

Dungeon S 1261

Chapter 1261 – Farasha – Part 5

“What is this sorcery?!” Farasha thought to himself angrily as he crushed the building right in front of him and unleashed a beam of energy through the streets. The aftermath of the scorched area could be seen releasing a series of butterflies once the energy had dispersed into the air.

Those black looking butterflies as dark as the absence of light were subsequently seen droning towards the cultivators. But to the cultivators who had seen this trick one too many times managed to not just evade them but counter their existence.

For Death was their teacher and Experience their partner in crime.

Many who had encountered Farasha in the past did not have such a luxury as many were quickly consumed by the void. And that was why it finally clicked to Farasha that he might possibly meet his doom when the opponents he had defeated suddenly came back to life, stronger and wiser. Stronger with better gear to counter his void butterflies, wiser when the cultivators banded together to attack him.

The Void Being now anxious, tried to reach out to his source of power, one which he thought losing it momentarily would not prove a hindrance. However, no matter how he tried to summon it, he could feel that something was blocking it. Farasha could only assume that the cultivator who created the portal was the same person who made this particular barrier.

“But to have a force ready to fight against me, and to boot, they kept sprouting back up as fit as a fiddle instead dying...that I cannot comprehend!” Farasha saw its black void butterflies destroyed so easily that he raged by using whatever void energy he had stored within him and concentrated them into his series of butterfly wings. The portal to which he had access to the void was not the only way he gained his void energy. Because he knew that another way of generating void energy was through his opponents and that was allowed to make them feel despair, dejection and ultimately desolation of their emotions.

The only problem was these ordinary looking cultivators were not feeling that way despite their multiple horrible deaths. Instead, they were renewed with vigour, their spirits rejuvenated and perhaps sadistic to the point that Farasha had difficulty killing with his limited repertoire of skills.

“Ahh ahh. And here I thought everyone would be struggling.” Jin said as he entered his dungeon maker instance along with the others who had finally reached Jin’s abode.

“To be fair, you trained them to be this crazy. Especially when this is a free event and there are already talks of limited event goodies to be earned from this..” Lynn welcomed them back as she already prepared a few cups of tea for the group to partake as a way to calm down before going into battle if they needed to.

“That I have to agree with Big Sis Lynn.” Su Zhen and the rest of the Demon Exorcists nodded their heads in unison.

“The System had also assumed that User had to enter the fray to even out the odds but it looked like the average grade cultivators and their determination to earn rewards had incidentally incentivised them to be the bane of the Void Being.” The System stated how it monitored Farasha to be hesitant in its attacks

and even decided to be more careful in its approach against the head strong warriors he was against. “However, even if the Pandarens and Pandawans were to join forces, they still would not have enough power to put it down in time.”

“In time? What do you mean?” Jin thought that as long as Farasha was stuck in the System’s premises, there was no way he was able to escape, much less the continuous onslaught on his dependable band of customers.

“Farasha had been testing out a variety of methods to break the dimensional instance despite its actions against the Pandarens. It goes to show that the Void Being is worthy of its rumours.” The System stated that the dimensional instance was actually eroding away due to the Void Butterfly’s attack. While the System was able to repair it in time in such a way that it was not noticeable for Farasha, it figured that once he had dealt enough damage, the Void Butterfly might be able to understand his circumstance and push all out for a desperate attack.

“A moment of such a particular act of desperation is as shown on the screen right now.” The System said as it showed how Farasha exploded all its energy causing everything within its blast radius to disappear into nothingness.

It somehow gave the Void Butterfly a measure of peace until the System began furiously reconstructing everything from scratch as per Jin’s original blueprint and the cultivators were all teleporting in from their previous safe points. Also, the scene of rebuilding and rebirth eventually forced Farasha to turn mad, something which he never felt for a long time.

How could something so vastly simple, worthless keep popping up to annoy him? Everything should be under his control and he knows that there is no such thing as an unbreakable barrier. If the sky is limitless, then perhaps what he had to do is to break the earth until he found the leak, the crack of this particular barrier he was in.

“Yeah, I see what you mean. No time to sit idly, the cultivators have their fill of fun. We will reward them according to our usual WARE standards.” Jin said as he started to ping all his monsters that were available.

“However, I feel that my minions should have some get go from this monster since he is going to join their ranks soon enough,” Jin said and Lynn agreed as well that an exercise out of the norm would be great to break their monotonous schedule in preparation for the Great Demon Rat War.

“In that case, we shall enter first, I have some payback to do for this monster,” Lien said as he finally felt unafraid now that he knew he would be resurrected within the dungeon instance. “Not to mention, we got to get Rong out of the hospital bed as soon as possible or he will be slacking.”

Thus, the rest of the Demon Exorcists bid their goodbye to Lynn as they entered the fray before Jin could assemble his army of minions to attack Farasha.

But when he wanted to send an army of minions to fight against Farasha, Lynn reminded him about something very important despite approving his actions. "As much as I support your idea, I like to remind you that a certain somebody would be disgruntled by your actions."

"Lol, who would that be? It's not like I have much to lose from this particular fight" Jin was about to send a message to his army of orcs until he suddenly felt a presence behind him. One that potentially overshadowed the entire room if she had her way.

"Have you forgotten who was the one that is holding the key to your finances all too soon?" Claire said as she pulled his ear.

"Ah!!!!!! Claire! Why are you here?" Jin tried to play innocent but Lynn and Claire both knew that it was not going to work on her a single bit. "I was merely watching some drama show about a teacher blowing up a classroom and then I got notifications from my Sub System that the main System was using stockpiles of resources in a short period of time." Claire pulled Jin's ear even further as she continued her reasoning.

"It was only until I saw the main page of Pandamonium that there is a monster rampaging in the store instance at this very moment and I am here to query our dear boss, what in the strange delusion he was having to put a boss monster in our SHOPPING district which contained most of our DELICATE and PRICEY items?"

