Dungeon S 1441

Chapter 1441 Mysterious Request

As Jin was fiddling with the new system that had been wrapped around his head, he could not help to miss the old System. The manual which he had opened up through the holographic display was extensively long and there was no summary or a list of need to knows. It was a through and through technical manual that needed to be read up beforehand.

The Grey Bear Commander attempted to use his Inverse Eyes hoping that it could still work in this new world that he had been shoved into and found that they could still be relied on. He was initially worried since it seemed as if his soul had been popped into another person's body and in the context of this current world, he was not supposed to have any cultivation or innate traits. Yet, he was secretly elated that his Inverse Eyes ability still worked and he could feel a faint sense of magic and chi circulating through his body.

But from the way they spoke, it seemed as if that death might not be a permanent thing but considering that the Panda Clan members that had been inundated by the System had the tendency to not be resurrected again, it was highly likely that trait would also be brought into this world since he was able to use his abilities. That was also why as Jin tried to read the manual as fast as he could with his Inverse Eyes, there was a part of him that was distracted hoping that he could still reach for the System.

That is until he saw a blinking notification at the side of the holographic console that only he could see (according to the manual.)

Using his mind to 'open' the notification, it was a request to join the Grey Bears but there was no name or face attached to it, citing the priority status as 'urgent'. "Hey everyone, erm just a few minutes ago, there is this request notification that popped up asking to join the Grey Bears team."

"Weird, there should be no one within the vicinity," Yinn said and asked to send her a screenshot of the request. Jin fumbled a little upon doing so since this was his first time attempting it. The interface was not as smooth as he had experienced with the System.

"Could be spam or worse, malware." Click chuckled.

"Or maybe it is the enemy, we must not stay here for long," Diaz warned and Yinn calmed the rest of the team down.

"No such bullshit, only Commanders can send such messages and the Central Command has to filter before allowing such an invite to be sent to us. The only backstab I could think of is that the Mechanoid or Commander who sent this request might have an ulterior motive or even betray us." Yinn explained before sighing that the chances of that would be rather minuscule. Mainly because any commanders or Mechanoids that had been found betraying the squad would be set up for a significant bounty, allowing the entire Empire to hunt and haunt them.

"Unless that person is crazy enough to sabotage us for this mission." Diaz tried to reaffirm her suspicions but the rest eventually ignored her warnings.

"Screenshot received. Yes, there are some commanders or Mechanoids who refused to send out a picture or name. A little bit dubious but they can request to mask their identity by the Central

Command. Usually, these people prefer not to let people know that they are there, probably sniper or assassin class mechanoid who had something to gain through this mission. "Yinn said as she checked the screenshot a little more thoroughly.<.com>

"But to have their ID blacked out as well, it seems we might be allying with some very powerful individual who really wants to keep it a secret that he or she is here," Yin added.

"Perhaps, we can collect some fee for allowing this person to join!" Click said and Tellie knocked her helmet.

"Do not push it, having an extra pair of eyes and gun to help us through this mission would already be godsent. Worse case scenario if we interact with them, they might even kill us by 'accident'. You get my drift?" Tellie, who was a seasoned PTE, said her experiences out.

"As what Tellie had said. I will suggest you allow the invitation. And whether they come to help us would be a different issue. We still got a mission to complete." Yinn recommended and Jin listened despite him being the commander since he was still new to all of this.

However, as he pressed the accept button, he could feel a short sting going through his brain, like a sort of brain freeze. He wondered it was because he was not used to the feedback of having such an obsolete System under his control. Once that was done, Yinn recommended they moved out soon as Jin's reading up on his new System was taking too much precious time.please visit freewebnovel.com.

"We will improvise as needed." Yinn picked up a vest without any armour plate and passed it to Jin. After all, she did not expect him to be on the front lines.

"No," Jin replied firmly as he continued to read the rest of the manual telling them to wait a little while longer.

"Why? We will be missing this golden opportunity. Right now, it's in the middle of the night and we had evaded their bombardment. They would definitely be sending their guards out to search for us. If we move out now, they will not be able to catch us and we can use this chance to slip into the base halfway."

