

## **Dungeon S 1341**

### **Chapter 1341: Temporary Pandaren Leader**

It was surprising but Jin actually managed to have slept quite a fair bit during this portion of the war since the System and him believed that the Demon Rats were going to take drastic actions later in the evening when the fighting got fiercer.

There were more Pandarens fighting against the Demon Rats and they were rushing, hoping to break the siege for the third layer of the Inner Wall. Pandarens started to use the items they bought from the Hidden Gem Night Market and they found them to be very useful.

But it was extremely chaotic.

Because there were no actual Pandaren Leaders to lead the way, each Pandaren team was doing what they felt was best for them to earn the most points. One could say that the chaos and haphazard use of the items bought from the Hidden Gem Night Market somehow allowed them to be 'random' enough to give the Demon Rat Generals a big headache.

Unlike the fights they had previously against the humans where Jin and his Monster Leaders were commanding the teams to fight in a coordinated manner, they were unable to comprehend the change in fighting styles. So, the Demon Rat Generals had decided to fight recklessness with naivety and thus had decided to only send fresh new conscripts and a few fresh heavy hitters to delay them.

The only trained Demon Rat troops with sufficient battle experience were on the third layer of the Inner Wall, manning the defensive equipment and having veteran commanders to lead the fight. But they had a difficult time supporting the newly conscripted Demon Rats mainly because they were equally unpredictable when they fought against the Pandarens.

Yet, the commanders had directly told the battle hardened defenders to be more decisive in their attacks if they needed to- meaning they could kill their fellow Demon Rats on the ground if the benefits outweigh the costs. To top it off, those Demon Rats followed the orders without any remorse, as they knew that their home was more important than the few lives of Demon Rats.

So, as long as the defenders could make the 'correct' judgement when handing out their attacks, the commanders would not blame them and this did make the battlefield even crazier than ever. The indiscriminate killing forced the Pandarens to have the objective of breaking the Third Layer as soon as possible.

While it's true that the Pandarens did not have a leader per se, there were a few who stood up to be a temporary leaders (Since they got the cash to do so.) With enough money and sufficient dungeon time, they are able to lead the masses by sending out shouts to redirect the group. Aye, the System purposely implemented this even though it's a bit biased but it was an impromptu feature that required testing. However, it was done to make sure that the leaders had a sufficient grasp of the situation as long as they stayed on the battlefield long enough.

Leading the entire Pandarens even for just a short amount of time did not give additional raid points but the System would specially distribute extra raid points based on the performance of the leader only when the entire raid was done. It was similar to a hidden quest within this raid instance and it would not

be shown as the System did not wish to encourage people to 'lead' just because they could add extra raid points. Besides, the System had always emphasised in their notices that the Pandarens should not tolerate bad behaviour and are able to report if needed so that the Panda Team (aka the System) will investigate.

Back to the situation, the temporary Pandaren Leader asked those who had Missile Launcher Carts or even mobile artillery guns (Pandarens literally had the strength to carry those guns and shoot them.) to be deployed simultaneously and fire to destroy the defensive capabilities all at once. It was a feeble attempt at leading but there were quite a few who responded especially when the temporary leader himself purposely sacrificed his items for the attack. So with a weakly coordinated attack, the Pandarens had managed to destroy a third of their defensive capabilities which forced the Demon Rats to with rifles and bows.

This increased the survivability of most Pandarens since many of them had purposely bought a magical barrier or a defensive inscription that could block ranged projectiles to a certain extent. Not to mention, those Pandarens who were able to get the enhancement potions from the Royal Zodiac Monkey's Battle Alchemists were able to reduce such damage to the minimum.

The change of battle development encouraged the Pandarens to listen to the temporary leader once again and they destroyed half of the remaining defensive capabilities with their items, allowing them to fight 'safer' and less bothersome...until they found out that they had been keeping their mages just for this kind of situation. Fireballs now rained from the safety of their walls and they had watchers to look out the targets for them. Even if they had missed, the effect of the rain of fireballs was still terrifying even though there was a huge interval in their attack pattern. At the same time, Demon Rat Mages continue to cast teleport portals to make sure that those Pandarens were sent to their Kill Box Zones to reduce their numbers as much as possible.

Thus, all the Pandarens could do was climb the Third Layers as soon as possible to fight against the defenders. And to protect their walls, the Demon Rats tried their best to prevent their climb by pouring oil and lighting it up whenever the Pandarens qing gong their way upwards. (It was a terrifying sight for the Demon Rats at first but with their experiences from the previous Inner Wall fights, this was the only few tactics they thought of to deter the Pandarens especially when the Third Layer had the highest walls.) While the paratroopers had managed to do the same as those Pandarens on the ground, there were simply not enough bodies to throw against the horde of Demon Rats hiding within the Third Layer. It was as if they were making it their final defence line while the Pandarens tried to penetrate it as much as possible.

But only the Generals and Jin knew this was not the finale.

## **Chapter 1342: Terrorist Attempt**

"So how is it going? Are you able to track his movements?" Kong Rong asked as he peeled the plastic of the disposable straw and poke it into his small soya bean drink pack. He took a quick sip and looked at the consoles his colleagues were monitoring within the van.

"They are edgy for sure but it's unlike them to do this kind of pathetic attempt as an ambush. especially after the In the midst of all the festivities at the Tree Mall," Yu Xuan, one of the State Agents under Kong Rong's direct supervision.

"Notice any bombs on them?" The leader asked and Ran Ran, a fellow agent stated that the equipment was not picking up any significant chi signatures from the targets.

"But I believe they are carrying quite a number of storage rings." Ran Ran added and Kong Rong sighed.

"This is too obvious, I don't like this. The Banned Emperor Assassins would never do such a direct attack. This is either a distraction or an extremely coordinated attack." Kong Rong said as he picked up his phone and checked whether the System had detected any other 'people of interest'.

"But Sir, if you consider the situation at hand as well as past attack patterns, it is already almost impossible for them to bomb the Tree Mall and yet they might have decided to use this opportunity in the lapse of judgement to do a simple bombing. So, perhaps, the more obvious it is, the less we would suspect." Yu Xuan said his theory on the current development and Ran Ran scoffed at the reasoning quietly.