"I thought the System had already pulled back all those items in another instance, and what's left in the area were fake duplicates." Jin also tried to justify the reason for putting it in the main shop instance so that it will catch everyone's attention in attacking Farasha.

"Even so, what is this that I see right in front of me? Especially that message that is to be sent out to all the orc and goblin soldiers?" Claire asked once more while pointing at the console repeatedly. "Do you really think we have that much reserves to spare for the Great Rat Demon War if you could spend it as you see fit?" She twisted Jin's ear so hard that he was shaking in his legs and even bending them because he could not tolerate it. And yet, Claire was pulling it up even further, making Jin almost cry out for mercy from the pain.

"From how I see it, you better clear this yourself and the most you could bring with you is just one monster. ONE."

"Then, I like to volunteer myself. Guarantee to finish the job and free of charge too" Yet another all too familiar came from afar and everyone in the room who took notice of him sigh simultaneously.

"Kraft, you will create more trouble than you solve them." Claire finally released Jin's ear as he instinctively placed his hands at his ear to soothe the pain.

"But look at it this way. Would you rather let a monster die multiple times or me killing that ugly crocodile butter-whatever fly so that Jin would be able to have him for the fight against the Rat Demons? Investing in me would be a great idea." Kraft tried to promote himself although everyone knew that if he did not get his approval, he would still try to force his way into this particular mess.

And with a reluctant nod from Jin, Kraft instantly disappeared and emerged right in the middle of the battlefield with all the Pandarens reborn. “Still, this would be a rather boring fight if I were to kill it away, don’t you think?” Kraft questioned the nearest Pandaren which happened to be Bu Dong.

“Hey, aren’t you Boss Jin’s employee? That ermmm fox guy. Nasty crazy fellow but extremely powerful?” Bu Dong asked as he was already starting to run out of ideas on how to tackle the boss right in front of him. Perhaps, if he has his Mecha, things might be different. Or just the Mechataur that Jin usually would dish out when fighting against humongous monsters. “Or are we doing so badly that he had to ask you to aid us.”

“Hmmm, something along that lines, I guess but let’s put it this way. He did not order me to come here, I am here out of my own gooodwill as support. Besides, you guys had been fighting for over half an hour already and dying more than we had anticipated. So... I am just strolling along the shop instance, and perhaps to even out the odds a little more for our dear customers.” Kraft said as his chi instantly spread throughout the entire shop instance, giving every Pandaren within the shop instance a boost in their capabilities.

Those who were slow in casting their techniques found that they were able to do it in an instant, while there were others who were slower in terms of reaction time, happened to be more perceptive when Farasha attacks, allowing them to dodge in time. All these little boost to the Pandaren’s capabilities caused their morale to be boosted up even further, causing Farasha’s plan to sow despair within the cultivators were nullified.

Even when Farasha tried to do the very same blast of void explosion from within had been blocked by Kraft as he used the Pandarens to come together and create a barrier to forestall that catastrophic damage to the shop instance, It was pretty much a one sided game the moment Kraft entered the battlefield that Jin could see the Pandarens were having fun while Farasha was not.

Even if Jin did not enter the battlefield, it was pretty apparent that the System would be able to catch Farasha without the User’s aid since he was encased in its System. The only person who was not happy aside from the desperate void being was Claire as she could not believe Jin was going to give out free goodies the moment this particular WARE was completed.

As such, Jin had decided to stick to the old method of throwing out gifts.

Through the lottery.

And that was enough to placate Claire’s fear as she knew that anything that has a percentage chance meant that it was something the shop could exploit. “Fine, you are forgiven just this once. As much as this fight is pretty much a goner for that void being, go to the shop instance and show your fanciful final blow. That’s the whole point of this WARE anyways. To catch the being for our own use.”

“Right away..” Jin said as he took a deep breath and teleported into the midst of the battlefield.

Just as Farasha was beaten to a pulp, Jin came in time as if to steal the spotlight from Kraft and the other Pandawans. "Your timing is as impeccable as ever. It feels as if you are merely coming here to deal the finishing blow and run away to do with your business." Kraft said and Jin suddenly had a chill running down his spine.

"Are you... going to oppose me right now?" The Dungeons and Panda store owner asked his employee who was working at the moment, in plain sight of their customers to view.

"Hmm? Oh no. If you think that was a threat, it was not. Just a passing remark, a casual comment." Kraft laughed as he patted Jin's shoulders. "After all, I am still an employee of this store. Fighting amongst each other would not do any good in terms of publicity, right?" Kraft spoke softly but still audible enough for Jin to hear despite the background noise of Pandarens fighting against Farasha. Kraft felt that his job was more or less done now that Jin was around to take over his portion and he was about to leave.

"But let me warn you. That Void Being? It felt like he was being conservative with his attacks as if he was waiting for someone." Kraft said as he took a deep breath before he shouted.

"GUYS! YOUR BOSS IS HERE TO PLAY WITH YOU ALL!" Kraft said as he then waved his hand and disappeared in thin air after he announced to everyone that Jin was around. It was then Farasha perked up. The person who he had been waiting for all this time finally arrived.

Even though Kraft's chi sharing had stopped, his chi enhancements to the Pandarens were still active but the next attack which Farasha unleashed was something that even the current chi barriers that Kraft bestowed them with were useless. The Void Being instantly unleashed another void wave explosion sending anyone that was unprepared to defend it be decimated almost instantaneously.

Jin was able to defend in time and realised what Kraft had been hinting at. Even though Kraft had volunteered himself, he was merely here to prod and test the monster, as if wondering if it was capable or worth the effort to capture. The Devil Fox too had been going with the flow, as if he knew the intent of the Void Butterfly the moment he entered the fray.

But the drastic increase in power from Farasha was uncalled for as the System had been recording lower values than what had been portrayed the moment Jin had arrived.

"You are finally here to show your face, caster!" Farasha shouted as he stood on his short alligator legs and the wings on his back glowed tremendously bright. It was pretty apparent he was holding it out for Jin to appear as his butterfly wings started to shoot out scatter beams all over where Jin was standing.