"Then all the more we are staying here," Jin said as he tried to continue going through the manual but the rest of the War Maiden were not approving of his commands.

"Fine. we will stay." Yinn bit the side of her mouth and told the rest to stand down. One reason was that commanders' command is mostly absolute unless it harms either the commander or War Maidens. And also, she wants to see how this commander was going to go through this whole ordeal.

Chapter 1442 Not Yet

The rest of the War Maidens thought that there might be a glimmer of hope for Jin since he had lost his memories before, but it seems like the leopard can never change its spots. They were understandably frustrated and disheartened when they were not given the order to move out at all. They had been

hoping for a chance to redeem themselves and prove their worth while earning the paycheck, but instead they were left feeling disillusioned and let down. Some of the War Maidens hung their heads in disappointment, while others muttered quietly among themselves, crestfallen at the lack of opportunity.

It was not long that the Diaz who was on the lookout outside the cabin noticed some movement from the east where the Village Artbridge was located. It was a pressing and urgent matter - they needed to move out immediately in case any enemy troops were spotted. There would only be one chance for them to attack the village and it would be a waste of time if they did not take the opportunity now. It was a critical and crucial moment for the War Maidens, and they knew that they had to act quickly and decisively.

"No all of you are not moving out. We will be contacting with them for battle," Jin said confidently as he finally read most of the manual on the technical console.

"Wait... are you." Yinn saw handsignals that Jin was beginning to make. "Are you going to go in as a tactical commander?"

"Aren't commanders supposed to do that?" Jin asked as he found out about the 'Tactical System'.

"No bloody commander worth their salt would be using that piece of old junk! It's more like a simulator that at most predicts what is going to happen if we take certain actions," Yinn replied in angry whispers, her frustration and incensed feelings clear to see. She was certain that their commander was not fit for battle, and she could not understand why they were still following his orders.

"Their Future Prediction Model Simulation feature only works on animals and probably robots but not on Mechanoids like us and especially not against humans." Tellie added as well, advising that it is a bad move by Jin too. "Even if it works previously, its because the commander had implanted a processing chip in their brain and able to scan the area and that's assuming that the scan frequency had not been jammed by the other people."

"For Mechanoids who supposed to follow orders, you all sure have a lot of opinions." Jin said as he opened up the tactical system using his hands and a light holographic blue screen emerged at his right arm.please visit freewebnovel.com.

"Fuck," Diaz muttered, her eyes scanning the room frantically. She quickly went to the nearest piece of furniture and started flipping it over, using it as makeshift cover. The rest of the War Maidens understood what Jin was getting at and begrudgingly followed his orders. They quickly took stock of their ammunition, their hands moving deftly as they checked their weapons and made sure they were ready for battle. The cabin was plunged into darkness as they cut the remaining lights, and the War Maidens took up their positions, holding their ground within the cramped confines of the cabin. It might have been too late, since if they could see the enemies from miles away, the enemies would have also been able to spot them. The tension in the air was palpable, and the War Maidens prepared themselves for the fight that was sure to come.

Jin might not have a processor chip that could scan the entire area or a prothestic eye that could compute the movements but he had something far more magical and unexplainable to the Mechanoids that could aid him. The use of Maqi and his Inverse Eyes.

His eyes closed in concentration as he focused on replicating his lost powers. He took a deep breath, feeling the Magic and chi flow through his body. With a determined expression, he opened his eyes and focused on the area around him.

Despite his weakened state, Jin was still able to detect the presence of others within a radius of 150 meters by using a combination of Magic and chi to insert his senses throughout the cabin, allowing him to feel the movement of those around him.<.com>

But even with this heightened sense, Jin still couldn't determine the exact location or number of enemies without combining it with his Inverse Eyes technique. With a sharp focus, he activated the technique and was immediately able to see the location of his enemies, as well as their numbers.

Now with this information on the tips of his fingertips, Jin could now plan his next move. He knew that he was outnumbered, but he was determined to overcome his opponents and prove that he was still a force to be reckoned with. He took a deep breath and prepared to face his enemies, ready to use every ounce of skill and technique he possessed to emerge victorious.