"Regardless, we have to make sure there are no follow ups from this attack after we foil it. Ever since Jin broadcasted the 12 Zodiacs, I am pretty sure there would be people coming for him especially using the festival as a cover." Kong Rong said before sending a message to a certain somebody that they had confirmed the identities and they could act independently whenever suitable.

"I had sent the coordinates to a group of ...cleaners. They will clean up those suspects as soon as they have the opportunity to do so. For now, continue the sweep and ensure there are no additional bombers." Kong Rong added.

"Sir, are you sure it's okay to let these external helpers be involved in our work? I thought you said that you cannot trust anybody else." Yu Xuan asked but his leader nodded his head in confidence.

"That is because that group belongs to Jin, and he is the only one that we can trust for sure. Besides, we all know that he has quite a formidable group under him for some reason so there is no need to worry about the competency of their work. As for us, it's also best that we do not perform any unnecessary actions especially when I have yet to vet the rest of the team thoroughly aside from you two." Kong Rong replied and somehow Yu Xuan and Ran Ran felt proud that they could be trusted by him.

"Although I will still subject you two to surprise tests just to make sure that everything is as per normal and no possible backstabbing." Kong Rong smirked when he said it and both of his agents were complaining about how distrustful their leader was.

"Sir, I would like a raise to prevent myself from being corrupted." Yu Xuan teased since that was the same thing the news had reported, indicating that the government officials would have their salary increase to reduce the risk of being corrupted and act as a deterrent against worldly desires. To the public, it was such a feeble excuse to get more money in their pockets but their apathy in them caused them to not bother much about the news.

Ran Ran also raised her hand like a rat, supporting Yu Xuan's proposal for a pay raise. Kong Rong sighed and said that he would consider it at the end of the financial year's appraisal review which caused the two of them to perform a high five.

In the meantime, Kong Rong received an acknowledgement that the helpers would finally proceed to capture them and thus asked his two agents to be on alert for any major changes to the Banned Emperor Assassins.

"Well, since the Young Dragon Boy asked for it, it's time for us to do our pre-workout before the Farming World gets to the climax," Kraft said to his boys and girls who immediately jumped into action, going around the Tree Mall's vicinity to find their targets.

When one of the Night Foxes found the suspected terrorist, they qing gong straight to the Banned Emperor Assassin, sneaking up to him so that he was in range for a grapple. And once he executed it, a portal instantly opened right beneath them, forcing the two of them to be teleported into one of the System's temporary dimensional instances.

Without any hesitation, the Night Foxes who were waiting in the temporary instances quickly assisted to pin the terrorist down and blocked the person's pressure points to prevent him from moving. Meanwhile, they brought a piece of torture equipment so that they could permanently immobilise the suspect and later performed the mind penetration telepathy to get access to the information from the Banned Emperor Assassin.

The System quickly compiled the information to augment the current arrest but it seems like Yu Xuan was right on the money when Kong Rong received the information from the System that the terrorists' attempted attack was merely the few that the System had identified beforehand. (Their IDs were flagged as suspicious when they first entered Dungeons and Pandas, causing the System to track not only them and the people they had contacted as well.) And with the information from the first captured Banned Emperor Assassin, further cemented the idea that the attempt was done by this small group of people who hoped to do an impromptu terror attack.

This also allowed the Night Foxes to capture the remaining suspects without mercy (They were already doing that according to the State Agents) and performed 'illegal' mind penetration telepathy attacks to get more information. Why give them chance when they are culprits that were set to terrorise the world?

Hence, the System allowed the Night Foxes to penetrate deep into their memories to find each and every potential member of the Banned Emperor Faction so that Kong Rong could follow up.

### **Chapter 1343: Bickering With The System**

"Yawn...anything happens when I am away?" Jin asked as he scratched his bed hair.

"Royal Zodiac Dragon Vice Head Kong Rong had coordinated with Original Bellator Kraft to apprehend a few Banned Emperor Assassins. They had carried a number of handmade bombs filled with explosive inscriptions and gems charged with chi. Those Banned Emperor Assassins are currently in processing and

the Night Foxes are doing their best to get as much information as possible.” The System reported and placed the information in front of Jin with a brand new hologram.

“So, they really did attempt an attack despite the enhanced security around the Tree Mall. Don’t they know not to mess with us?” Jin said as he opened the hologram window and read the information that was currently available to them.

“The User needs to be cautious that the information is still currently preliminary until Kong Rong has verified it through other means testing.” The System said and Jin continued to skim through the information. For some reason, his inverse eyes had allowed him to read a little faster and remember even better after his fight with Suzaku. He was not sure whether it was a sign that he was going to be at the peak of his current grade or whether fighting with Suzaku within his subconsciousness had subconsciously improved his brain memory.

“How’s our profit for the day?” Jin asked while he was near the end of the information sheet.

“Within expectations, although there is a higher majority of Pandarens, especially the veterans were spending a little more than average to fight against the Demon Rat defenders at the Third Layer of the Inner Wall. The last release of the concert tickets for tonight had been sold out as well including the ‘additional spaces’ the System had graciously opened up for the Pandarens.” The System replied and Jin was happy that the System had listened to his feedback. Even though the seats had already been allocated for a fixed amount of crowd number, Jin knew that he could continue to earn money as long as the Pandarens did not mind standing. There would be a train that was similar to the concept of a concert’s standing space.

As long as the Pandarens did not mind standing for the entire concert, they would be entitled to a lower price compared to the price of the allocated seats. Those standing spaces were also sold out almost immediately to his surprise and he believed such a success would allow the System to continue to perform this practice so that Pandarens with lower purchasing power can have the chance to watch it live. Else, the concert could be watched via the Pandaflix and this should partially pacify the people who missed out on the chance to watch it on scene. The System initially wanted them to pay additional for the concert but Jin eventually came to a compromise charging less than usual paid per view content.