It did not take a genius to avoid all those beams considering that Jin was a high level cultivator but it was the aftermath that caused him to be wary as the beams suddenly dispersed into a fog of dust.

Immediately after the attack, Farasha swung his wings and a gust of wind blew the thick clouds of dust throughout the entire battlefield. Jin did not know what it was but instantly created a bubble of air around him. He believed he had read too much into attack although eventually, the Dungeon Supplier was correct. Everyone who did not hold their breath in time started to cough violently while others started to spasm.

The System recognised the dust particles were poisonous in nature and noticed that Farasha already knew how to stop the other Pandarens in their tracks. A swift death only meant that they would return with renewed vigour but a slow death would hinder them.

Even if they were to kill themselves, the air had now been polluted with its poisonous dust particles, making suffering the first thing they encountered. "If this is how you wish to fight, then so be it," Jin said as he already had a handy tool within his storage watch. A portable oxygen tank meant for diving purposes.

He had already modified it to be combat ready so that it did not weigh as much as it would, but that also meant that the tanks have a limited capacity. Still, that was not an issue as he had a few in his storage watch. (Not to mention, he is currently in his own store instance.)

"System, put that oxygen tank to the front of the shop app. Make the first purchase as a complimentary gift for sticking with us in this WARE event. Discounted price for the subsequent purchases only for those people who are in this event." Jin said while he braced a second wave of scatter beams coming his way. He believed that even if he blocked the attacks to reduce the places where the scatter beams would land, the after burst dust clouds could potentially kill him and that is one thing he could not do even though he is the dungeon supplier of this Dungeons and Panda store. The Void Butterfly unknowingly found one of the ways to kill Jin in his own domain.

But that is assuming that Jin was still around in his store instance. The only problem is that his customers might spread rumours about how Jin could have potentially increased the difficulty of the WARE after artificially decreasing it with Kraft's appearance. Still, it's not worth the risk of staying around, especially when death is looming around the corner.

"Eh, you know, you could always transform. That should save you more than enough trouble dealing with him." Lynn spoke through the System channel while she was staring at her darling in dilemma, giggling at how confused Jin was in his particular predicament.

"Oh right, but I never transformed in front of them before. Won't that be a problem?"

"Have you forgotten that this instance is yours and yours only?"

That was when Jin decided to not care too much and did as Lynn had suggested. After all, having a System Rider on was like a layer of comfort and protection.. (As well as more power.)

Chapter 1264 – Farasha -Part 8

"TRANSFORM!" Jin shouted as he already took out his System Belt and transformed into the System Rider despite the field being littered with his customers suffering from the attacks.

This time, he merged with Priest Savant, a decently high level adventurer from the Dungeon World who had been turned into a sentient robot. Almost a replica of the Priest Savant in terms of looks, the only difference was Jin's headgear with a wider visor that was a signature to the System Rider. Other than that, its cloth like armour had been duplicated fully with the power of the living metal, making it a few

times stronger than the one the Priest Savant had been using. At the same time, the System had popped up a screen right in front of Jin and it was only with the fusion of the Priest Savant did he realise the plethora of skills at his disposal.

“I should be experimenting more with these Savants into the System Rider!” Jin said as he pulled out Priest Savant’s unique staff, one that had been decorated with gems of unknown origins, making it already powerful the moment he held on to it.

“Area Cleanse!” Jin shouted as poured his Maqi through the staff and cast the magic spell without any further hesitation. Most of the Pandarens were able to feel their lungs and body to be somewhat lighter as if a heavy curse had been lifted off their body. It was then, Jin shouted at them to purchase a portable oxygen tank in order to continue the fight.

Seeing how the dungeon supplier was able to lift the terrible affliction from the Pandarens, Farasha did not hesitate to use the same skill once more to inflict the same side effects against them. But this time with a slight twist in his attack pattern.

Unfortunately, the Void Butterfly did not know that Jin’s System Rider capabilities to support the entire batch of Pandarens were off the charts. The moment Farasha tried to shoot the scatter beams from his butterfly wings, Jin had to cast a large protective dome barrier around himself. The Pandarens instinctively retreated into the dome to hide from the deadly effects of the scatter beams.

However, with Farasha adding a new element of a void explosion within his scatter beam attack pattern, the barrier was easily broken upon absorbing a few hits. Yet that was enough for the Pandarens to make a coordinated effort to conjure a counter attack within the barrier. Those that were well versed in the element of the wind, had already teamed up to build up a gust of wind similar to how a cyclone was generated. The moment, the barrier Jin was offering had dissipated from the void explosions, the cyclone was used to deflect the dust particles generated from the scatter beams as well as slowing and divert the scatter beams trajectory.

This enabled Jin to create another barrier albeit a little smaller but more concentrated with Maqi to deal with the remaining scatter beams. It then allowed the rest of the Pandarens to charge their chi for the next attack.

“Any chance I get to pilot the Mecha-taur again?” Bu Dong questioned Jin as he was charging his chi. He was shameless to ask such a question when Jin was busy trying to keep them alive. “Also, this suit is goddamn slick, how the hell did you even have the resources to create such an exclusive armour.”

“Just focus on charging your chi!” Deng Long knew this was not the right time to ask such questions.

“I get to be the superhero in my own instance, isn’t that wonderful? Also, Supa Robot Wars did release a notification that they will be having a major patch soon, right? Look forward to it.” Jin did not say much afterwards as he too needed to concentrate on moving to phase two the moment he saw the Pandarens charging for the attack.

Even without any extra communication among him and his clients, Jin knew that Farasha still had a few tricks under his proverbial sleeve and he was required to protect his Pandarens if they wished to do a proper counter attack. The only problem was whether the counterattack would be useful against it.

If he had played enough games in the past, butterflies and dust particles were not entirely new concepts. The past few attacks might have something to do with inhalation of those dust particles but what if Farasha had an attack pattern where all the dust particles needed were to be in contact with the enemy's skin? Paralysis or even acidic particles that melt the cultivators were possible.

