Dungeon S 1101

Chapter 1101 - That Artillery Shot

The trembling noises of the Loopa Ooofpa were enough to scare every Panderen inside the instance and they finally understood why there had been a need for an interim to gather more people for this last part of the raid. (Though at the back end, Kraft was hastily fixing bugs and adding his shade of rainbow sparkles to make their fight against the latest boss AI programme one they wouldn't forget anytime soon.)

Without any help from Jin's minions, it was solely up to the Pandarens to organise themselves and fight. However, despite the possibility of a Raid Wipe occurring, their Pandamonium App blinked once more, notifying them that their current playthrough of the raid instance had yielded them a special bonus. This particular bonus was given to everyone regardless of the amount of time they had spent in the raid instance or their contribution beforehand.

It was sort of a 'congratulatory' gift for the collective of Pandarens that they had reached this far into the raid instance. Strangely, the end of the doc.u.ment didn't have Jin signing off but a fox paw.

Most of the Pandarens did not really bother but the Pandawans who were perceptive to such minute changes began to suspect that the following boss might not be as 'simple' as they had thought. (This 'Fox Paw/Difficulty' later became synonymous to a Hardcore/Hell Mode)

The gift came in the form of a raid specific inscription charm that would enable the users to create an invincible shield around them lasting for 10 seconds. After which there would be a cooldown of 10 minutes before they could use it again, for a total of 3 times. Most believed it should be saved for emergency uses but Bu Dong begged to differ given his vast experience in gaming.

"Boss Jin would not give us something this powerful unless us not having this would make this Final Boss fight too difficult. However, since this letter isn't signed off by him, it's hard to say whether this is a friendly bonus or like a lifeline to allow us to win." Bu Dong stated his opinion, yet everyone was already in panic mode when the trembling noises turned to tremors that felt like an impending earthquake was about to set in.

"There is no way we can defeat that thing!" Ruo Ying shrieked out as she nearly tripped from the constant tremors.

"We have to do this no matter what! Just imagine the rewards we are bound to get if we can clear this!" Bu Dong tried to encourage them but the tremors were indeed not helping them at all.

On the other hand, Xiong Da used his cultivation powers and jumped hastily towards one of the communication towers since that was the highest height available to check where the Ooofpa Loopa was coming from.

"What the hell... we have to deal with TWO of those monsters?!" Xiong Da could feel his balls shrinking.

"WHAT?! TWO??!" Hong Deng Long felt like fainting at this instant and everyone within Demopolis felt the same dread overcoming them. Was this sense of helplessness the same as how the frontline had felt when they had encountered the very same monsters?

Probably.

Yet when hell turned loose, some of the Pandarens that had been gathered on the walls were not falling into despair. Instead, they picked up the artillery guns that had been installed and aimed at the Southern Ooofpa Loopa.

"This is for all my friends you killed!" One of the Pandarens shouted as he pulled the trigger for the artillery gun and its shot exploded through the deafening aura of fear that surrounded the Demopolis City Instance.

This initial shot became a beacon of hope for the Pandarens who had been stricken with dread as they watched the artillery fire fly miles across the sea and score a direct shot on the Ooofpa Loopa. The Artillery Gun immediately released the spent round and that sole Pandaren removed it. At that point, another Pandaren who was near him went towards the pile of explosive shells and picked a new one, passing it to the shooter.

The former Pandaren thanked him and slowly placed that new shell into the barrel while the artillery gun automatically reloaded itself without much help. It even had an onboard navigation system to help the Pandarens readjust themselves. (The only thing was that the System left the aiming navigation to the Pandarens without much assistance.)

Once again, the second shot was fired and its sound pierced through the silence as people started to feel invigorated by the sole actions of the Pandaren.

Xiong Da then took a deep breath in to calm himself, before he picked up his Pandamonium App. There was an option within his visor that allowed him to make a full Raid Announcement which would be broadcast to everyone, although it was costly. However, since money was not an issue to him, the Hippo Cultivator gladly paid for it.

"To all Pandarens, this is Hippo Pandawan Xiong Da speaking. That thundering roar of fire from that brave Pandaren has shown us that we DO have the ability to stop these monsters! All we need to do is remain calm and work together! So throw away all your doubts like how he did with those two shots of artillery fire! Guys, we can win this!" The lawyer's impromptu speech did wonders for his fellow customer's morale.

"Operate all the artillery cannons you can find! If Boss Jin recreated this one from the original, there is no doubt that it will create some bad shit crazy swarm of offsprings to hunt us down! We have the entire Demopolis City at our disposal since there are no minions around to help us at all." Xiong Da shouted as he used the information at his disposal to give instructions to the masses. After all, there was no leader to order them around or any super defying high grade cultivator like Grandma Yuan who could solo fight one Ooofpa Loopa by themselves.

"Imagine if we do not have our army, police or some secret clan and organisations to protect us. Should we let these kinds of fiends destroy our homes? If we cannot clear this, it will be a disgrace to all the Pandarens! So send out the 'call for arms'! Get your friends to come as soon as possible and join us! We will clear this no matter what and show Jin that we Pandarens as a collective are to be feared!! Should you ever falter, remember you're not alone!! If you can't do it for yourselves do it FOR THE PLUSHIES!!!" Xiong Da shouted and his persuasion was not for nought.

Even the joke-like declaration should help immensely to hype up some of the stronger fans. (Although Xiong Da didn't know whether there would be plushies as rewards, he was sure with enough of them demanding them, they might convince Jin.)

The Pandarens wore their Panda badge with pride and to withdraw because of the high level difficulty would be a disgrace. A disgrace to their past efforts, their time, sweat and blood. They were going to clear this and show the world that they're the proud Pandarens of this unique dungeon supplier store!

Chapter 1102 - Business Ac.u.men

After Xiong Da's announcement, the Pandarens started to rush to the walls, arranging themselves in groups and manning the wall's defences. They realised that for the past raids they had always depended on Jin's minions and monsters to lead them into the battles.

This was the first time that they were going to fight this on their own and this rude awakening accompanied with two Ooofpa Loopas would be the true test of their powers. One could say that all their hoards of previously won prizes, as well as their bought weapons, inscription charms and other battle accessories, would be put to full use in the fight.

Aside from the disappearance of the minions, everything else such as the 'on the go' battle shop features was still available to the Pandarens, which gave them some peace of mind. It should give them a slight advantage in the battle but this did not mean fighting against two Ooofpa Loopas would suddenly be a walk in the park.

The news of the Ooofpa Loopa being the Demopolis City Raid Final Boss didn't go unnoticed. Despite them being in a raid instance, the Pandarens were actively sending out requests for help to their friends and relatives to aid them in this particular fight via their Pandamonium App. Quite a few of the Pandarens were off duty soldiers, doing their due diligence to hone their skills even when they were on leave. (In actual fact, quite a lot actually believed that Jin's Dungeons and Pandas was a far more effective measure in training their skills than the one's the military currently offered them.)

Once they learned that the raid boss was that very same abomination that nearly endangered their cities, these off duty soldiers instantly sent out mass invitations to their work colleagues, encouraging them to fight alongside them. Many, if not all, were shocked by this and did not hesitate to drop whatever they were doing (if at all possible) and headed to the store.

Thus, as the current group of Pandarens were shoring up the defences of Demopolis, their reinforcements were on the way. All they had to do was to survive the raid and prevent a raid wipe before the next wave of Pandarens came in to assist them.

The name Ooofpa Loopa alone was sufficient to send those that were wandering in Panda Shop Instance to at least take a look at the cinemas to check out the commotion. That also included journalists, influencers and even official online news reporters that were currently squeezing into the Shop Instance's Cinema Hall to get a peek at the current situation.