This was because Jin knows that the System will take advantage of the Pandarens regardless of their status but the User also knows that if he did not watch his ‘generosity’ carefully, a certain Sub System User that deals with accounts would come to haunt him for days to come especially when this Festival’s total expenses is one that would give them a major headache for months to come if the Boss incurred debts.

“And since you are able to talk to me about money matters without urging along, I supposed the Demon Rats situation had not gone to such a state that we are unable to perform Plan G2?” Jin asked and the System acknowledged his reply by showing the statistics of Pandarens that were currently in the Farming World as well as the deaths that occurred.

“From the System’s perspective, it would take approximately another few hours to reach the desired outcome but it is very suspicious to the point that the System wished to change Plan G2 to Plan F2 instead.”

“Considering how the entire Northern Capital’s design is similar to the castles in the Lord of The Rings, I do not see why we should go with F2. Flying would not matter much more than the preparation of ground troops. I suggest that we should continue with the current plan and not move our troops as a precaution. In fact, we should brace for complaints instead...although I think it would be quite an epic sight for reviewers and streamers that were commenting on the current situation. By the way, any news about us in the mainstream media?” Jin asked but the System was more concerned about the initial statement that he made.

“I wonder why the User thinks that way? The System requests for a logical rationale as the System has sufficient information for analysis through the spirit of the land and believes that Plan F2 would be a better choice.”

“After seeing those Steam Engine planes in action, it further reinforced my belief that there would be no additional flying elements against us. Especially when they did not bring any more new models of aircraft after the clash with the Royal Zodiac Snake’s pilots. There was no way the rats would not try to win with so few enemies in sight. You saw how they always try to rush and be reckless using overwhelming numbers and strength at the start but when it comes to a push and shove, they would reveal their cunningness.” Jin explained.

“Since they know that pure brute strength was insufficient, they would use trickery to get what they want. Most of their major attack patterns should show that and thus I am not surprised that Plan G2 would be the most likely thing that could happen to the Pandarens. If anything, it aligns to their nature as rats.” Jin said with Kraft yawning at the corner of the room as well.

“What’s with all this G2 F2 whatever plan you guys are talking about?” Kraft questioned and yet both Jin and the System ignored him by saying that this was the type of manoeuvres they would take should the Demon Rats perform an ‘army scale’ attack and continue with their conversation. (After all, not telling Kraft anything will cause him to be annoyed while explaining to him would definitely bore him so they explained briefly to keep his annoyance level to the minimum so he would not disturb their argument.)

“Meh, I am just waiting for those generals to make an appearance so I can do some exercise. I do not care how the Pandarens die or survive.” Kraft added before sleeping back in his dark corner of his own. (Yes, the System purposely placed a corner void of light so Kraft could doze in there.)

#### **Chapter 1344: Demon Rats Finally Making The Move**

“It should be time for us to initiate the next part of the plan,” Roughscream said as he was in the same communications room along with Cinderclaw and a few of the other generals.

“What’s the rush? If you are so hasty, why don’t you personally escort yourself to fight the humans yourself as you once did?” Skydigger said with a smirk on his face. He knows that Roughscream was not able to do anything because Cinderclaw specifically says no generals are supposed to enter the battlefield as of yet. He might be of the same rank as the rest but everyone knew the hidden powers Cinderclaw possessed.

Roughscream quietly cursed Skydigger for making such a snarky remark but understood that he did it because of the grudge he held for using his personal weapon as an experimental tool for fun. Even he would be unhappy if he lost the bet and had to lend his signature weapon to some other rat so they

could 'play' with it. But ultimately, a bet is a bet and it was done as a form of humiliation since they have almost everything in the world and nothing was as shameful as passing their personal weapons to another rat.

"Enough," Cinderclaw said to quell down the anger within the room. It was as tense as it could have ever been since the Pandarens were making strides in their assault. And yet, despite the situation they were currently facing, the Demon Rat Generals understood how to play with human emotions ever since they brought the humans to their knees once. The Demon Rats might once be slaves to two human scholars but they were also masters of thousands of human slaves. But having a master alone was sickening to them and most if not all had vowed not to be enslaved. (Especially the top brass themselves.)

"We will initiate the next phase of the plan. Give a howling siren to the undercity and for those who have yet to evacuate would be their own undoing." Cinderclaw said and everyone within the room obeyed his orders to the dot. As much as a few of them did not like his commands especially when they could endanger their species, they knew that the Demon Rats had always made sacrifices for the overall good of their society ...or that was what they were inculcated to them by the Scholars themselves.

It's true that now the monsters were able to think and fend for themselves but it would be hard to change their mindset overnight especially when it could have been ingrained into their genes to think like that. Regardless, the order had been sent out and the Undercity had made necessary preparations to proceed to the next plan with a few last minute adjustments.

In the meantime, the battlefield between the humans and the Demon Rats was going strong as the last batch of kamikaze Demon Rats conscripts began to run out of the third layer defences to handle the Pandarens on the field while the defenders were using what they had left to hold back the cultivators from taking over the Third Layer.

There was some fighting on the walls themselves but the Demon Rats were still able to hold their ground against the small number of cultivators who had reached the top of the wall through their qing gong. But to the unsuspecting Pandarens, everything all felt the same and it was nothing they could not handle as most of them had already fought the conscripts before. It was just another desperate attempt to stall for them against the Pandarens and the cultivators believed they would be winning over the wall soon especially when more of the customers are coming in to assist with the attack.

However, that was what General Cinderclaw wanted all this time.

The accumulation of Pandarens and the extra reinforcements that were coming into the fray. He wanted as many humans as possible on the battleground so that when he initiated the next phase, it would injure them greatly. While he did understand from Roughscream that they were coming back again and again to fight the Demon Rats to their death but as the Club General had pointed out, there would definitely be a limit to their powers and he was a firm believer in that theory. All they had to do was punish them sufficiently until they did not wish to return to the battlefield.

And even though what they were going to do would be accelerating the deaths of many other Demon Rats, the Generals know their Achilles heel in this current situation. The Northern Capital might be vastly connected to the Undercity but the major way up and down is usually through the giant elevator that was at the northern tip of the capital. Even if they were to utilise all the passages to fight the Pandarens, they could already foresee their fight at a disadvantage.