Alternatively, he could change into another Savant that specialised in major firepower like how Peppers do stuff and capture Farasha but that would not be exciting for the Pandarens as a WARE event. To keep the excitement up while not spoon feeding them and limiting the resources wasted was a pain in the ass for Jin. He should have just teleported the Void Butterfly in an isolated instance and deal with it.

"Just an update, the reception for this WARE has been overwhelmingly positive. More Pandarens are trying to gain access to the current instance but the System has placed a cap to reduce further casualties. Your opinion on the current situation?" It was as if the System knew what Jin was thinking once again and leaving him in a bigger dilemma.

"Ignore them for now. If this counter attack fails, kick those who died and bring in fresh blood." Jin did not have much in his mind other than focusing on getting this counter attack right.

"Very well, the System will place them in a queue as of this moment." The System replied and via the Pandamonium App, it immediately placed a notification to wait for their turn with an extra warning sign that the WARE event might be ending soon. Some of the excited Pandarens had the mood went down a notch but they continued to hope that they would be able to take part in the event.

What they can do now was to watch how the counterattack unfold happening right in their phone screens.

Chapter 1265 – Power Of The Void

Each and every cultivator that was present in the shop instance were all charged up and with Jin's signal, all of the Pandarens stormed out of the cyclone that was blocking the view of the Void Butterfly and went straight towards him. And Jin's signal was no ordinary one as he shot out a blast of shining light with the literal words "charge" in Chinese, enabling each Pandaren to rush out with hope and a dash of optimism that they could finally kill the Void Being.

All of them were unleashing their very own unique cultivation techniques against the enormous crocodile standing on its hind legs. Farasha did not stay still as he attempted to move out of the way of the attacks. But as the analogy goes, many red ants could also bring down a mighty elephant. The cultivator attacks were emboldened by the fact that each and every one of them was once more being protected with a 'chi' barrier created by Jin. Not many of the cultivators knew that the barrier was made with a mixture of chi and magic powers as they all assumed Jin was a cultivator and not a mage.

Thus, Farasha's retaliation was not less of an issue than Jin had expected it to be. The Cultivators took the WARE event very seriously and fiercely countered the Void Butterfly to the best of their abilities by avoiding all possible scatter beams and timing their attacks so that their cultivation techniques could be enhanced through the fusion of their teammates' efforts.

It was like how Bu Dong and Deng Long had done a combination technique which they had been practising during their downtimes for Supa Robot Wars and it paid off when Deng Long's wombat air strikes deflected Farasha's scatter beams and Bu Dong followed up with his fire sword techniques imbued with the power of the Angry Ape.

These small but consecutive attacks were somewhat effective in putting the Void Butterfly in his place and even a desperate wave of void explosion from Farasha had been mitigated by Jin's Priest Savant form. He was honestly not expecting the Priest Savant form to be so effective that it almost put his priest bellator to shame. (Although to be fair, she did not like being a priest as much as she was being a battle monk.)

"Master, you do know that I feel offended by your comments." Milk appeared almost instantaneously the moment Jin had protected everyone from another wave of the void explosion.

"What? But I did not say anything!" Jin suddenly felt that the System had been leaking his thoughts out to Milk.

"What do you mean you did not say anything. When you blatantly present your skills like that, it already offends me. I can feel it in my bones that you are implying what a terrible priest Bellator I had been, that you could not trust to call me to do this job for you!!" Milk pouted.

At that point in time, Farasha who never took his eyes away from Jin immediately saw how he dropped his guard trying to argue with the lady next to him. And so, he instantly shot out a black ray of intensive energy beam towards Jin which eventually became smaller and thinner, as if to avoid detection.

Unfortunately, its sneak attack had been blocked by a wide sheet of energy barrier which Milk had already set up the moment she sensed something was off. It was then she boasted how she was still useful. However, what they did not expect was that the void beam did not stop. It started to tunnel through the energy barrier which now brought some attention to the arguing parties.

"Stupid butterfly crocodile or whatever. Can't you see I am trying to have a conversation with my master?" Milk said as she then turned the sheet of energy into a U shape horseshoe and the beam suddenly attenuated and was reflected back to Farasha himself, causing a large void explosion on his wings.

To their surprise, the attack was extremely effective and this was the first recorded major damage the System had witnessed. All of them came to the conclusion that the Void Monsters' weakness was their own powers. Without any hesitation, the cultivators took the opportunity to hit the injured pair of wings seeing that there was some sort of black blood oozing out of the area.

"System, can you create Void Energy?" Jin asked but the System was unable to comply as it needed the Void Being to be captured for it to analyse how the Void Energy works. "If that's the case, I will try to pretend to learn it," Jin said as he was hoping the training in Suzaku's Endless Battlefield could allow him to imitate it in some way against the Void Being.

To everyone's surprise, including the person who attempted it was shocking to learn that Jin was indeed capable of producing some form of Void Energy, especially when the Panda Silhouette was cultivating some sort of black hole with his bare hands. (while wearing a pair of translucent butterfly wings and a fake crocodile tail which was hanging loosely at his waist)

However, it was somehow taking a toll on his Maqi accumulation which should never happen given that he was currently in the System Rider form as the System was also helping Jin to assimilate his chi energies through his entire body. “Wow, it’s not as pitch black as the one the Void Being had used, but I could feel the similarities oozing from it.” Milk said as she stood one step away to ensure not to get caught in the crossfire.

Farasha saw what was happening and could not believe his eyes. “A mere insect is able to create void energy?! Even though it’s impure, the evidence of void energy is indisputable!” Farasha said and knew that if the caster was able to create void energy, there might be a chance that Farasha would die permanently especially now when he has no access to his own personal void source.

Hence, the panic.

Thinking that he has to conserve some energy for a prolonged fight, Farasha now abandons all possible recourse and decides to focus his entire reserve of energy to stop the caster from completing his void energy spell. However, if he does that, Farasha needs to ignore all the other cultivators and spend his concentration on just Jin alone.