Their indirect advertis.e.m.e.nt furthered the interest for Dungeons and Pandas from onlookers through the net that prompted them to query whether they could have footage for the current raid instance.

Kiyu had expected such a thing to happen and had collaborated with the System for the next move to entice more users for their service. For those who were not within the raid, the Pandamonium App instantly generated a new pop up and presented them with a limited time offer of a three month subscription of Pandaflix for the price of three Yuan.

The targets of this new ad were first and foremost the social media influencers in and out of the Shop Instance and they did not hesitate to immediately accept. Streamers at home quickly downloaded the Pandamonium App and subscribed to it so that they could provide their audiences with live reaction to this current Ooofpa Loopa scenario.

The one time subscription price was abysmally cheap, enticing even the most casual onlooker to give it a try and everyone was vastly interested to see how the Final Boss encounter would play out. They all had heard of the rumours of the Ooofa Loopa but because of the previous media blackout on it, Kraft and Kiyu could now take advantage of the hype surrounding it.

Within 15 minutes, the System tabulated an 18% increase in subscriptions for the Pandaflix from new users and a staggering 60% increase in subscriptions from Pandarens who had yet to subscribe.

"Does this prove that I am a genius in marketing?" Kraft laughed sharply like a rich lady overpowering the rest of her 'friends' when he saw the cold hard figures. He even created the illusion of him swimming in the pile of cash they were earning behind him. Kiyu rolled her eyes but demanded El Presidente to praise her too.

"What is there to praise? I always knew that you can do this if you want to. How do you like me taking over this Dungeon and Pandas endeavour? I could make it big fast." Kraft now raised both of his hands while sitting on his couch – apologies, his throne as he was laughing hysterically, busy with his latest daydream.

"No thank you, I'll take my chances with Jin since he has more business foresight than you. If he had not set up all these options as part of the shop's foundations, you wouldn't be able to do this at all. You actually should thank him for giving you an opportunity to shine, especially when he is not around." Kiyu shrugged the crafty fox away.

"You've basically just admitted that he is being too conservative in his actions for his shop. In this modern era, everything is about timing and I happened to take this opportunity to take advantage of that, which he would not. Also, you are not denying that I have a keen sense of business ac.u.men. Muhahaha~" Kraft smiled widely and Kiyu massaged her temples. Although the relationship between her and Kraft was not far from the level of Kraft and Rex's, sometimes she forgot that she was dealing with a person who had 'narcissism' written all over his chi aura.

"Yes, yes, El Presidente. Without you, we wouldn't have established such a great head start with the almost plateauing sales which Jin has if he is around." Kiyu decided to entertain him so that he would leave her alone for at least a moment to find some sense of respite.

Yet, the fact that this particular event generated a lot of media presence had further reinforced the notion to those in the shadows watching quietly that Jin had indeed participated in the fight against Ooofpa Loopa.

While it should be classified as a confidential secret, there was nothing in the law barring dungeon suppliers to recreate a factional scene.

Some of the western dungeon suppliers had recreated the infamous '11/9' scene in their dungeons and the government wasn't able to ban them in any way. While it was true that there were some changes like how they modified the terrorists to monsters infiltrating planes to keep it 'dungeon supplier friendly', it was a blatant retelling of the incident.

In fact, it had actually helped placate the citizens' anger with the creation of these scenes and thus the government reacted with indifference to the issue. (There were even rumours that the government was actually the one who had sponsored some high levelled dungeon suppliers as well to run simulations of it too.)

After all, cultivators and mages craved to experience the 'what ifs' on their own. The scenes where they could kill the 'terrorists' and pilot the plane away to safety or rescue the workers in the tower building before it could be destroyed.

That alone was enough to evade a war in the Middle East while avoiding potential heavy backlash from the public. There were no doubt some discord against some of the vocal minority but the government was able to placate them from making too much noise. Surprisingly, this also allowed the government to proceed discreetly in carrying out specialised covert operations to find the culprits that did it and annihilate them.

Hence, it was no different for El Presidente Kraft to utilise the hype train around the true Loopa Ooofpa. He believed it would incite the curiosity in the onlookers and crave Dungeons and Pandas name on the map. Besides, he also wanted to see who else was watching them intently. At times like these, friends as well as Jin's enemies were prone to become way too prying about the major event, leading them to step out of their usual habits and allowing his Night Foxes to catch them unaware.

After all, the incident regarding Jin's fight with the Tiger Brothers had already caused turbulent waters to stir under the tranquil sea of China. Hiding was no longer an option for the Royal Panda Clan if they wanted to grow bigger, so they might as well show the world what it wanted to see!

Chapter 1103 - The Ooofpa Loopa Finally Strikes

While there was chaos initially, most of the Pandarens quickly took whatever role they needed to fill based on the available 'job' slots in the Pandamonium App. (Like gunners, artillery shell assistants, lookouts, barricade builder, etc) Even without any minions to lead the way, they still had access to the Pandamonium App Map which at least provided them with an interactive map listing all defensive emplacements they could take up.

Once they took the emplacement position, the Pandamonium App would not only display that their location was filled up but would also send them easy to understand work instructions on how to operate the machines. Their half mask visors even gave the user visual hints by highlighting certain parts of the machinery like the artillery gun they were operating.

The System also sent out combined operational work instructions that allowed various cultivators to try and team up together as a whole. After all, this raid was about them working as one big group of strangers. There was bound to be some friction among Pandarens when working with members outside their usual group.

Yet, Kraft and the System believed that there should still be some level of cooperation because this was not a life and death situation. Mistakes were permitted and the community of Pandarens progressed as a team no matter the differences.

The usage of defensive emplacements such as artillery guns, anti air guns and even mobile mortars were picked up by them on the spot. Thanks to the assistance of the System it was easy enough (because it was dumbed down a lot), yet this enabled some form of confidence that they could deal with the incoming threat.

For the time being, both Ooofpa Loopas remained stationary, giving the entire section of artillery freshman a few training shots against the big immovable target. It was programmed that way by Jin and reinforced by Kraft to instil fear in the monster. The interesting part was that Jin had purposely changed the way the Ooofpa Loopa would work while keeping the basic mechanics of the boss monster the same.

He had purposely inverted the original name of the abomination from Loopa Ooofpa to Ooofpa Loopa to explicitly show that it was a basically 'different' monster. (He was also betting that most of the Pandarens would not notice the difference since the monster looked the same and a flip of the name was nothing to people who were dyslexic.)

The original Loopa Ooofpa abomination had the disgusting ability to consume energy be it chi or magic or other types, to later emit it out as part of its attack, causing pretty much devastation on a pretty epic scale. If Jin had kept the very same mechanic, he believed that the Pandarens would only experience raid wipe after raid wipe since most of them were relying on his dungeon environmental mechanics to support their strengths and powers.

Thus, he had purposely revamped the Ooofpa Loopa, keeping the part about getting immune after the first attack that they were damaged with, primarily based on the type of element. For example, the artillery shell shots were mostly explosive in nature and therefore, fire element.

Anything else with a fire element would subsequently not be effective against the big boss. They would have to start hitting it with a variety of different attacks as time goes by else the Ooofpa Loopas would simply bulldoze their way through the Demopolis City Defences.

At least, the Pandarens had it easier despite not knowing the exact nature of the Boss's attribute. This was solely because their visors displayed the Ooofpa Loopa's health points right in front of them when they targeted it. All they needed to do was some major 'big brain' thinking to realise that their artillery shells would only be effective if they constantly rotated in different elements.