Their reinforcements are fixed because of the giant elevator and even if they were to retreat to the undercity, the humans would take the chance to create a base on the surface, gathering their troops and trying to push through via the Giant Elevator. This would take weeks, months and possibly even years.

It was initially not a problem since they had sufficient food stock at the moment and the Demon Rats were consistently expanding. But now they were in a different predicament. The East and West invasion had been halted, even pushed back by the humans and the collaborations of other entities which the Demon Rat assumed were the inhabitants of the East and West that they were fighting against, (they were so wrong...it's all Jin's.). Thus, the Demon Rats would be pushed to a three way fight if they let things be but if they could take the fight to them, that would be a different issue.

"Proceed to the next phase in five minutes. Get the mages ready to destroy the entire ground leading to the Outer Walls. I want the humans to feel despair falling through the cracks." Cinderclaw ordered once more, with a decisive tone, to make the rest who were having second thoughts of the operations enact it.

### **Chapter 1345: Earthquake Spell!**

"Let's go! The rats are beatable, we can clear this portion of the raid instance!" The temporary Pandaren leader shouted and everyone was encouraged to do it since they could see that they were progressing.

However, as they were pushing forward to get full control of the third layer, they suddenly felt the ground shaking. All of them did not care about it since the explosions from the missiles and other cultivators' spells had always been this earth shattering but when they realised that the ground was shaking nonstop, they started to become suspicious.

Some of the Pandarens, especially the Pandawans on the ground, who had more battle experience, could feel that this might not be an ordinary earthquake spell and began to move to higher grounds like the ruins of the second layer.

Yet, those who managed to move to the high ground did not expect the following scene to unfold in front of their eyes. The ground literally split in front of them as if it was eating them up for a meal. The soil vibrated and gave way for everyone within the vicinity and the split was so sudden that most of the Pandarens were not able to react in time and that included the Pandawans.

They realised that this particular earthquake spell was not just concentrated between the second and third layer but everything from the first layer of the Inner Wall to the third. They realised that it was a trap of a grand scale, destroying all the progress the Pandarens had accumulated in the past two days. All the ground they had covered, the sweat and blood that was spilt to grab each inch of land had been all wasted as the floor beneath them cracked and ate them up.

Jin saw the entire thing unfold but did not lift a finger to save any of the Pandarens since they knew that they would be able to revive again from it. He was more interested in what the Demon Rats were plotting now that they had destroyed the entire land as he had expected in Plan G2. The only thing he did not expect was the extent since he thought that they were only going to break a small portion of the ground and the entire Outer Town included.



All of the Pandarens who were caught in the trap fell endlessly into the 'abyss' while the Pandawans tried to use their qing gong to try to reach the Third Layer of the wall which was still intact and unaffected by the earthquake.

That was when the Demon Rats Mages had started the next portion of their phase to ensure that all those within the trap would remain in the trap. A massive magic circle was right above the Pandarens and they activated a multitude of spells all at once. From a shower of fireballs to a wide range gravity spell to force them to fall right through the 'abyss' and into their Undercity.

Since their Undercity was built a few kilometres below ground, the Pandarens 'should' die but since the Demon Rat Generals had seen their resurrection powers in person, they had expected a few to possibly survive. So, they also placed a few Demon Rat Hunters on the job, sneaking those Pandarens out and killing them when they fell from the 'sky'.

For the first time in eternity, the Undercity had seen some proper sunlight and to the rats, they felt that this might be their golden era when they saw how the Demon Rat Military had killed hundreds of Pandarens instantly.

Naturally, those who survived the fall by reaching the Third Layer or had already been on the Third Layer's wall were now facing fiercer resistance than ever since their support had been reduced to zero and they had to fend for themselves. The Demon Rats who were occupied with ranged duty could assist their guards to kill the rest of the Pandarens that were on the wall.

Most of the Pandarens panicked since they were never much of a fighter in the first place. A bulk of them are salary workers and did jobs that did not require them to put up a fight. When faced with this kind of menacing force, it was an obvious choice that a lot of them simply retreated back or be killed by the remaining Demon Rats. However, it was not the same for the Pandawans who had survived the attacks.

Bin Yong, Xiong Da, Luo Bo and Bu Dong were unfortunately the survivors from the entire Demon Rat Trap with the rest of the Pandawans back in the recovery instance. Still, they were not going to retreat and hope to at least survive the wave of monsters. Now that both of the respawn points from the Outer Wall Camp and Inner Wall Camp had been destroyed, the Pandarens would have a hard time attacking the Demon Rat's Undercity and the Pandawans know it too.

Thus, they were thinking about whether it would be the right choice to place a teleportation crystal at the Third Layer, allowing reinforcements to come. However, to do that, the person putting down the teleportation crystal would need to be protected. (Although Jin was able to make that teleportation crystal be deployed almost immediately, he initially did it to prevent people from spamming the crystal even if they had the money to do so.)

And considering that Xiong Da had one (why not? He is too freaking rich to not purchase one.) They were hoping to place it down as soon as possible and protect the Pandawan who were deploying it before they were exhausted from the constant fighting between the Demon Rats.

"Xiong Da! We do not have time to waste. Let's just put it down and protect it." Bin Yong said and Xiong Da was contemplating whether it was a good choice.

“And waste my money when this thing costs hundreds and thousands of yen?” Xiong Da queried as he slammed the Demon Rat right in the face. “And you want me to put it here? Out of no fucking where on top of the walls?”

“If not what? You saw how the Demon Rats annihilated our camps in one shot! There would be no way they could use the very same spell again to destroy the Third Layer again and there must be a reason why they did not destroy this wall when they could have destroyed it previously.” Bin Yong said while he smacked a Demon Rat with his buckler and stabbed it.

“Bin Yong is right, it’s best that you put it up as soon as possible. Else, we won’t have any respawn points around us at all and this entire war would be set back to square one once more.

“Bro, don’t worry. Establish that teleportation crystal. Let me handle the Demon Rats.” Bu Dong reassured his fellow Pandawan. “I have a few tricks under my sleeves that should be able to salvage the situation if the situation goes down to shit.”

