lynn spoke through the System Channel. Both of them quickly went into the other room and Jin sealed the hole with a barrier of White Ice. It was perfect timing since the armoured demon with the axe was pushing through despite the flames. He was blocking to keep his face intact but Jin's Black Flames were not just a blast of heat.

Damage over Time.

Each second the Armoured Demon blocked the attack, the multiplying effect of the Black Flames were doubled and the Armoured Demon felt the heat searing through his plated armour. Jin believed that the only way for the Demon to stop taking damage was to stop the source itself. Plus the continuous flame itself was a source of distraction to prevent the rest from coming near. With the heat going up to more than 300 degrees Celsius, the other Tyr Elites kept their distance until the opponent was weary.

However, the sudden fall of the ice barriers stopped them dead in their tracks with the exception of the Armoured Demon being encased halfway into the ice barrier. He could clearly see that they were not cornered anymore and ran out of the room.

As he tried to utilise his brute force to unshackle himself from the ice barrier, Jin sent another few sharp blocks of White Ice right into his face, piercing through his skull and into his body. The ice continued to freeze his warm innards until they became a slab of ice mixed with mere bones and meat.

"Sorry, but I'm not some naive anime protagonist that gives my enemies a chance. I'm not ashamed to take the kill when it presents itself." Jin mumbled to himself as he attempted to catch his breath before moving on while Lynn.

"If you want to complain, do so once you're under my service, after this ordeal."