And that itself would be a surprisingly decent boss mechanic to deal with once they figured it out. Kraft sure had it easy, not needing to recreate anything special. All he needed to do was to ensure that the transfer and replication of all the assets would work as intended. (Of course just because he didn't 'need' to, didn't mean he didn't touch it...)

However, not just any elemental attacks would do the trick since the Ooofpa Loopa also had a certain amount of base elemental resistance and defence (both magical and physical). The Pandarens would have to tear through before the change in the element could happen. And as if that wasn't enough, they also had to deal with two of those monsters at once.

Meanwhile, the Pandawans were temporarily taking up leadership roles to ensure smoother processes within Demopolis. But as they explored the Pandamonium App to check the facilities available to them inside Demopolis, they found out that the entire city was indeed a military base, filled with all sorts of equipment which they could use to fight against the Ooofpa Loopa and from the looks of it, many of those had already been taken up.

From small arms like assault rifles and RPG to one man tanks and even a truck that held a barrage of rocket launchers. What surprised them the most was the variety of ammunition stored within the armoury. The Pandawans saw the stock inventory in Pandamonium App and they believed it was practically enough to start World War Three.

"What are we your waiting for? Those Pandarens who are not at the North and South Defence installations, get your a.s.s over to the bas.e.m.e.nt four armoury and get those crates of guns transported out. Some of you carry those lightning element based artillery shells to the southern area. Maybe we can use the elements to our advantage since that dumbass monster is in the sea area!" Se Lang shouted when he brought a team of Pandarens to sort out the inventory.

But as he did that, chatter within the Pandaren Channel, which was created similarly to the System Channel, increased multifold minutes after Se Lang gave the order to send the artillery ammunition to the south. (They really had to thank Xiong Da for buying the entire package to do raid wide coordinations.) Those chatters were coming from the Pandarens on the North and South Walls who had simultaneously spotted the Ooofpa Loopa giving birth to various odd shaped eggs from its orifices.

However, the North still had it easy, at least their side's eggs could be seen on the ground. As for the Southern Wall, the Pandarens reported that those eggs sank the moment they emerged out of those orifices and most of them assumed that the sea was hiding their presence.

This presented an unprecedented challenge to the Pandawans and Pandarens but all of them decided to take it one step at a time. "Fire at those orifices and eggs! Reduce their numbers before those abominations give birth to more of them!" Bu Dong shouted through the Pandaren Channels and those manning the walls immediately pounced into action by readjusting their aim to the vulnerable orifices of the Ooofpa Loopa so they could destroy them.

And this was barely the beginning!

Chapter 1104 - Extra -The Workings of Bone Spirit Demons

"You sure know how to torture those poor little Pandarens, eh?" Pei commented as she watched Kraft furiously type on his tablet and keyboard from his throne. It was quite rare of him to work so hard out in the open for people to see. And yet he somehow had the time to display the expression of a bored sloth, as his hands typed in speeds that made it hard to follow their movements.

"Sure, but half the credit should go to Jin. It was his initial idea, I just improved on it. Since I placed one stupid Loompa Oompa monster in the sea, I had to make sure that the underlings are sea to land

compatible...or at least sea compatible. Otherwise, they would have just drowned or become easy pickings for Jin's customers to kill. Where is the fun in that?" Kraft argued and Pei corrected him.

"They are the Ooofpa Loopa, stop confusing me. It is already difficult to differentiate the real Loopa Ooofpa and now the customised dungeon monster Ooofpa Loopa." Pei said while folding her hands.

"Again, blame Jin and not me. He was the one who switched the placement of words in the name away. I'm merely following him." Kraft yawned a little but his eyes were still squinted, staring at the miniature screen with utmost concentration.

"What kind of monsters are you putting in to terrify our customers, anyway?" Pei questioned once more.

"The Bone Spirit Demons are a very interesting set of specimens. While we did not technically capture them the traditional way, I did however have some of the Night Foxes take the liberty of sealing a few up during our time and been studying them during my downtime. Why of course, I had to give credit where it's due since the bulk of the specimens were captured by the Valgs, you know those creepy looking four legged monsters of Maeve and Mab? The Feys of the Winter Court? Yes? No? I still remembered how impressive it was for Jin to call those parasites out to play. I mean, they were almost a tit for tat against the Bone Spirit Spirits. Being unnatural parasite themselves, they would not be latched upon by the Bone Spirits no matter how they try. It was as if Jin had the sense to bring out a swarm of parasites to pit it against another. But seriously though, those Night Foxes of mine did play a part catching them too, just out of sight of Jin's. Anyways, I am blabbering too much. Where was I? Oh yes. With the main host gone, they would not have lasted long in any astral plane setting. Fortunately, this issue had been solved by tying it down to a new master." Kraft was speed talking that Pei knew that he did not have time to filter his words since he was concentrating on the raid instance bug fixes.

"Anyways, the System, as usual, was very accommodating in providing them with the necessary requirements to keep them alive when I unsealed the bunch... long story short, they turned out to be quite the exceptional spirits despite their abysmally low rank in the Hell Plane." Kraft continued to babble on without any care as his mind was in tune with what was on the screen while he multi-tasked and talked with Pei, to quench the latter's curiosity.

"So the time you asked to borrow my medical tool box back then... Were they the reason why?" Pei realised it and connected the dots. "Did you even sterilise it after use?"

"Duh. You always accuse me of being haphazard and somewhat irresponsible, but do you really think I want to give you a reason for me to suffer your wrath unnecessarily?" Kraft took a glance at Pei and returned to what he was doing.

"The System can show Bellator Pei a record of Original Bellator Kraft sterilising the tools according to the standard protocol you've set." The System reported while intervening in their conversation so as to ensure that there was peace and understanding between the duo.

Although he made it look easy, it was nonetheless a delicate time for Kraft to clear the Demopolis City Raid Final Boss Instance's real time errors and bugs along with the help of the System before the Raid Dungeon Instance would enter Phase one of the fight in full force.

"Fine, I shall believe you without the video. Still, since you 'borrowed' it your usual way, can you tell me what exactly you are doing with those Bone Spirit Demons as compensation." Pei used the excuse of Kraft simply leaving an IOU on her table where the tool box had been to squeeze out more information about the current Raid.

After all, she was a little worried that Kraft's tendency to 'make things interesting' might explode the raid's difficulty into something that the Pandarens would be unable to handle and that was definitely not what Jin would have wanted.

"Psssh. Fine. No need to come up with those excuses, I would have told you anyway, as long as you would have addressed me as your rightful El Presidente." Kraft teased her for a brief moment before he turned serious again.

"As you know, the Bone Spirit Demons have the same astral plane alignment as Moloch, Wolte and King Baal. Only unlike those three big a.s.s lords, they are pretty much the lowest tiers of 'demons' within their astral plane if you want to call them that. Calling them a byproduct of the Hell Plane's energy wouldn't be wrong after all. Point is, they lack the capability to live without a constant supply of Hell Plane's energy to feed on. To them that energy would be the same as our oxygen...erm wait no. That is a little too far-fetched, maybe something like humans who would be unable to live without the sun." Kraft explained as he continued to type but suddenly noticed that he had overlooked an error. He stopped talking for a few minutes as he tapped his up arrow furiously to reach that error and held down his backspace button to clear it before replacing it from scratch with a new line.

"Grrr. Should have just said oxygen and not broken my train of thoughts. Sigh, anyway. Yes, the Sun. Aside from all those theoretical bull crap we say about the sun, without its energy, mankind would feel kinda shitty, to put it mildly, right? Let's not even mention how all plants and stuff would die without it and the other blah blah. It might not be the best analogy, but they have the same needs as us and without the energy of their plane, they would go bonkers."