But what was more interesting was the Tactical Holographic Console.

As long as it has the information that's needed, the Tactical Holographic Console will reproduce the location where the enemies will be and moving in real time. Not only it gives tactical overview for the commander in charge to give orders with just a flick of a finger or with a thought of his brain, it acts as a conduit that provides bonuses to the War Maidens as well. What it meant was that the Commander in Charge have access to restricted codes that could techinically overclock the War Maidens, allowing them to be more powerful than usual for a limited duration.

Something akin to a Power Up buff that the War Maidens were able to receive on the fly so codes like 25% Speed boost or 10% more accuracy rate. There were even codes that allowed the War Maidens to provide more power into their current weapons and cause even more damage with which bullet that flew out of their weapon's barrel.

Sounds like the ultimate tool for tactical use even though those codes were one time use each battle since the War Maiden processing units had limiters to ensure that the War Maiden's parts do not break after every fight. They even supposed to have an Ultimate Skill for each different War Maiden coded within them but Jin had yet to know their abilities. But as good as everything sounds, there's always a catch.

The problem of not having proper analysis of the battle mainly because most combatants had found how to counter the Tactical Holographic Console such as jamming its frequency to prevent the commanders from collecting nearby data. Even as his Grey Bears had said having a miniature radar that allows the scan would work at most for 5 to 10 seconds for those high end radar chips but after that, the enemies would have the upper hand again. Even interval scanning could be jammed once the enemies caught up to it and some even hijacked the scans making them more unreliable by providing false information into it.

Back when it was boasted to be the best tool in every commander's arsenal, now only a fool would use such a feature that was part of the Tactical System package that was installed in every soldier. Yet, it still had its purposes such as what Yinn had mentioned. For hunting non senitinel beings such as animals and its developers had sought to improve its usefulness through updates so that it could be relevant but those updates barely lasted for a week before their encryption codes had been broken and countermeasures were set up.

That was why the Grey Bear were against the idea of Jin using the Tactical Holographic Console. They couldn't wait for him to use it and fail miserably at that so they could overwrite his orders and move to defend his stupid ass. However, all of them had no idea that this Jin was different than the one they all knew. Not to mention, there was this hidden ally that they do not know how reliable he or she would be.

"Enemies incoming." Diaz said as she already had her aim on one of the enemy but Jin continued to order them to hold.

"Not yet."

Chapter 1443 Shootout At The Cabin -Part 1

The Grey Bears were vastly outnumbered as more and more enemy Mechanoids poured into the woods. The odds of survival were slim, but the Grey Bears remained collected and focused, determined to take down the mechanical foes. Despite the seemingly impossible situation, the Grey Bears refused to back down, their steady aim fixed on the approaching Mechanoids.

What they were more surprised about was how this Jin was able to work under pressure or he was basically too ignorant of the situation he had made the Grey Bears be in. "Ahhh, here goes another debt to pay." Yinn and the others thought simultaneously as they knew that their presence would be discovered within a few seconds once the enemies were able to pick them up with their physical sensors. The only things that were aiding them right now were the impromptu covers and the sheets of camouflage that were used to cover their heat signatures.

Even as Jin was hiding under a large camouflaged cloth, he persisted in his aura sensing, managing to capture where most of the Mechanoids were moving. The Tactical Holographic Console was able to predict with Jin's input of information their path of movements and this new information was being sent to the rest of the Grey Bears.

Yinn and the others had no idea what was happening but based on sight perception, the movements and numbers seem to tally well with what Jin had sensed them. Was it possible that a miracle emerged from nowhere and allowed the Tactical Holographic Console to work properly for once?

Still, they were not very optimistic even with the revealed positions of their enemies. Sure, Jin was able to pinpoint all of them but what good would it do? They would still be stuck with a shit ton of enemies to deal with.

"Pass me two flashbangs," Jin asked through the Tactical System but the Mechanoids were hesitant to move since movement and sound would attract attention. This caused Jin to be slightly annoyed as he already had a plan up in his head.

"Nevermind." Jin looked around the cabin and found a window which he could pass through easily if he jumped from his spot. "Do not fire until I give the command... unless I am dead," Jin added the last part reluctantly and made sure he had his loaded pistol with him. "Let the show begin then."