For the threat of a Human Void Mage could potentially be dangerous to the existence of all Void Beings.

Chapter 1266 – Farasha – Final

“I am not going to waste any more time with you!” Jin said as he too felt that Farasha was now afraid of him for some reason. More afraid than angry.

And with that declaration, Jin was finally about to step forward until he realised he was still in the Priest Savant form. It was a little anti climatic but the Dungeon Supplier wanted to be as safe as possible so he turned to Milk.

“Milk, do me a favour. Do you mind getting the first card from the deck right beside my waist? I told the System to magically reshuffle it so that you should be able to get the card that I wanted.” Jin said while still holding on to the orb of unstable void energy which he had been conjuring.

“Why? Not enough firepower or something?” Milk said as she went closer to Jin and did what she was told. The first card she picked up was also a Savant and it’s a warlock variant. The Priest Bellator then understood that Jin might have better control of the void energy if he was aligned with the warlock variant as compared to the priest variant of a Savant. “How do I activate this damn thing?”

“You just take the card out from the belt and insert the new one. It’s really pretty simple and foolproof. The System purposely does this so that other people can use it too.” Jin said while holding on to the void orb above his head. It was so uncool that some of the Pandarens were secretly taking photos of Jin trying to change his System Rider form especially during the climax of a fight. (Not to mention, Farasha was bewildered by Jin’s actions and it did throw off his focus a little because it really wasn’t the norm.)

Meanwhile, some of the Pandarens who were watching the stream believed it was a new gimmick that they could use in the future and thus, this random change form as not just a distraction but a new sort of indirect advertisement.

“If you say it that way, you are tempting me to just unplug it from you and use it for myself. I really wonder how the living metal feels like on my skin.” Milk said as she managed to take the card out, causing the System Rider to return to its base form and by putting a new one, the System Rider Belt started to make an announcement that he was going to change into Warlock form.

“Such blatant copy of the real stuff.” One of the Pandarens commented to his friend when they were watching the stream from the ‘safer’ shop instance.

“Hey, it’s unique enough to call it its own, especially when the suit design is pretty cool. Not to mention, he incorporated his monsters. Technically I feel that there shouldn’t be much of a copyright issue. But hey, what do I know about copyright laws?” His friend shrugged it off as they were immediately wowed by the new Warlock form.

Spikes appeared on Jin’s big ass pauldrons and a few miniature skulls were being pierced by said spikes. A long tattered and yet intricately designed black robe with an extra cape was seen flowing out from the centre of the rider’s transformation. Not to mention, his aura turned slightly greenish and black to the point where the Panda Silhouette above him started to have his eyes glow from bright white to devilish green while maintaining the fake butterfly wings and that improvised crocodile tail.

Thankfully, the transformation was not for nought, as Jin could feel that the assistance of the Warlock Savant had indeed kept the orb of Void Energy stable allowing him to send it out as a blast of attack as compared to when he was in the Priest Savant form. The Dungeon Supplier was partially afraid that the void energy could potentially backfire against him due to how unwieldy it was when he first conjured it. That was why he wanted to change into the Warlock Savant variant, hoping it works.

And now that it does, Jin did not hesitate to waste any more time. Farasha’s void beam had been accumulating during the entire fiasco as well but this was definitely his last ditch effort as the cultivators in the sidelines had been attacking him nonstop despite the Void Butterfly’s poor attempt at defending by producing a few void butterfly spawns to detract their attention.

It was the one and only shot where either Farasha lives to break this accursed barrier and regain access to his personal void source in the open world or he die to this odd caster which kept surprising him with all this unorthodox way of fighting,

The void blasts eventually were set off from both sides and to say the explosions were quiet was an understatement when the two void energies clashed against each other. It was so silent that it drowned the battle cries and all the surrounding background noise for a moment that everyone thought they all went deaf.

And it was not the end as a streak of blackness suddenly covered the entire field, causing everyone to see nothing, feel nothing and hear nothing. Everyone could not feel their senses at all and when light returned, they all struggled to get their bearings correctly.

However, one thing has changed on the battlefield after that sudden blackout for everyone. The Void Menace was not in the store instance at all, hence everyone started to look backwards to see if the other party was still around.

“YUP, HE’S OKAY. STILL BREATHING.” Milk was holding onto unconscious Jin in his System Rider form and raising a thumbs up for everyone to see. The Pandarens immediately went into celebration mode as the System had also announced the end of the WARE event and started to deposit the rewards based on the contributions done by each and every cultivator.

It seemed like everyone could finally take a breather, especially for Jin when he was indirectly being roped into this particular mess which he could have avoided.

Chapter 1267 – Aftermath Of The Symposium Incident

The aftermath of the entire fiasco was not pretty. Even though pretty much everyone in the convention was saved, there was a major backlash at the committee members in the Dungeon Supplier Symposium.

Even the police were scrutinised despite the quick deployment and rather swift resolution of the entire matter. The public voiced their concern how the terrorists were getting ever more daring than ever to hit such a big event and one which was filled with a high level of security.

However, the government did not take too much of a hit from the public mainly because the one who suffered the most was the ‘minister of defence’ He Fei. Since he was captured as a hostage and had been rescued in less than 24 hours, had shown that the public security forces were still effective and deadly against internal threats. (Although the people who were in the know all laugh at such a statement.)

He Fei expressed his regrets for the entire situation and also gratitude for the security forces who had risked their lives with everything. (Whether it was fortunate or not, Jin’s name was not being released publicly though he did mention that the help of certain public members had stepped up and performed their civic duty above and beyond what the rest would not have done.)

In addition, he did vow to do everything in his power to not let such an incident happen again and in some way, this particular incident had enabled the defence minister and other supporting government officials to draft a proposal to increase their budget for internal security drastically for the upcoming fiscal year. Some insiders even speculated that the proposal could be approved in an emergency council which they are going to hold to review the said proposal.