"To compensate they subordinate themselves to a higher tier entity like the Loopa Ooofpa. Since he is a manifestation of hunger, greed or whatever he represents, that one big oaf provides that energy to them, allowing them to move freely in another realm plane." Kraft continued as he pressed enter waiting for the debugging function to work, awaiting the System input if there were any other problems with it.

"Isn't that the same as oxygen. You should have just used the oxygen analogy." Pei squinted her eyes as she replied.

"No, the sun is indeed better. Without oxygen, humans would die rather quickly, but without the sun they could actually survive, at least for a longer period of time. For them it's the same, my experiments lead me to the conclusion that they should be able to survive in our worldly plane for more than a week or so without the powers of the higher entity as long as they latch themselves onto a creature for its bodily needs, and subsequently transforming the body it hitched on into part of its new identity."

"In layman's terms, they can survive by becoming parasites and possessing some other entity. But even so, the constant loss of Hell Energy makes them weak and due to the misalignment of this Plane's energy and Hell Energy, it kind of makes them dissipate into thin air if left alone and no other external factors included." Kraft becoming so scholarly for a brief period of time made Pei reminisce all his

rational arguments from when they were younger. It made her remember the days why she tolerated his behaviour and enjoyed his company.

"If we are going that route-" Pei was about to continue questioning him until a sudden loud noise came out from his tablet.

Ping! "System reports no other faults in the current raid instance."

"Meh, that was easier than expected. Should have added a few more surprises. Oh well..." Kraft shrugged his shoulders as he quickly browsed the very last line as confirmation and pressed the enter button in a very satisfying manner. "There we go. Should be all done for now." He commented as he stretched on his throne before swiping the tablet away for a while.

"You should stop worrying your pretty little head about this whole Bone Spirit Demons info dump. Just enjoy the fight and the surprises I have prepared for them. System, please make sure to send me a clip of everyone's reaction. Time to do what really needs to be done. After all, those Dungeon World citizens aren't going to poison themselves, right?" Kraft unbuttoned his El Presidente blazer and threw it at his throne to go out to work.

"For you to actually go to work, you're working yourself off to carry Jin's burden, eh?" Pei noted with a bit of concern.

"What can I say? I pity my master. He works so hard but yet still finds a way to bury himself in extra work. Besides, he did put me in charge for this Demopolis Raid. Finishing things with anything but an E for Excellent rating would bring shame to the name of us Foxes." Kraft said as he rolled up his black shirt's sleeves and from his storage ring, his ever iconic coat emerged from it.

"I also can't leave out those two rascals. The way things have been going, made it seem that me and Zeru are the only ones working overtime." Kraft coughed while mentioning the Sword Saint himself. Before teleporting away, he tidied his coat and checked that he had his trusty phone with him even though he did not need it with all the System channels.

"Come to think of it, System any updates on our Sword Master in the Flower City with all the Banned Emperor conspiracy nonsense? Wait, no. Don't tell me yet. Or else I will be distracted to go into the Flower City myself to find out more." Kraft asked as he made a mental note to mess with him after they both completed their missions. (Oh but to trust the Fox to behave on his mission? That would be something out of the ordinary and very unlikely to happen.)

Chapter 1105 - Setting Layers of Defences in Demopolis

"FIRE!!" Bu Dong shouted as another barrage of artillery shots came raining down towards the direction of the Northern Ooofpa Loopa. This time around, they were focusing on the Bone Spirit Demons who had been able to escape the initial volley of attacks and were now running towards the Demopolis Walls.

Sadly, the Pandarens were not yet ready to face them head on outside of the walls. They had wrongfully assumed that the interim period before the Boss encounter had been merely set up for them to rest and relax. Nobody had told them that they had been supposed to use that particular period to prepare some defences against the menacing hordes of monsters.

Alas, that time had already passed and there was no use crying over spilt milk. All they could do now was to mitigate the further damage, hoping that the comrades they had called in would soon arrive. Right now, all the Pandarens were doing their best to either use the artillery to fight back or search for more defences as much as they could with whatever they were able to scour throughout the city.

The Pandawans, with the help of some Pandarens, had realised that they could use the city landscape to their advantage, yet, the city itself was rather vast. There was actually a Suburban area near the outskirts of the Demopolis Walls to accommodate the residents if need be before it transits to a wide round field and later the military bases.

The Suburban areas were filled with multistorey buildings which could be used to isolate the Bone Spirit Demon Horde if they brought them down with explosives. However, the barricade would only last a certain amount of time before the Bone Spirit Demons climb over them or even dig through them.

Still, it was somewhat a last ditch defence solution to slow the monsters down if the walls were overwhelmed. The explosives were easy to place since the Pandamonium App had basic blueprints of each and every building in the Suburban area. But before exploding those buildings to dust piles, the Pandarens rushed to create defensive barricades just like how the Mafia Demon Families had done the same.

Why come up with something new if an old plan should already be able to do the same job?

So they found every piece of furniture they could salvage from the homes and built several makeshift barriers to stop the Bone Spirit Demon Horde from advancing. Some explosives and debuffing inscription charms were added into the mix of those barriers so that they could further reduce the advancement of the Bone Spirit Demon Horde from approaching the open fields.

And speaking of the open fields, that was where the second major batch of Pandarens was present. Under the lead of Pandawan Se Lang and Deng Long, they had begun digging shallow trenches so that the cultivators had a place to fall back at each and every interval in their fight against the Bone Spirit Demon Horde. They had no idea how aggressive the Bone Spirits were but they took whatever possible method in their handbook to slow the horde down. However, they honestly hope the fighting would not take place that near to their base. Because if that was the case, the odds of winning would practically be close to zero too. The open field without proper support fire was equivalent to suicide and Se Lang believed they should rather surrender the raid instance.

Still, they continued to do it because the objective of this raid was not just to kill the two boss monsters, it was the protection of the airfield runway. it was the one thing that the Pandarens had to protect at all costs, otherwise, there would be no more additional reinforcements coming in.

Some of the Pandarens complained that this Final Boss Instance should have allowed for a more constant wave of reinforcements coming through by the means of magical teleportation but thematically, it did not make sense at all and it might break the raid.

If the reinforcements were to stream in simultaneously, they would no doubt have sufficient manpower to fight against the Demon Hordes and the Boss Monsters. It wouldn't be a suspense filled fight anymore, but more of a battle of attrition, with one side unable to lose. It would no longer be a question of IF they could win, but WHEN they would win.

However, as the epic conclusion to the Demopolis City Raid this part was meant to be a fight for their lives, preparing them for the case should such a monster ever appear in the midst of their reality (again). It was a sort of training for both the civilians and the armed personnel of the country...or that was what many who were in the raid instance had come to believe.

In reality, Kraft's main goal was just to give the Pandarens a worthy fight to remember Jin's dungeon instance, since it was indirectly his brother's possible future legacy. (Although he also wanted to see them suffer for a change since he was of the opinion Jin always treated them too nicely. And sadly, some of the minions felt the same way as well.)

The trenches were filled with another layer of artillery guns awaiting their time to be used while barbed wires, explosives and even mines were placed diligently by the Pandarens setting up the battlefield. And because they needed more time to dig the trenches and place the items, it was up to the Pandarens at the Demopolis Wall and Suburban areas to buy them time to settle their defences.

However, one shouldn't forget about the military equipment that was stored within the city's bas.e.m.e.nts. Tanks, jeeps and rocket launcher trucks were slowly being brought out and they were placed in strategic areas where they could cover the most extensive area of attack. There were a few soldiers among the Pandarens and they immediately volunteered to give whatever advice they could to the Pandawans in order to speed things up.