“Fine, Then I will be putting my life in your care.” Xiong Da said as he took out the teleportation crystal. No matter how bad an idea this was, it was still worth the gamble.

#### **Chapter 1346: Xiong Da’s Hectic Preparations**

While Xiong Da wished to place the teleportation crystal as soon as possible, he knew it would be total suicidal to do just that. If this was a fight to the death while making sure that they have to plant the teleportation crystal successfully, it was vital that he used everything at his disposal.

And that means utilising every single item within his storage ring. After all, there was no use in hoarding those items he had grabbed from the Hidden Gem Night Market if he did not take them out and use them against the enemies.

Before placing the teleportation crystal, he placed a high level electrical magical barrier device around him and only himself. It acted as an impenetrable shield as long as the magic source had not been depleted. Xiong Da initially meant to use this as the last resort against the Demon Rat General who he had fought against. A trump card to be used to at the very last moment when he did not have any strength within him.

The electrical magical barrier device would discharge high voltages of electricity that was equivalent to a Grade 9 Electric Bolt but the charges were limited so Xiong Da could either dial it down and the device would discharge bolts that were several grades lower or leave it as it is and replace the magic battery source as needed. (He would never expect that all these magic batteries were from Peppers since she discharged too much mana that Jin decided to sell those magic batteries... of course at a high price.)

Since he was not dealing with a Demon Rat General, he had already dialled it down to Grade 3 Electric Bolts to increase the lifespan of the electrical magical barrier. At the same time, he also took out a bunch of documents from his storage rings and tore them right on the spot.

They were mercenary contracts, similar to how Jin was able to contract temporary monsters by the System. Unlike Jin's contract with those temporary monsters, the ones that Xiong Da used had a time limit to them since the System does not allow Pandawans, much less the Pandarens to have access to such powers if possible. (Especially when they were part of the User's repertoire.)

However, Jin had compromised with the System, stating that they believed this particular raid was an instance and they had to keep that act up as much as possible. Besides, the System was able to earn some additional profit since it was charging about the same price to the Pandawans for a time limited contract. But to Xiong Da and his particular predicament, an hour's usage for those mercenaries was already a steal when his friend and him were in such a pinch.

Armoured Alligators emerged from those torn contracts and there were at least fifteen of them. Xiong Da basically took the whole stack from the Hidden Gem Night Market since he was still collecting his money's worth after sponsoring a hell lot of money to Jin. In fact, if Jin were to reveal the numbers, he could be the number one sponsor for Jin's store aside from the Royal Zodiac Clans who had spent millions to set up those camps. (With regards to those destroyed camps, Jin had decided to refund a partial portion of the funds as Panda Coins to the Royal Zodiac Heads but that was for another retelling to be done in the near future.)

Now with some extra hands on deck, Xiong Da had commanded them to set up a defensive perimeter around him while he started the establishment of the teleportation crystal. With just one order, the Armoured Alligators immediately pushed the Demon Rats away and set a defensive circle around Xiong Da as if they were trained Spartans. (They even looked at the part when Xiong Da later realised they were wearing similar gear to the 300 Spartans.)

But something seemed to be bugging him, and he believed that a Demon Rat General might suddenly emerge from nowhere when he started the process so Xiong Da once more placed one of the supposedly most expensive items between him and the Armoured Alligators.

A Panda 'God' Statue

For an item that looked the same as the one residing within the centre of the Tree Mall, the others including the Demon Rats were curious about what that thing was. Even the streamers and viewers who were watching the current development of the raid instance were desperately searching up the Panda God Statue within the Pandamonium App to check what it was.

As he placed that 2 metre tall statue right smack to the ground, he was smiling to himself knowing the effects of putting that Panda God Statue right in the middle of the battleground. Xiong Da hoped that if anything were to go awry, the Panda God would rescue him from trouble.

"This Xiong Da..." Jin said to himself, and in some way cursed that he had decided to use the Panda God Statue in such a way.

"The User should blame himself for even providing such an item to our number one sponsor." The System tried to refrain from making sarcastic remarks since it knew what it was. To call the Dungeon Supplier to come into the fray and save him. While like the contract was just a one time use, the Panda God Statue would only be 'activated' if it was broken and Jin would emerge from it for fifteen minutes.

Aye, it might be just a miserable 15 minutes but to the Pandawans/Pandarens, it was like summoning the gamemaster, a godly figure, in their raid instance to assist them in their current predicament.

Yet, Xiong Da hoped that it would not come to that since he only had one such statue with him and it would be a pity that Jin was summoned to clear Demon Rats or just one pathetic Demon Rat General. He wished to use that just as a substitute in case Bu Dong was not able to hold off the major threats.

But for now, the Hippo Pandawan was satisfied with his preparation and started to establish the teleportation crystal.

### **Chapter 1347: Taking Care Of The Crystal**

“Looks like the User could be summoned anytime.” The System said as it monitored the situation carefully since Xiong Da had decided to place the limited Panda God Statue on the battlefield.

“It really does seem excessive for him to do that...” Jin did not like coming out so soon into the battlefield but he had no choice since he was the one who had given Xiong Da that particular Panda Statue in the first place.

“There was nothing that could be done for the moment,” Jin added as he saw Bu Dong had managed to kill quite a number of Demon Rats with the new weapons that he had. He spammed the assault rifle like there was no tomorrow and instead of switching magazines, he merely threw it to the ground and started using another one. There was no time for him to think nor take his time to switch the rifles since he was not skilled enough to do a quick swap. However, it did not mean that those rifles that were spent were proven to be useless after he was done with them.

Similar to Xiong Da, Bu Dong also had bought a few mercenary contracts and a few of them were specifically to help him with this situation. A pair of Otters emerged from his contract and took partial control of his storage rings. As Bu Dong threw the rifles to the ground, the Otters would pick them up and swap the ammunition if they were still available. After which, they threw them back into the storage ring so that Bu Dong could resummon them back whenever he needed them. Simultaneously, the Otters also made sure that any injured Demon Rats who they come across were killed as well with a slit to their throats. This allowed Bu Dong to continue to look forward and shoot without any care.