Hence, one would wonder if the implantation of such an important figure in this entire bait and kill operation would be a risky move but ultimately the agenda had been paid off with magnanimous support and Kong Rong finally had the budget to search for the Banned Emperor.

And because the Dungeon Supplier Symposium also invited overseas dungeon suppliers as guests, the countries those guests were from had also condemned the terrorist attack and pledged to provide some form of support if China ever needs it. It was a little expected from the foreign ministry point of view but they too had decided to jump on the chance to build additional bridges with said countries.

As for Jin, he finally had a good long talk with Farasha asking him about the Void Plane and how he had been summoned into this world. The Void Butterfly was non compliant at first, especially when he had to obey someone that is superiorly inferior to him. Eventually, he dropped his guard when Lynn had allured him with a custom made hamburger that was suitable for his size. (Her experience in handling Mr Derpy and other large sized monsters paid off tremendously.)

That burger alone was more than enough to get him to open his mouth and tell Jin how he, like every other race, was in a hierarchy system. He was considered only as a scout and hunter of some sort. Bringing in some dinner for the rest to feast upon. Void Energy as the name implied that the energy comes from being in the void. Emotions were a healthy source of such energy because depriving the said food source of such energy would eventually create Void Energy.

Thus, he was wondering why and how Jin could easily create void energy out of nothing. And a huge source of it as well considering how his void energy was able to counter and eventually overwhelm his own concentrated void energy. Granted he was not the strongest of all Void Beings but being a hunter for the Void was a rank not to be scoffed at either.

When asked if he were to go missing, would others come to find him, Farasha responded that it was normal for hunters to go missing because they always hunt solo and there are still chances of them disappearing due to a force stronger than them. Still, it was rather uncommon for it to happen and the Void Beings would take note of the area if there were too many disappearances.

“That means there are chances for them to come back here?” Jin asked and Farasha nodded without much care towards Jin’s question as Lynn’s food occupied his mind more.

“If you can eat my burger, does that mean the Void Beings can consume other energy as well? You don’t have to hunt that much, right?” Lynn queried.

“Hmm. As much as it sounds very sciency, we gain from the loss from the energy conversion, but we do not need much to survive to begin with. So these burgers are fine although pure void energy consumed is still the best way to get by.” Farasha said as he swallowed the last bit of the giant burger.

“Ah...interesting. So you are living the reverse of us.” Kraft was there to hear the Void’s side of the story since this was the first time someone communicated properly with them. Most instances were purely life and death scenarios.

“You could say that. It’s a little paradoxical but we get by.” Farasha said as he looked towards Lynn, obviously hinting based on the body language that he still wanted another one. Lynn smiled and nodded his head, telling him to wait for more while the rest continued their chat on how to utilise Farasha now that they got a heavy hitter that could potentially relieve some of their problems during the invasion of the Demon Rats.

After all, that was mainly the agenda for Jin to have his attention on to ensure that PandaVerse Festival would be a success. For now, he was hoping to get more insight on the latest monster’s combat abilities since the System had given Farasha access to his void source once again. An obvious weakness that he needed connection to the void but a strength capable of inflicting untold chaos when properly tapped.

However, just as Jin was in the midst of discussing, Kong Rong sent a message that warranted the Dungeon Supplier's immediate attention as well.. Jin could only assume that it had to do with the aftermath of the entire Symposium incident.

Chapter 1268 – Recognition For Jin's Efforts

"Hey, Jin. How are you feeling?" I heard from one of my agents that you had managed to dispose of one of those monsters that the Banned Emperor had summoned in my absence. You even made it into some promotional event for your store though I am receiving some intel that your accountant isn't too happy about it.."

"Sadly, that's the case. And yes to all accounts. Guess that you have eyes and ears both inside and outside the shop. Sometimes, I am not too sure whether it was the best of choice to include you into my company."

"Too bad, whether you like it or not, I am already part of your gang. Unless the System decides to brainwash me and I will be stuck with investigating the empty portion of my memory."

"Sheesh, are you saying that no matter what, you will still come to me?"

"Be it a good thing or a bad thing, that's for you to decide down the line." Kong Rong said as his voice started to get serious. "What manner of monster did they summon?" Jin quickly summarised whatever information he had garnered from Farasha and it certainly gave the State Security Agent to furrow his eyebrows hard. (Jin could probably feel it from the tone of his voice too.)

"That is not a good sign. Well, I mean that's great that you now possibly have a countermeasure against Void Beings, but that does not bore well for the rest of China. Much alone, the rest of the world. I am not entirely happy that they are only targeting us since the US and Europe be like 'Good riddance, there is a pest in their backyard.' And I am telling you, there are enough rumours going around that all these are backed by the CIA. Even more so with the appearance of the Void Beings. There is no way they are able to get something this sophisticated without having some wealthy and knowledgeable allies or sources." Kong Rong said and Jin could know that he might had been in some hard hitting meetings which demanded him to resolve the matter as soon as possible.

"I am guessing they are going to pass that revised Internal Security Bill in the emergency cabinet meeting very soon?" Jin tried to console Kong Rong because he knew that would mean he would have less time for the Top State Agent to be at his behest and even less time for this man to enjoy the dungeons as the mysterious Mr Know It All. One could already reminiscent all the times he idled in Jin's store just to make sure the last remaining Panda Clan member would not do anything to threaten public security.

"Heh. Speaking about that Internal Security Bill. I could say that all your contributions had not gone unrecognised." Kong Rong's tone suddenly changed for the better as if all that issues he had previously was gone with the wind and the perkiness in his voice felt ominous to Jin.

"What do you mean?" Now Jin was the one starting to feel some headaches rising up.

“The Minister of Defence would like to meet up with you physically to speak to you, the new rising Royal Zodiac Panda Lord. Your ruckus in the Tiger Estate, the killing of the Oompa whatever that monster name is, and now your assistance in breaking down the dimensional instance barrier which greatly moved the rescue timeline. One could say that you had been slogging out hard while the rest of the Veteran Zodiac Heads merely watched how the situations had unfolded.”