As for the naval portion, the Pandawans found out there were actually mini submarines as well as portable diving engines which could be used to manoeuvre within the sea without coming up for air. They were shaped like a torpedo without the explosives inside, allowing easy manipulation as long as the cultivators could tolerate the sea currents and even had huge oxygen tanks with which the Pandarens could replenish their oxygen. But because of their properties, they were vulnerable when those engines were damaged, so those who used them treated it as a one time trip against the wave of Bone Spirit Demons.

Still, the Demopolis Armoury seemed to have no shortage of them. Destroying even a hundred of them would not dent their inventory stocks. Thus, with most portions of the defences covered, the Pandawans were only worried about the offensive part of this raid.

Chapter 1106 - Ooofpa Loopa Weakness

"The Bone Spirit Demons have crossed the 100 metre mark!" One of the self-assigned Pandaren leaders shouted within the Pandaren Group Channel, informing everyone that they were going to engage in close combat with them soon.

"The Bone Spirit Sea Demons are already near the walls! We are proceeding to intercept them!" Another Pandaren leader reported in the Pandaren Group Channel as the sea creatures were more of a menace than their Northern counterparts mainly because of the cover of the sea.

Some of the Pandarens had already used the diving engines to engage with the Bone Spirit Sea Demons but according to the shared intel, less than ten survived the confrontation when they had sent forty of them out to see how many were hiding in the seas.

"The sea really is our Achilles heel." Xiong Da admitted in the Pandawans Group Channel and they all agreed that none of them had much knowledge on how to defeat creatures that were in the sea aside from waiting for them to come on shore.

"At the very least we have a lengthy beach shore. I have asked Tank Platoon Charlie Leader to assist with the efforts against the engagement. Unlike the Northern portion, we have to send out some Pandarens to fight against the Bone Spirit Sea Demons to slow them down." Bu Dong who was aiding the coordination said.

"So the Southern Walls are aiming most of their attacks at those Bone Spirit Demons that just come out of the shore?" Bin Yong questioned and Bu Dong nodded his head.

"The shoreline has already been riddled with artillery shells and machine gun bullets and the current group of Pandarens is aware not to go too close to the shoreline. It's the least they can do to injure and possibly kill any Bone Spirit Sea Demons coming ashore before the rest of the Pandarens engage them." Bu Dong replied.

"Good thinking there, Bu Dong, but if you've sent the stronger group to the shorelines, that also means that the Northern portion is now lacking in that many high-grade Pandarens to guard the area." Bin Yong scratched his head and wondered what they could do.

"We might have solved our immediate problem, but we still need to attack the Ooofpa Loopa. I'm afraid that until we defeat one of the two, their respective hordes will continue to swarm us. How is the research regarding that going on, Ruo Ying?" Xiong Da questioned as he could see his partner continuously scrolling her phone to research the monster.

"We are currently experiencing what those City Guards must have been through. Apparently, the death toll on their end had been because of the lack of proper defences. The only good advantage is that we have these automated defensive weapons at our disposal. "Ruo Ying stated that the Bone Spirit Demon Horde was as expected.

"But as you said if we are focusing solely on defence, it will just be a matter of time until we get defeated. It's impossible to find any articles related to their pattern of attack. The embargo of information has been well managed for this particular incident. It seems like the only solution will be to move out to hit the Ooofpa Loopa and learn of its weakness the hard way."

"However, we already know that conventional attacks don't seem to work, right? I mean the explosive shells were effective for a moment but then his hit points suddenly stopped reducing." Bin Yong chimed in and as they were discussing out in the open fields, a group of Pandarens suddenly came to interrupt them.

"Apologies, we understand that you are discussing your defences, but we might have some information that might help." The group leader of the three Pandarens said.

"Please, any information would help. How may I address you?" Xiong Da asked as he extended his hand to shake his.

"Zhang Min. And these are my friends Meng Ruo and Wei Yi. We are part of the Royal Snake Soldiers Battalion that fought directly against the Loopa Ooofpa." Zhang Min stated his work place to increase the credibility of his solution.

"Is it okay to reveal restricted information out in the open? Won't you get punished?" Ruo Ying questioned even though they knew that it was for the benefit of the entire raid instance.

"It's fine, we got the clearance from our General." Meng Ruo replied.

"Actually, he's the one who insisted that this particular information should be spread about that monster abomination we fought. Whether it will work or not for this particular dungeon instance, remains to be seen."

"Yeah, since Boss Jin had purposely inverted the abomination's name, it should be safe to assume he is not making his particular boss monster the same as the one we fought previously...according to our General at least." Wei Yi added.

"He even said it's high time for us to get our revenge against the Boss Monster for not having been able to do our part against it during the actual fight- Ow why did you hit me?" Meng Ruo looked at Zhang Min who stomped on his foot.

"There's no need to bring out the shameful past. We don't want people to spread rumours that the Royal Snake Battalion had been unable to do a single thing to aid with the fight." Zhang Min stared at Meng Ruo angrily.

"I am not getting involved. After telling the Pandawans what we need to say, I am getting out of here." Wei Yi said as he raised his hands, not wanting to speak out of tune.

"Hmm, yea. Sorry about that. Back to the topic, you should try using a different elemental attack against the boss each time you attack it. Based on the thundering noises in the background, you guys already tried artillery fire against it." Zhang Min questioned and the Pandawans nodded their heads.

"So yes. It should already be immune against the fire element. Using other elements to damage it should help. But remember, I suggest that you use one element at a time. Worst case scenario might make it immune to a plethora of elements and that could mean game over." Zhang Min stated and it suddenly clicked with Bu Dong and Bin Yong that they might have been doing it without noticing the solution right in their face.

"Wait a minute. Is that why our armoury is filled with shit loads of different elemental shells?" Bu Dong brought up and it also dawned on Bin Yong that what the soldiers said must have a correlation to the damage dealt with the Ooofpa Loopa.

"This would also explain why the Southern Ooofpa Loopa in the seas has taken more damage compared to the one in the North. I saw them take lightning-based artillery shells to hit it, thinking that it might be more effective since it is submerged in the seas." Bin Yong reported as he picked up his phone to check the status of both Ooofpa Loopa to see how much of a hit point difference they had.

"Some of us theorised that the boss has entered a sort of invincible mode until we clear the Bone Spirit Hordes. So you're saying that's not the case?" Ruo Ying asked but the soldiers shook their heads.

"Since Boss Jin has messed with it, we can't completely eliminate the possibility that he wants us to fight them in phases. We're just saying that based on our own experience, those Bone Spirit Demons were endless. We had been fighting against them the entire time when-" Zhang Min stopped since his buddy poked him in his ribs. He had nearly forgotten that they were not allowed to use the Dungeon Supplier's name.

That was one of the secrets that their General had explicitly stated that they must not reveal despite the fact that a number knew that Boss Jin had worked behind the scenes to aid them like with those portal trucks. Still it was not too hurt for them to figure out, seeing as they had the Sea Mesh official logo had a small panda next to it. Although it had not been an official logo, some people managed to connect it since there was a proper affiliation between Sea Mesh and 'Dungeons and Pandas'.

"...when other State Agents came into the scenes." Zhang Min whispered, making it seem as if it was already a stretch to bring the Ministry of State Security into the picture and the Pandawans could see why they struggled to say it out loud. They instantly understood and decided not to ponder over their incident especially when they just met.