Jin quickly stopped his Maqi sensing and focused some of it into his legs, allowing him to jump out of the cabin window. The sound of shattering glass alerted the rest of the enemies, causing them to move and even shoot suppressive fire towards the cabin. They moved towards the cabin even faster, despite the Grey Bear Squad still being inside. The orders were absolute and they had no choice but to obey, so the tension was high.

Suddenly, a loud bang echoed through the dark woods, effectively killing one of the Mechanoid rebels. More shots were fired, dead accurate and killing another three Mechanoids with headshots. Their physical sensors immediately switched to night vision, adding thermal to their perception. But Jin was clever enough to hold onto the camo cloth, using it as a cloak to hide.

As the Mechanoids thought they had located Jin, he suddenly lobbed a few grenades towards them with force. The explosions shook the ground and sent debris flying, taking out several more Mechanoids. Jin used this opportunity to sprint away, staying low to avoid detection. He could hear the enemies behind him, shouting and firing their weapons, but he was fast and agile with the aid of his Maqi. He knew the woods well through his Maqi sensing and used this to his advantage, weaving in and out of trees and underbrush.

"Tellie, Yinn get out of the cabin from where I move out and prepare for sneak attacks. Use the trees as vantage points." Jin said as he continue to fire his pistol. Those grenades which he managed to pinch from the first dead Mechanoid's battle vest proved useful and he still had a grenade right with him.

"Diaz, Click! Fire now!" Jin said as he used one of the trees to block the suppressive fire they were sending in his direction and threw that final grenade at them. The moment they heard their names, their faces turned elated as they used the distraction created by Jin to kill off those who had their focus on him and used the grenade explosion to hide their gunfire.<.com>

This gave the Mechanoids an illusion that there were being ambushed rather than being the ambushers, denting their morale bit by bit. Jin quickly pulled out the Holographic Tactical Console and used his mind to see the coordinates where Yinn and Tellie were hiding for the ambush.

But then he noticed that his passive Maqi sensing had shown that more Mechanoid Rebels were moving onto their location. They were all fanned out to search for stragglers and the firefight here had notified them that they were here.

"Permission to engage," Tellie asked but Jin continued to belay that order. Instead, he asked Tellie to climb up the trees as well and get a better sight of the battleground below.

With the battlefield being split into two sides, the pressure for Diaz and Click to perform had reduced significantly. To boot, Jin had also used Accuracy Rate Up codes to overclock their precision sensors. That and the constantly updated battlefield information from the Tactical Holographic Console had enabled Diaz and Click to fire their weapons while conserving their ammunition.

However, Jin's pistol was running low and there were still Mechanoids firing at his position, some even began to advance towards him knowing that he was just one man. But they had no idea that they were fighting with a veteran that went near Death's gate several times.

The freshly minted commander of the Grey Bears sent another shot that grazed one of the advancing Mechanoids and took the opportunity to run up the tree like an agile monkey escaping from its predators. The only difference was he did not do that runaway but gained some height so that he could dropkick them with sufficient distance.

"Hahahaha! Did you see that!" Diaz said as she sniped down another Mechanoid with a headshot.

"I did." Click replied with excessive approval. "I never expect to see melee combat being brought onto the table at this time and age. LT, sending suppressive fire. Danger close." She said through the Tactical System as she had decided to assist Jin once after he dropkicked one of the Mechanoids by shooting her backup support.

This allowed Jin to not just pick up the rifle from the Mechanoid that he dropkicked but also used the fallen War Maiden as a (human? or Mecha?) shield. Yet the other Mechanoids had their orders and did not care if one of their teammates had to be sacrificed.

"We are not going down without a fight either," Jin thought to himself as he held on to the unwieldy rifle shot randomly to protect himself as he pulled the now dead Mechanoid back to behind the tree for cover. Afterwhich, he put a bullet into the Mechanoid's head just to be sure and started to pillage whatever he could find on her battle vest while under fire.

If this would be a protracted battle, he had to grab whatever he could and improvise on the battlefield just like how he did when he was on the endless battlefield with Suzaku.