“In short, I earn some brownie points? But I thought every other Zodiac Heads would have hated me and did anything to stop me from growing bigger.” Jin replied having the impression that he would be ostracised.

“Hence, the meeting with the Defence Minister would yield you the chance and opportunity to talk to the other Zodiac Heads. It’s a meeting to discuss the ongoing events and see how you had the fortune...or misfortune to interact with the Banned Emperors, they might see you in a different light.”

“You mean passing all the shit and responsibilities on me in case things go south because I am the youngest and ‘newest’ member of the Royal Zodiac Group.” Jin sighed but Kong Rong corrected him almost immediately.

“You might be right, they will throw you that shitty stuff to do, but that’s the whole point. Jin, you aren’t going to earn anyone’s trust and cooperation just by being the hero all day long. Sure, you can leave or not join the meeting, but that does not accomplish anything.”

“Yes, I know that and I am not denying that becoming a new up and rising Lord would. I- I just have much on my plate too. ” Jin’s reply calmed Kong Rong down a little since it was relatable.

“Hmm, still I will advise you to go. Vouching for your protection means that the Dragon Clan’s pride and face is on the line if you decide not to appear. Just take it as the perfect opportunity to meet with the other Zodiac Heads and gauge their interest in you. Needless to say, they would definitely be hiding knives behind their smiles but at least you get to see some of their motives...or maybe enjoy their ridicule towards the Tiger Head. He made your life a pain, at least get some laughs from it.” Kong Rong tried his best to convince Jin but it looks like he was trying way too hard.

“Don’t you worry. A meeting with the Defence Minister also meant a possible business opportunity. I would not pass such an opportunity to possibly get army contracts even if it is just a temporary one.”

“Then you better strike a hard bargain, that guy is craftier than Kraft.” Just as his name was being mentioned, Kraft already bulged into the call even though it was just a one to one conversation. And how did he do that? By physically pushing Jin away from the phone aka snatching it and asking Kong Rong whether he could come along with his master for the meeting.

Although the Dragon State Agent would like to say no, he felt that bringing a veteran right hand man no matter how crazy he was might actually be a kind of insurance that Jin does not screw up badly. And even if Kraft did, Kong Rong knew that he did it for the benefit of Jin but at the same time for the death of him too.. It might be a show worthy to watch in such a dull serious meeting.

The day which Jin dreaded came all too soon when Kraft happily appeared right in front of him, reminding him early in the morning that he had to attend the meeting with the Zodiac Heads by accepting the Defence Minister's official invitation.

Most if not all the Royal Zodiac Heads had already travelled to Beijing for this important meeting at the Pinnacle Hotel, a highly recognised establishment with its reputation known for its neutrality against all the Royal Zodiac Clans. Everyone had already checked in with the exception of Jin who had not arrived nor even booked a room at the hotel.

Many if not all of them were not aware of Jin's capabilities and merely assumed that this particular new Panda Lord did not have the guts to do what it takes to meet with them and the defence minister. Some even gossiped that he was not worthy to even sit on the same pedestal as them if he could not even come for this particular meeting.

"You guys judged him too harshly." Kong Rong tried to make some small talk with a few of the Zodiac Heads and their companions. After all, he was accompanying his father too since he was going to inherit the title to be the new Royal Zodiac Dragon's Head in years to come. "He will come, I am sure of it."

"I am more interested in your reasoning and actions since you have decided to bring legitimacy to this long lost panda clan." One of the Royal Zodiac Heads asked and yet before he got an answer, Kong Rong had to answer a phone call and requested himself to be away from the current conversation.

"Xie Jin. Where the heck are you right now?" Kong Rong whispered in a hush but rather angry tone. (Probably more annoyed than frustrated.) "The meeting is about to start in less than a few minutes since the Defence Minister had already arrived."

"Ehhhhh, I have actually reached the Pinnacle Hotel, but I am blocked by a buttload of guards...? They are not letting me in at all even though I said that I am here for a meeting." Jin had already teleported to a nearby secluded area, a few dozen metres away from the hotel but he had not noticed that he was within the defensive surveillance perimeter and thus an alert was sent out to meet this unidentified threat.

When he was near the front door of Pinnacle Hotel, guards of various high cultivation levels had already surrounded him and nearly pinned him down if not for his trusty 'sidekick' who created a chi barrier around Jin, allowing the dungeon supplier to give a call to the person responsible for all this. (For once, Kraft was in a non killing mode which greatly relived Jin's raising headache.)

"Gosh, you sure know how to make an entrance." Kong Rong said as he peered outside the window and saw the situation was as what Jin had described. At the same time, a few security officers were reporting to the Zodiac Head of this current predicament and Kong Rong had to step in.

But before he could say anything, the Defence Minister He Fei was already walking through the doors of the conference hall asking what the ruckus was all about. "Some fellow decided to barge into the hotel by skipping all the guard checkpoints and decided to openly walk through the front gates. The guards would take care of the trespasser." Yuan Ba, the Royal Zodiac Tiger Head spoke out since he was the one who had the police under his control.

"The police are getting incompetent, look at all the past recent incidents. So much trouble had occurred and yet the police were either late or nowhere to be found until the incidents were more or less under

control.” Mu Ji, the Royal Zodiac Head for the Rooster Clan as well as the family to oversee the skies of China. From air defence to handling the majority of stocks of China Airlines and their subsidiaries. A number of the smaller local airlines all needed the support of the Rooster Clan to get clearance to fly the skies. In short, they monopolised the ceilings of China and is considered as one of the few greater Royal Zodiac clans in the region.

“If you had stricter control of your immigration as well as better intelligence, then perhaps, these terrorists would not even have come in or maybe contraband items would not have been introduced.” Yuan Ba gave a measly throwback comment since he was trying to keep his anger in check with the presence of the Defence Minister but the latter cut in and demanded the current situation to be solved before they start the meeting.