"I just checked and numbers wise, we managed to damage the Southern Ooofpa Loopa down to 85% of its health while the Northern Ooofpa Loopa still has 90% of its health intact despite a fiercer barrage ongoing. We'll have to check how much damage the next element will inflict on it." Bing Yong reported and the two other Pandawans beside him immediately got into action to tell the Pandarens responsible for the transfer of inventory in the armoury to start moving a water based elemental shell to the Northern borders next.

"Hey, why did you not tell them about the explosive feedback when the abomination got immune to the attacks? Isn't that more of a pressing concern?" Meng Ruo asked after the trio of soldiers had bid the Pandawans goodbye and proceeded towards the Northern Demopolis Walls.

"The feedback should have already occurred based on the theoretical papers created by the Royal Zodiac Monkey Researchers. Maybe Boss Jin just decided to dial the monster down a fair bit? It would truly be unfair to the Pandarens if they encounter such a crazy a.s.s monster in their raid instance." Zhang Min answered as they started to leap with their qing gong, jumping from one trench site to another and all the Pandarens in the vicinity who saw the qin gong style recognised them as being part of the military. No Pandaren without proper training would be able to do what the Royal Snake Soldiers were doing.

"Only real life is that unfair, giving us such a troublesome monster to deal with back then. Without Boss Jin's intervention, I honestly doubt our battalions would have been able to defeat it. Also, I am secretly hoping that the Pandawan lady is right and once the Bone Spirit Horde has been defeated that those abominations become vulnerable to attacks again, since that immunity trick really sucks." Wei Yi remarked as he followed closely behind them.

"I don't believe that will be the case. It would be too easy, all we would have to do would be to keep shooting from afar. You think Boss Jin will give his cultivators such a comfortable route of cultivation? Did you already forget about the Pandapolis Raid Instance and how that massive fight was too damn real and chaotic at the end despite all the preparations that we had?" Meng Ruo commented.

"All I remember is that someone tried to rescue a feisty 'damsel in distress." Wei Yi pointed out and they all laughed.

"Alright, enough nonsense, you guys. We have a boss to take revenge on and we don't know whether the mechanics still apply here." Zhang Min stressed as they climbed over the Suburban buildings and managed to reach the Northern Demopolis Walls. The horror of seeing those Bone Spirit Demons never left them and the view from the top of the Demopolis Wall had brought back some horrific memories that remained suppressed until now.

"Gee, seeing them again isn't the greatest feeling ever. It's like we are going through some psychotherapy against traumatic events. We were really lucky that our battalion did not suffer as badly as the Royal Horse Battalion." Meng Ruo said as he took his sword and gun out.

"Have you tried Jin's inscriptions? They are pretty fun to use." Wei Yi tried to change the topic since it was getting way too heavy in the reminiscent part as he threw a pack of them towards Meng Ruo.

"Use whatever you need. We are going to release hell and show these small-time Pandarens what it means to be a Soldier in the Royal Snake Battalion!" Zhang Min supported the diversion as he took his standard load out of a sword and gun.

"Right, just make sure we won't have to save you from another Bone Spirit Gorilla again!" Meng Ruo nudged Zhang Min with his elbow and Wei Yi got to laugh at their supposed leader. As much as they could not stand the Bone Spirits, the trio could gauge that the monsters were as deadly as the ones they had encountered before.

The Pandarens who had charged in earlier than them were having difficulty staying on the offensive against them. A number had already lost while some used the invincible shield that was bestowed to them at the start of the fight to prolong their life.

However, from the Royal Snake Soldiers' perspective, the worst has yet to come. Those Bone Spirit Demons they encountered were the easier lot like the Bone Spirit Monkeys and Bone Spirit Dogs.

Individually they were not too strong, but underestimating them as they hunted in groups or packs was foolish. Regardless, this was still a Raid Instance and those soldiers rushed in to save people, kill monsters and earn more points before the rest of their buddies came in to join the fight.

As for the Ooofpa Loopa, it was up to the Pandawans' coordination to ensure that they could reduce the health of the abominations using their elemental shells before they broke through Demopolis walls and started to wreak serious havoc.

Chapter 1108 - The Battalion's Backup

"The Bone Spirit Demons!!! The Bone Spirit Demons!!! More of them are coming out from the fog! They are getting bigger too! Run! Run!!!!!" Some of the Pandarens began to panic and retreat in a panic to the Demopolis Walls after encountering some variations of the Bone Spirit Demons in the midst of a fog. It was a defensive mechanism from the Ooofpa Loopa in an attempt to shield the eggs from the constant firing of artillery fire.

"Hold your ground! Do not retreat any further! Remember that this is just a Raid Instance! It's better to injure the monster in front of you than run! The rest behind you will finish it up! Trust in the teamwork of your fellow Pandarens! Do not falter against the enemies!!" Zhang Min shouted repeatedly to encourage the rest as he plunged his sword through the neck of a two-headed Bone Spirit Dog and wasted his bullets through its heads. The moment he heard a click sound, he immediately unloaded it while twisting his sword to ensure that the Bone Spirit Dog Demon stayed dead.

"Reloading!" He shouted to let Wei Yi and Meng Ruo cover him in the process. He took out a new cartridge from his waist belt with the necessary clips for subsequent battles. His breath was starting to get a little strained but the adrenaline kept him sane while his comrades were shooting nearby Bone Spirit Demons to taunt them to charge towards the soldiers.

This was also to relieve the pressure from the retreating Pandarens who had lost the will to fight. It was understandable since many of the soldiers themselves had not been prepared for the Bone Spirit Demons' ferocity when they had first encountered those abominations on the field.

"The variations are coming out from the fog, we should change our firepower." Wei Yi suggested as he too spent his current clip of bullets but was able to reload quick enough with the remaining cartridges on his waist belt.

"Let's properly clear this wave first. Do not make the same mistake again. The last time they left the small fry, they would wait for a chance to backstab us at the worst possible timing! If we can clear as many of the first wave Bone Spirit Demons, it should be easier for us to handle the second wave." Zhang Min declared as he finished reloading and took his sword out of the dead Bone Spirit Dog.

"You are once again assuming Boss Jin is playing by the rules." Wei Yi said as he took two Bone Spirit Monkey Demons head on. When they jumped right in front of him, he instantly used a basic Snake Sword Technique, Whirling Curve which enabled him to swipe right through the monkeys bisecting them before they were able to touch him.

"Stop jinxing us! So far, they are behaving exactly how they did in the real world, so let's hope that the pattern continues without any nasty surprises!" Zhang Min nearly shouted at his buddy, when he suddenly heard a beep in his Pandamonium App.

With his phone attached to his upper c.h.e.s.t for easy access, the Royal Snake soldier saw that they were indeed going with a coordinated elemental barrage against the Northern Ooofpa Loopa. No wonder the artillery shots had been greatly reduced in the past few minutes, making the unaware Pandarens on the frontline panic for a moment.

He and the group also realised that the Ooofpa Loopa did not leave any opportunity unwasted and already sent the second wave out when the artillery fire had lessened. "Man, Boss Jin sure is ruthless with the programming of his boss monster." Zhang Min said to his group as he pointed towards the fog with his sword. His half masked visor was already sensing multiple groups coming about.

"It is already as real as it could get with the raid instance. The rest of our Battalion coming in will be in for a treat." Meng Ruo remarked until he heard a familiar chatter in the Pandaren Channel.

"Treat your a.s.s, Corporal!" And suddenly that harsh voice went to the public channel for the Pandarens in the Northern Walls to take cover.

Without hesitation, the trio ducked for cover and a series of loud blasts was heard coming from the direction of the Demopolis walls.