In the meantime, Luo Bo was taking care of the ranged units that posed a threat to Xiong Da or any of the defenders protecting the establishment of the teleportation crystal. On the other hand, Bin Yong was rushing from one corner to another beating up monsters that were on Luo Bo's and Bu Dong's blind side. But with the current setup, they had managed to place a considerable amount of distance between them and the remaining Demon Rats that were on the Third and remaining Inner Wall.

“How much longer would the installation of the teleportation crystal take?” Luo Bo asked as she used her chi to fire an ultra long range shot when she managed to catch a sniper rifle's glare from afar. More and more of those snipers were coming up and she knew that the Demon Rats were also using this chance to consolidate their forces after killing the remaining Pandarens within their vicinity. It could be possible that they were the last batch of Pandarens that survived the onslaught.

"I have no idea! There is no progress bar on this stupid thing and it keeps asking me to play this typing game to accelerate the installation!" Xiong Da was frustrated that this was the only way to progress the installation of the teleportation crystal and he knew that Jin could have implemented an easier way to install it but chose not to.

However, that pause was necessary as Jin and the System were preparing the coordinates for a mass drop of Pandarens who were urged to enter the moment the teleportation crystals were up. In addition, the teleportation crystal that Xiong Da was currently installing had an anti teleportation spell similar to the one cast around the Outer Wall Camp because of the Demon Rats' trickery of teleporting the Pandarens away from the battlefield.

That typing game that Xiong Da was forced to 'play' was practically an instructional spell casting device that once given the proper commands would initiate the anti teleportation spell. But unbeknownst to the people who were currently fighting on the ground, the spell had already activated, preventing the Demon Rat Mages from casting those sneaky teleport spells. It's just that the range was slowly expanding to ensure that it covered enough area to keep the place around the crystal safe.

And as Xiong Da continued to struggle against the typing game, a few big shots had started to arrive. Bin Yong and Bu Dong could recognise that the Demon Rat Abominations in front of them were different from the standard ones that they had fought before. They were not only bigger in size but there was an aura of magic around them, indicating that they were enchanted with spells to make them more durable in fights.

The Pandawans had fought them before in the kill zone boxes and they were a pain in the ass to fight with. They were able to win with the combination of techniques from the various Pandawans with them. But now that they were pushed to a corner and probably pinned down with the advancing horde of Demon Rats, the Pandawans have to go the extra mile to make sure the teleportation crystal is unscathed else it would be a disaster moving forward.

And to make things worse, their favourite Demon Rat General suddenly appears right in front of the horde. "Well, well well! Isn't it my favourite humans that are still struggling like maggots?" Roughscream said as he swung his club right above his shoulders.

"Why don't you fight against us one to one?" Bu Dong shouted back, not knowing whether the Demon Rats would understand him. (Although there was the translation module, there were certain dungeon instances that the cultivators had no way of communicating back, like the time they fought against the Deep Ones.)

"Why should I do that?" Roughscream seemed to understand Bu Dong's taunt and sent forth the Demon Rats and the Abominations ahead.

"Buy me some time. I can provide you with some support." Luo Bo said as she walked to the frontlines. The rest of the Pandawans knew that Luo Bo had the best monster clearing skills among them and decided to hold their ground as much as possible. Even Bin Yong who was rather stingy with his items had finally decided to use them.

An extended spellbook where he was able to use a certain spell without any restraints of being a mage but the drawback was the number of uses it had.

## **Chapter 1348: Gaining Grounds in the East & West**

Meantime, when all the commotion was happening in the Northern Capital and the newly revealed Undercity, the East and the West had their own problems to handle. The Demon Rat Army who had recovered from the initial shock attack after Day 1 had been pushing aggressively against the other two sides. They were dying to get to the surface and all they needed was just one rat to go through for the plan to work.

As long as one Demon Rat Soldier was able to go through all the defences and remained unscathed, they have the opportunity to expand into the East and West regions when time permits.

This was because each one of the soldiers had been ordered to carry a bunch of seeds with them and there were none other than the Demon mutant seeds which they were grown from. In fact, the Demon Rats were curious whether those Demon mutant seeds would eventually grow into something different and yet similar in nature to them when grown in soil that was not from the Northern Region.

There were some scientists who theorised that it was because of the difference in spiritual soil that could either make or break the mutant seeds' growth. There was always a possibility that the mutant seeds could only grow in the Northern Region but there was no harm in trying it out in the Western and Eastern Regions and see if they could grow the same as well.

Yet, all those attempts by the Demon Rats regardless of their aggressive retaliation had not been successful in allowing even one Demon Rat to pass through. This was mainly because Qiu Yue was personally behind the creation of the defences as they went into Demon Rat territories.

Because of their large army which included their rat abominations, the Demon Rats would require tunnels that were large enough to not only allow at least rows of Demon Rats to pass through but high enough to allow their Abominations to slip through as well. Not to mention, they needed enough space for future developments and thus did not skimp on the digging process.

But they did not expect that it would be their downfall as it was used against them.

While the basic foundation of maintaining a tunnel had been deployed throughout the entire area, there was nothing but debris, rat waste and broken equipment that littered the place. They did not foresee any assaults through those tunnels since the Demon Rats assumed they were the only ones who were privy to this particular plan of theirs. They never knew that Jin and the System had been monitoring them closely so that they could swoop at them all at one go. That was also the reason why they decided to be greedy and split their resources to move into two regions at one go. However, all of these decisions were previously made by the Scholars and the Demon Rats had to handle the consequences of their mistakes. Else, they believed that if they concentrated on just one region, their Demon Rat armies would more or less defeat the defending forces easily with sheer numbers.

So, with the tunnel empty, Jin's minions had the upper hand since they have a Magical Constructor by their side deploying tactical walls and defences that allow them to throw greater firepower at the

Demon Rats. This was also one of the reasons why Jin had been monitoring the battles in this Great Demon War.