However as he glanced around the conference room at the edge of the table, he noticed someone was missing and his secretary reported to him that the Panda Lord was not around.

“Minister He Fei, I ask for your apologies to interject but the person they are handling right now is none other than the missing Panda Lord.” Kong Rong had decided there was no other time for pleasantries and He Fei gave him a curious look as if demanding for extra answers.

“If you allow me to leave temporarily and pick him up for the conference meeting, I would appreciate the kind gesture.”

“Kong Rong, you know that in this room, we are more or less equals. Do not have to be too formal with me.” He Fei smiled slowly while turning to his secretary to tell the guards to stand down immediately. And even though it was an order to be decimated, the security officers who were actually standing at the side of the conference room (and being ignored like sunflowers on the wall) instantly acknowledged the Defence Minister’s orders and went out of the room escorting Kong Rong out.. At the same time, He Fei’s secretary also proceeded to signal a server in the room to at least provide some light refreshments to the entire group while they waited (reluctantly) for the arrival of the last Royal Zodiac Head.

Chapter 1270: Extra- Tiny Dragon, Crafty Fox and The Lazy Panda

“You know, being fashionably late is quite a last century kind of thing.” Kong Rong said when he met Jin at the front gates as the security officers who heard the Defence Minister’s orders already called off the warning.

“I did not expect the guards to not recognise me. I thought you know at least they know who their guests were considering this is supposed to be a place for Zodiac Heads to confer,” Jin shrugged his shoulders as if he had nothing to do with this. “Besides, if they had not stopped me, I would have arrived on time.”

“He is just purely irritated that he had to waste time in this stupid meeting.” Kraft yawned too as he took great pains to restrain himself from killing all these guards. “Perhaps you can include me too. I cannot believe I have to join this awfully boring situation. But hey, seeing you panic a little seems like

there will be some fun.” Kraft added as he eyed the Dragon State Agent. “Is that Dragon Girl with you too?”

“No, Ryuli had some other business to attend to. Not all State Agents are as free as you thought.” Kong Rong said as someone passed ID tags to both Jin and Kraft. They looked like empty blank white cards but they had the necessary access needed to take the elevator.

“Meh, I thought she follows you almost everywhere you go when it comes to official business. You know, your little protege or something. Anyways, I have more things to complain about. Why do we have such boring plain cards while yours had your picture imprinted and looked so stylish? Kraft grumbled in the lift and Kong Rong could feel that this particular lift ride might take an eternity.

“Because you two are supposed to be booked in last night and not waltz through the defensive perimeter early in the morning when it was supposed to be swept clean of threats.”

“The PandaVerse Festival is proving to be more troublesome than I had expected. By the way, have you gotten my request about that Dungeon Supplier guy you guys caught? Would like to have a word with him if it’s not possible to release him.” Jin asked and Kraft smirked which caused Kong Rong to feel a bad chill running down his spine.

“Kraft, no funny ideas of trying to get him to Jin like some prison break action movie.” Kong Rong commented and Kraft already started replying defensively with a laugh.

“I would never dare!” Kraft said and suddenly Kong Rong felt this might possibly be one of the few longest meetings in his life.

“I will see what I can do but currently, I have no excuses to allow you to even have access looking at him. Also, before you say anything, I know your abilities to turn enemies into allies but it would be best if you use that ability in that meeting because potentially everyone in there is all about to be very ‘friendly’ with you the moment you step in.” Kong Rong sighed as he side eyed Jin to see his reaction and yet the little Panda Lord was partially asleep just from standing in the lift.

“Unbelievable...” Kong Rong said to himself wondering if he made the right choice forcing Jin to come for this meeting. The lift door finally opened and as he was about to walk out of it, he suddenly clicked something was wrong. A quick turn of his head and he realised what was bugging him all this time.

“Wait a minute. Why are the two of you -wait never mind about you Kraft, your fashion sense is too edgy- cough. Jin, why are you in such casual wear?!” Kong Rong quickly pressed the ‘close’ button despite ushers waiting to receive them so they could escort the group to the conference hall. One of them even tried to press the lift button, thinking they had accidentally closed the lift doors but he immediately retracted his hand when he felt a ferocious aura emanating within the lift.

“Huh, What? I already wore a polo shirt and long pants. Not enough?” Jin replied to Kong Rong as he involuntarily yawned.

“Are you fucking kidding me right now?” Kong Rong said before using his thoughts to connect to the System. “System, I’m disappointed that you-“

“The suits are in their storage devices but they refused to wear them, citing the need to reach the place on time.” The System stated and Kong Rong felt like he is a father trying to take care of two kindergarten

school kids. He instantly pressed the one level down and he sternly told them to follow him to the nearest corridor leading to a series of hotel rooms. Thankfully, one of the rooms was currently being cleaned and Kong Rong barged in, showing his conference badge that he needed to use the washroom for a moment with the other two with him.

The cleaner was stunned by their sudden forced entry and could only nod her head as Kong Rong kept shouting expletives at the both of them while they reluctantly changed to their suits. Both were wearing nothing significantly special, just a black suit and white shirt with matching leather shoes with a black tie. There was nothing screaming Panda Clan from the two of them but Kong Rong was already satisfied they were in their correct set of clothes.

He then dragged the two of them out unwillingly and back to the lift where Kraft had decided to bring out his long trusty coat... only to be confiscated by Kong Rong. Obviously, that reaction annoyed the Fox and he started to emit his aura, only to be met with the very same resistance from Kong Rong.

It was an understatement to say that their clashing aura could be felt by the entire Pinnacle Hotel as people on the ground floor in their defensive perimeter positions could also feel that menacing aura. If not for the Royal Zodiac Heads familiar with Kong Rong's aura, they might have thought that there was an attack pending within the Hotel itself.

Still, the aura that was clashing against Kong Rong was something that perked up all the Heads, as they knew it was no ordinary high level cultivator that could produce such a chi aura.

"Just knock it off already..." Jin yawned as he went into the lift and now told the two to hurry up. "I have other things to settle after this."