"Are those?!" Meng Ruo saw a few large tracer rounds zooming past them and headshotting the Bone Spirit Demons right in front of them.

"Shit, those really are tanks! Hahahahah! However, these ones seem to be the american versions!" Zhang Min was very happy to see their reinforcements arrive in M60 Tanks from the bottom of the Demopolis Walls and to the battlefields. The M60 tanks were a series of second generation main battle tanks made by the Americans and were used in several wars throughout the years since its inception in the 1960s. Their reliability was commendable and their model had been revised and updated several times during its service in the US Military.

"I'm more concerned about the one who talked to us..." Wei Yi pointed out a bit dejected and soon enough, they spotted their very familiar personnel. A person who they had a serious love/hate relationship with. A second father to them on duty and a brother off duty.

Sarge Rocher.

"What are you punks waiting for?! Get into the f.u.c.k.i.n.g tank and get some anti demon gear on! You think you can fight those Bone Spirits with whatever shit you have right now?!" Rocher started shouting in his work voice and the trio didn't waste a second to lower their stance and run through the battlefield as the tanks roared loudly at the second wave of Bone Spirit Demons hiding in the fog.

"Sarge!" Zhang Min and the rest exchanged greetings with Rocher with a quick bro handshake before picking up the equipment which their sergeant had already left right behind the tank. Looking around, they realised that a number of the tank commanders were also his comrades.

"Geez, you guys got to play with the tanks while we had to get out into the fight and get dirty in the mud?" Meng Ruo complained to his platoon mate who was driving the opposite tank.

"Sucks to be you! Should have explored your options when the Pandamonium App asked you to go in." His mate ridiculed him and gave him a friendly middle finger as a payback for calling him to join the raid instance so abruptly.

"Asshole!" Meng Ruo returned the favour and Rocher hit his head directly which prompted Meng Ruo to apologise almost immediately.

"Still, god damn it, to be able to lead and drive a tank like this, Boss Jin really isn't your average Dungeon Supplier." Rocher praised as he touched the metal plates of the tank before looking at the enemies. "My only complaint that I have is that the controls are too f.u.c.k.i.n.g amateur! Where are my pedals and pulleys?!"

"Sarge, this is a raid instance, not everyone is as learned as you to get into a tank and operate it immediately. Besides, you just want a tank under your name, right?" Zhang Min pointed out and Rocher scoffed at him.

"Shhh. Do not even dare to bring up that incident in the previous military exercise or I will make sure to give you latrine duty for a week straight."

"Sarge, as much as you like to warn people, we-" Before Zhang Min could finish his sentence, a volley of artillery were fired right behind them, and their coordinated attack was not a pleasant sound to their ears. On the other hand, the thunderous explosions of the artillery shots moving fast towards the Ooofpa Loopa were a sight to behold as they got to watch the Ooofpa Loopa squirm in pain when it received the water elemental shots and everyone could see that the hit points were going down.

There was a series of approving screams and shouts as its HP dropped, increasing the morale of the Pandarens since it was proof that this was not a fruitless endeavour. However, the artillery crew had little time to celebrate as they were hastily preparing another volley of shots before the beast started to get immune against the water elemental shells.

For now, there seemed to be a light glistening beyond the depths of a dark tunnel and the Pandarens were rallying to do the same for the Southern Ooofpa Loopa as well.

Chapter 1109 - Extra- Dicey Moments -Part 1

Just as the Pandarens were busy fighting against the Ooopa Loopa in the North and South of Demopolis, Shi Zuo and Luo Bo were currently fighting their own battle. A battle that could potentially change the course of the raid instance...or so they hoped.

The Pandawan couple had been searching the depths of Demopolis for items, inscriptions or possibly legendary relics they could salvage for the fight. But instead of those, Luo Bo had accidentally found a passage as they had been scavenging through boxes and crates in the lowest bas.e.m.e.nt hoping for that special inscription or some form of weapon of mass destruction.

Even though the Pandamonium App should have listed all the items they had in the online inventory, Luo Bo had quickly discovered that inside the raid instance there were actually secret stashes with items not listed.

This had led her to believe that the armoury itself might be a sort of mini game and a way for the Pandarens/Pandawans to earn some points if they were not actively fighting. And given that they had

deployed most of the Pandarens, and the Pandawans were technically their last line of defence, Shi Zuo and Luo Bo decided to use the downtime to find a potential trove of hidden treasures within the armoury.

It was to their surprise that after they had moved one of the larger crates away that it had unveiled a crack in the walls from which one blast of cold air emanated from. She was able to go through the crack easily, but Shi Zuo wasn't as thin. His girlfriend had to pull him in after he had held his breath.

Apart from the area they got through, the couple ended up in a tunnel where there was no light. Fortunately, with their half-masks night vision mode, they managed to see that the caves were supported with several iron pillars and a few flashing light bulbs. Not what they expected from a revitalised military base but hey, what's a military base without any hidden secret or ghostly portion of it?

The duo also noticed that the Pandamonium App lacked a map in regards to this area, and two way communication from the bas.e.m.e.nt to the surface became patchy at best. Shi Zuo sent a text message to the group, hoping his phone's sporadic signal would be sufficient to inform the rest that they were in a secret area. (Eventually, they received a surprising response from Xiong Da stating, 'Good job, please continue'.)

They assumed the surface operations were too busy for the rest to give a damn about why two Pandawans had gone missing. However, the Rabbit Pandawan had her senses tingling that this place could potentially hold one of the secrets that might allow them to win the battle against the Ooofpa Loopas.

True enough, as they walked further into the cave, they subsequently breached an opening and there was a guardian figure sitting right at the centre. With their presence being felt in the opening, the shadow stared back at them.

Soon, the Pandawan couple found themselves trapped in a duelling ring surrounded by fire and they were finally able to notice the figure. It was none other than Panda Captain Hei and clearing his throat, there was Panda Captain Bai who appeared behind the duo to block their escape.

"You finally found us." Hei said as he stood up and Shi Zuo noticed that he was not wearing his standard SWAT vest. Instead, he was wearing a Japanese Samurai Armour with a two handed Katana or an Odachi (also known in the western setting as a longsword). Meanwhile, Bai was in full Chinese Armour with a spear with a blade at that top, which the Pandawans' identified as the Guan Dao, held by the infamous Lord Guan Yu.

"Shit, did we just trigger some sort of secret duel? Do we have to win against you guys to get a special item? Does that mean there are actually NPCs in the instance, and we just have to find them or is it you guys hiding around?" Luo Bo asked a barrage of questions.

"Maybe they will come to aid us if we beat up them very badly?" Shi Zuo theorised, even though he had a hard time believing it.

"You know how to spoil someone's fun. We've been waiting here since the start and now you even take our explanation away." Bai sighed as he pointed his Guan Dao towards the back. "To cut to the chase, it's pretty much what you deduced. Finding us has improved your chances to survive this raid. That is, if

you can win against us. If you do, you'll obtain something that will be able to turn the tide in the defence of your city."

"Ehhhhh, we have to fight again?" Luo Bo dragged her voice as if she knew that it would be tiring to have a fight against Hei and Bai. When she saw the armour they wore, the Rabbit Pandawan instantly assumed it would not be an easygoing fight. "Can we postpone it or something? We promise to come back and duel you guys after the boss fight!"

"Do you honestly expect us to just give you the keys and access to the one possible thing that could cut short your war against the Ooofpa Loopa?" Hei questioned and Luo Bo fervently nodded her head, hoping the NPCs would agree.