Unlike the Demon Rats who apparently have numbers greater than them by a huge margin, there was only a limited number of troops that Jin possessed. Even with the System's omnipotent contract System and access to the Black Market to get more 'NPCs', there were only that amount of people the System could hire due to its limited processing systems.

And also, grabbing too many contracts off the Black Market could cause suspicions to other people from other universes and it was best not to deal with them unless necessary.

Else, Jin might have to handle a threat that he was not expecting and so far, he was the changing factor for the world and none had yet to come to his world for now. Still, Jin knew he had to be careful since his world could be invaded for no reason especially after the Dungeon Supplier heard how Derek's world turned into a permanent Zombieland.

So with the defences erected within the tunnels, Both the assigned armies in the East and the West were able to fight and prevent any leakages from going through. Some of the Demon Rats even used invisibility or high speed runners to break through the defences but Qiu Yue had assigned a few of her Beavers with special powers so that those tricky Demon Rats were able to be detected and captured. There were gadgets that allowed the detection of invisibility spells as well as traps that could stop the high speed runners in their tracks like gravity counters which break the runners' momentum as they trip and fall (while being stuck to the ground until they were killed.)

And with the help of those beavers, Qiu Yue was able to move from one side of the Farming World to the other side ensuring that the defences were solid enough to not only hold the front but also give cover to those who were injured and provide defensive fire with the automatic cannons that were built along with it.

Yet, that did not mean the East and West frontiers had it easy as the Demon Rats had a massive horde rush and those defensive fortifications were used as buffers to slow down the horde since the Beavers and Qiu Yue could detonate them, destroying a portion of the massive horde to slow them down.

After which when they regain their ground, the Empire Building Sub System User would then rebuild the very same defensive walls again to hold the attrition line. It might be tedious for the forces but when they had the luxury and advantage of the tunnels at their side, especially against overwhelming numbers, it was best to use that perk as much as possible.

#### **Chapter 1349: Bin Yong's (Temporary) Spellbook**

"Get away!" Bin Yong shouted as he unveiled the spellbook right in front of him and it was shining brightly the moment he inserted a small bit of chi to activate it. Without any incantations, the spellbook slowly turned towards the Demon Rats as if it was detecting how many enemies it had to defeat.

Bu Dong and the other Armoured Alligators move backwards knowing that they would not want to get destroyed to bits by Bin Yong's mysterious new (consumable) power at his behest. However, it was still

easier said than done as the Demon Rats were aggressive enough to make sure that they did not get caught in the blast once they saw that blatant light shining right above them.

Without any further warning, the spellbook started to buzz with electrical magic and bolts of lightning streamed out from it, trailing towards the ends of the wall. Roughscream got caught in it as well but his club was able to block and subsequently deflect the streams of electricity from it. Yet, his minions were not so lucky as a number of them had been shocked and burnt by the lightning bolts.

Meanwhile, Bin Yong was not keeping the spellbook back in his possession and he was allowing it to go for another round once more. This gave Luo Bo the idea for more collateral damage as she aimed her bow high with two unique arrows which teleported out from her storage ring. (How easy it was for modern archers who did not have to carry their arrows everywhere they went.)

“Intermediate Bow Technique, Arrow Squall!” Luo Bo shouted as she released her bowstring, allowing the two arrows to fly up high. A few of the Demon Rat snipers who saw Luo Bo shooting her technique so openly and in such a flashy way had decided to turn their guns towards her. However, she was clever enough to stand close to Xiong Da’s barrier, allowing her to avoid all of the attacks while her arrows did the job.

Arrow Squall was a technique that enabled her one arrow to turn into multiple arrows but they were not as deadly as her other mass area of effect arrows mainly because the Arrow Squall technique was meant to be status inflicting technique.

The arrows that split turned into a liquid of certain lethality which would corrode the armours of the Demon Rats but Luo Bo had made sure to reduce the lethality. This was because she wanted to utilise the liquid portion of the technique more than the poison that comes along with it.

Bin Yong could see where it was going when he saw the arrows turned into water projectiles hitting the Demon Rats. At this point, he inserted even more chi into the spellbook even though he believed it was useless to charge the spellbook with chi. However, it seems like the spellbook ‘understood’ the predicament and started to flash even more brightly.

Roughscream also knew what was going on and decided to charge forward ignoring the collateral Demon Rats soldiers that were in his way. He knew that if he allowed the spellbook to discharge once again, there would potentially be no more Demon Rats on the top of these walls for the next few minutes. He got to stop it at all costs.

“Do you think I will allow you to do as you please?” Bu Dong said as he knelt and took out a box of mortar from his storage ring. He knew that those mortar shells needed to be prepped and aimed before triggering them but there was no time on his side either. Thus, he literally threw the box of mortar towards Roughscream and used his sword to summon out a chi slash to activate the mortar shells.

The explosion was huge the moment the chi slash touched just one of those mortars, causing a chain reaction to the rest and Bu Dong believed that even if Roughscream was unscathed by it, the impact from it would no doubt stop him in his tracks (or even push him back) even just for a few seconds.

But contrary to his pessimism, Roughscream had been thrown backwards by the huge impact and that few seconds was all that the spellbook needed to release a combined charge of four spells towards the Demon Rats. The streams of lightning that emerged from the spell book were wider and more intense,



shocking each and every Demon Rat that was in its trail. Along with the impromptu preparation done by Luo Bo, almost every (not dead) rat had been fried by the burst of lightning that was summoned out by the spellbook.

“Do you think that crazy ass Demon Rat General would be killed by such an attack?” Bu Dong asked as he tried to get up with the help of the Armoured Alligator since they too were knocked back by the mortar explosion.

The alligators only grunted as they raised their spears once more and pointed them forward as they all saw how Roughscream might have been roughed up by the explosion and lightning strikes but he was still alive and kicking.

“Guess that answered my question.” Bu Dong said as he turned back to check Xiong Da’s progress only to see that he was way too absorbed typing like crazy to even look at the situation they had created.

“You think this will be the end? That your parlour tricks are enough to stop us?” Roughscream said as he literally screamed and the earth around them started to shake. Even without looking, the Pandawans who had been on the battlefield for hours knew that the General had already started to call for more reinforcements and there was little they could do to stop it unless they got the transportation crystal up and running. Even the spellbook that Bin Yong had brought previously, turned into an empty notebook after utilising all of its charges against the initial horde.