"Fine, if you did not suggest it, we would be fighting the hell out of your lives right now. However, there is something we want to do aside from fighting. And it is indeed the easier option." Hei revealed and came over to whisper with his brother, Bai.

The two giggled like a bunch of naughty rascals and eyed Luo Bo who could suddenly feel the chills going up to her spine when she saw their gaze. Even Shi Zuo slowly inched himself forward to protect his girlfriend from any possible... attempt on soliciting Luo Bo.

The Pandas chuckled and waved their hands in laughter, rejecting any s.e.x.u.a.l notion as if it was a joke between them. "It was boring having to wait so long, so let's play a game of dice. If you win, we'll let you have access to the stuff hidden behind the door. If you lose..."

"The chances of winning a dice game is rigged, don't think that we know what you think -" before Shi Zuo could argue back, Luo Bo immediately shouted, "We accept!"

"What? Are you crazy?! Playing a game of dice with them is worse than fighting both of them head on!" Shi Zuo wanted to retract the statement but the two Panda NPCs were already chuckling.

"Don't worry, Pandawan Shi Zuo. It is indeed a very simple game of dice. If you win, you get to go through." Hei said it once more but Shi Zuo wanted to know the consequences more than the win condition. Yet, they were not willing to reveal it and instead, moved on ahead to the dice game immediately.

Instantly two large cube dice appeared in front of them and with Hei and Bai simultaneously swiping them in different directions, the dice began to spin furiously at the middle of the duelling ring.

"All you have to do is to throw your axe and shoot your arrow at the respective dice. As long as you get exactly 10, we'll let you pass." Bai explained.

"If you get a 12, we'll even throw in a bonus," Hei added.

"And in case you fail, or worse, roll 2... Hehehe! Just remember it was you who agreed to play the game." Bai and Hei finished in unison with a wide grin.

"How many tries do we have?" Shi Zuo asked and the NPCs started to discuss before Hei threw his palm out. Shi Zuo was squinting his hand to count the number of fingers on him.

"Hahaha, it's six, my dear. Pandas have five fingers and a thumb." Luo Bo beat Shi Zuo's back and laughed at her boyfriend's attempt to figure it out.

"That's awfully a lot of tries." Shi Zuo thought to himself but he felt it was too easy and instead, he requested if he could have more. However, Luo Bo knocked his head and told him not to be greedy.

"Besides, I have confidence in hitting my shot but... It's another issue for you." Luo Bo teased her boyfriend as she took her bow out and stared at the dice suddenly spinning furiously with the draw sound of her weapon.

Chapter 1110 - Extra- Dicey Moments -Final

Even as the dice spun like a washing machine gone out of control, Luo Bo calmly nocked her arrow and aimed at the left die before she took a deep breath in. Her Illusive Rabbit Cultivation emerged from her back and multiple rabbits were jumping around happy as if to encourage her to get this right.

When she released her bowstring, the arrow flew with a quiet tugging sound and in a blink of an eye, it was already on one of the faces of the die. Slowly, the cube ceased its spinning and all those present could see that her result turned out to be a 6. While it was a little close to the edge, it did not change the fact that she had calculated the time, distance and strength of her shot to get it right on the first attempt. (The culmination of her training was shown here as not any archer type cultivator would be to get what they want on the first try unless it was pure luck)

The two Panda NPCs clapped, but their faces did not show any signs of surprise, as if they had known beforehand that she would be able to get it right.

However, the challenge now passed on to Shi Zuo. At least Luo Bo had increased the odds for him with her 6. Their objective was to get either a 10 or 12 so Shi Zuo could now aim for the face of a 4 or 6 to beat this dice game.

Having to increase the odds from one sixth of a chance to one third to a win was a major improvement and he knew he had to make the best out of this opportunity before anything strange could happen with this game.

Alas, he did not have the skill to predict a dice result and even if the Monkey Cultivator could even see the die faces, he did not have the kind of training Luo Bo have to throw it at the precise moment.

Therefore, he was leaving it to pure luck and chance and threw his axe at it without even looking. (Shi Zuo even whispered a little prayer before sending it out)

The axe swirled in a curved direction before hitting one of the faces of the die and when the Panda NPCs stopped the spinning of the cube, they found that the axe was stuck at the edge of 5 and 6! It was an unbelievable turn of events and they thought they could clear this 'simple' event fast.

However, the atmosphere changed almost instantaneously when the Panda NPCs stood at one side to deliberate the results causing the Pandawans to hope quietly that it would be a 'fair' judgement.

"Sorry to say, the axe edge is more towards the face of 5 than rest of the weapon," Hei declared that Shi Zuo had failed the dice roll combination.

"In addition, the handle of the axe is towards the face of 5, so we shall count your result as 5, making your total score 11," Bai commented further and Luo Bo immediately jeered at the result.

"What nonsense! The axe blade is clearly swinging towards the face of 6! And can't you give us a break? We are in the middle of 10 and 12! We do not need any bonus items or whatever, just give us the pass to go through." Luo Bo argued and the two Panda NPCs shook their heads.

"That is not what we agreed upon and we will not change the deal. For fairness' sake, we can let Shi Zuo throw again this one time. We will ignore the previous throw and pretend as if this was his real one." Bai offered, yet this sort of pampering irritated Shi Zuo.

What does the NPCs mean by the handle of the axe facing the direction of the face? What about the portion of the axe blade? If they were being calculative, he too could play that game. Thus, he removed the axe that was on the die and portrayed his monkey cultivation.

"Since you have those ridiculous rules to decide on my axe throw, then let me show you what is called playing fair." Shi Zuo yelled as he gathered his energy and focused it on his axe. Luo Bo could even feel the axe was filled with intense chi which she never felt from him before.

She decided to step back a little when she saw the cultivation portrayal of the monkeys above Shi Zuo to be screaming and shouting incessantly. They, just like him, were clearly unhappy with the Panda NPCs' decision.

Hei and Bai could have said it was a no go right from the beginning and Shi Zuo would have accepted it without any problems. But their absurd reasoning, despite giving him a chance to try again, was the trigger for his sudden flare up and he decided to play a tit for tat.

When the die began spinning again, the Panda NPCs allowed Shi Zuo to throw his axe at any time. They all assumed that he was about to perform a more forceful throw so they decided to step back a little as well.

And yes, when Shi Zuo was ready, he did throw with force... but they were not expecting what he was aiming at.

When he threw the axe, a burst of chi emerged out of him, as if giving the axe the needed push to do its best. In response, the axe suddenly imploded from within and subsequently transformed into a humongous axe. If one needed a comparison, it was about the size of a Humvee when the die was at best a standard medium sized cardboard box. And this time around there was no handle to the enlarged axe blade, just the metal edged portion swinging towards the die.

The Panda NPCs were surprised by the humongous axe blade that they instinctively dodged away, thinking that the Pandawan had gone crazy and had aimed at them. Yet, to their astonishment, it did hit the die and the weight of the axe forced the die to be stuck on its edge while it made a loud bam sound upon touching the ground.

"Due to inconclusive evidence, we have decided to reward you with the benefit of the doubt and count it as a 6 this time. However, because of the ambiguity, we are unable to reward you with the bonus. Regardless, congratulations to you. The two of you have passed the gamble." Bai announced and the two Panda NPCs clapped their hands while the backdoor creaked open slowly.

Shi Zuo thanked the two Panda NPCs despite knowing that they would lose the bonus. (After all, the Pandwans were aware that Shi Zuo's throw was a bit on the cheating side.) Thus the two of them quickly picked up their weapons once more and ran through the backdoor before the Panda duo might change their mind, eager to see what exactly had been hidden that could enable them to defeat the Ooofpa Loopa with ease.