“I can clear one more wave of Demon Rats with my arrows but I do not have much chi left. It’s either we die fighting till the last minute or we call it quits right here.” Luo Bo said as she too was tired from all the attacking. The snipers were still relentless even as she had killed them in the process. They somehow managed to find replacements and were not giving her or her team any breathing space.

“I did not wish to use this so quickly.” Bu Dong said as he stepped forward, touching his storage ring. The Angry Ape Cultivator had been keeping this for emergencies or when fighting against multiple Demon Rat Generals but the situation in front of him had unfolded in just a way that it was unprecedented for him to not use it. “Damn it, if only Deng Long was here too. It would have been much easier.” He thought to himself as he took the step forward in order to face the sole Demon Rat General that had been bugging them since the start of this war.

But just as he was about to spur into action, a loud howl was heard from behind him.

“ANNNNNDDDD ITS ALL DONEEEEE!” Xiong Da exclaimed as he pressed ‘Enter’ with the hopes that it would break especially after giving him such agony.

## **Chapter 1350: Extra: As The Surviving Pandarens Gather**

“Are you alright?” Ma Yue Han, the Blind Bat Cultivator asked as he managed to catch a few of them in mid air.

“Wow, When did you learn how to fly? Even with qing gong, this is no easy feat.” Xu Jia Le, the Breathtaking Bellflower Cultivator and also the partner of Bin Yong said as she managed to grab Yue Han’s hand and use her cultivation powers by creating flowers in midair for them to step.

“I managed to break through to Grade 9 and learnt one of the intermediate techniques that allowed me to float. You should thank Bu Dong and this guy here for forcing me to learn stuff when I could have been lazier.” Yue Han pointed with whatever fingers he had left grabbing the cultivators towards Deng Long.

“Then I guess, it had paid off well. Told you this raid is a crazy one.” Deng Long replied with a sigh of relief. He thought that he would meet the same fate as the rest of the other cultivators who had dropped into the abyssal hole when the earthquake happened. Thankfully, with Yue Han’s floating technique, Jia Le, Deng Long and one more particular Pandawan were able to survive the fall.

“Do you mind stepping on those floating flowers? My leg is not really the best place for you to grab.” Yue Han exclaimed as he could feel the intense grip that Shi Zuo was placing on both of his legs. If not for Yue Han’s familiarity with the floating technique, the four of them might have already fallen through the abyss.

Jia Le knows that Shi Zuo had a tad of Acrophobia and purposely conjured a floating bellflower which was larger than the rest right beneath his feet, allowing him to let go of Yue Han and allowed the Blind Bat Cultivator to balance himself once more. He quietly thanked Jia Le as they witnessed the Great Demon Rat’s main capital, the Undercity, in its full greatness.

When gravity pulls them down further, they already saw that there were multiple projectiles coming toward them and hordes of Demon Rats were already rushing into their landing area to not only await their descent but also decimate any surviving Pandarens that managed to live through the fall from the ground above.

It was a complete massacre as the injured Pandarens could barely put up a fight against them. The Royal Zodiac Soldiers on the other hand were banding up together as much as they could so that they heal themselves while preventing the situation from overwhelming them.

Yet, it was pretty apparent that they could not hold the fort since they were in unknown territory and most of them were low grade combatants since the Monkeys and Sheeps were mainly supporters. The Battle Alchemists from the Monkey Clan were able to do some emergency healing as well as create a defensive array, allowing only cultivators to enter but the onslaught of Demon Rats became a problem when they were the centre of ‘attraction’ to the incoming horde of Demon Rats.

And that implied Jia Le and the rest of the Pandawans who were descending to the ground. The bellflowers were bright enough as a signal for the Demon Rat Archers and Sharpshooters to aim for them. Shi Zuo managed to use an item he bought from the Hidden Gem Night Market to provide a temporary magic barrier around him, providing cover for all four of them but its powers were tremendously weakened with the barrage of attacks, forcing the group to jump together as one so that they could reach the ground soon enough for the magic barrier to enough power to break their fall as well.

Once that was done, Jia Le quickly used her kunais to erect a defensive wall of roots to not only stop the incoming projectiles but also be used as a deterrent against the incoming horde. She managed to get the Royal Zodiac Monkey Battle Alchemists to imbue some of her kunais with a chi boost inscription, allowing them to perform a higher level of chi techniques without straining the cultivator. The wall of roots was created by one of such kunais and it subsequently became a wave of roots, which crept on any of the Demon Rats that was in its path, the moment Jia Le inserted more chi into the kunai.

This gave them some breathing space to run towards the defensive formation array which the Royal Zodiac Monkeys had created since it acted as a gathering point for all the Pandarens who managed to escape the attacks of the Demon Rats. As more cultivators started to gather around it, the Royal Zodiac Soldiers who were purely combatants like the Snakes and Tigers had begun to extend their reach outside of the defensive array so that they could rescue more people into the formation and at the same time provide some breathing space for the battle alchemists to expand their array formation so that it could hold more people as they continued to treat the wounded. It was a fight for their lives every single second even as the medics tried to save as many as they could so that they would at least be an able body to fend off threats should the array begin to fail.

At that point, they knew that no reinforcements were coming soon enough to rescue them especially when the Pandarens realised there was no communication going to any other teams that were still above ground. One of the Royal Zodiac Snakes believed that there was some barrier that stopped the communications to go through so he decided to shoot upwards with all the chi imbued in that one arrow.

True enough, they found a multitude of magical barriers barring the surface and to make matters worse, there was even a magic barrier which seemed to darken the entire hole, and made it as if they would be entrapped in this Undercity forever.

Yet they did not give up hope.

Even though it is merely just a raid instance, they know that this was an obstacle they had to overcome. Each and every one of the Pandarens in there might panic and even fear for their lives but the rallying cries of the Royal Zodiacs gave them hope, knowing that if they come together, they might be able to survive this intensely realistic and yet horrific experience.