Chapter 1444 Shootout At The Cabin -Part 2

As Jin tried to rob items from the dead Mechanoid, a shot came through that penetrated the tree trunk behind which he was hiding. "What the fuck?!" Jin knew that he was no longer safe, as there were snipers targeting him at that very moment.please visit freewebnovel.com.

The interim commander of the Grey Bear Squad had lucked out from being shot since he was squatting behind the tree to get the items. "Damn it, if only I had my real System with me and not this piece of shit, I might be able to get through this easily!" Jin now understood how important and precious the System was to him at this critical juncture, but reminiscing would not be of any use right now.

The only thing he could do was to defeat the enemies and get over the situation. However, if a sniper was able to pinpoint his location, the other two who were giving suppressive fire would be next.

"Diaz, Click. Sniper fire! The shot penetrated the fucking tree trunk. What kind of freaking bullet is that?!" Jin asked as he decided to switch places by sprinting to the next tree a few meters away under the cover of relative darkness.

"If a bullet can pass through a tree trunk, the Mechanoid must be carrying at least a .50 caliber rifle with a super charged module. They cannot use that module more than five times though, since it will disintegrate it." Yinn said through the Tactical System.

"They could always bring more." Tellie rebutted.

"Rebels have that much money in their pockets? Who the hell is funding them?" Jin exclaimed as another bullet whizzed through the side of the tree trunk and wood splinters flew. The spotters for the sniper were tracking Jin, and he knew that it was a matter of time before they had a good shot on him.

At the same time, Diaz and Click had also received sniper fire from the side of the cabin. Their cover managed to stop the initial wave of sniper shots, but they also knew that they were no longer safe. Just as they were about to move from their position, another sniper fire came and hit Diaz in the left leg.

Bouts of "red blood," wires, and even some metal pieces emerged from her leg as the bullet pierced through it, almost rendering it useless. "Click, move and change position first. This cabin is no longer safe." Diaz said in a calm manner. At the very least, with Jin's constant feeding of information, they knew where the enemies were within 150 meters of their location, just not the snipers. So, they could at least move according to the immediate threats within their proximity.

"The trajectory shots indicated three Snipers." Tellie said, and Yinn agreed with the information. While the data was a tad late, the information from the Tactical System had shown them where the shots had come from. It was extremely useful information since they could now estimate the snipers' positions. But what they were more surprised with was that Jin had somehow been able to devise a monitoring scan that had yet to be blocked by the enemy's combatants.

Even if they were mere rebels, using Super Charge Modules had already shown that they definitely had the capability to block or jam Jin's Tactical System scanning. (Unless, they got those modules illegally which might be a possibility.)

"I will stay and continue to provide suppressive fire if needed," Diaz said as she ignored the damage to her leg and attempted to reinforce the side of the cabin from which the sniper fire was coming. Diaz even used the metal box casing that held the armor plates as cover. Meanwhile, she continued to fire at the Mechanoids who were aiming at Jin.<.com>

On the other hand, Click continued to move around the cabin corners for cover to shoot at her enemies. Now that the rebel Mechanoids knew their position, they took evasive maneuvers and applied pressure through suppressive fire to remove their initial shock advantage.

"I found them," Yinn said as she managed to see them through the customized scope on her assault rifle. "But my rifle doesn't have the range to hit that far."

"I can give it a try, but I'll only have one shot before exposing my position," Tellie replied. Jin chuckled through the Tactical System intercoms.

"That's all I need. Don't forget we still have the Tactical Console," Jin said as he sent a burst of three bullets out as a distraction and hid behind another tree, out of the sniper's line of fire. Once he was under cover, he pulled out the holographic Tactical console and saw the codes materialized as cards.

They were similar to the equip cards he had used for his minions when he had the old System, and he knew how to make them work. Maybe the System had created the equip system as inspiration from this tactical console.

20% Increased Accuracy Rate. Quick Shot. Double Tap. Steady Aim. War Maiden Range Extender (Consumable).

Jin consecutively used the five code cards on Tellie by swiping them onto her portrait within the Tactical Console, and she could feel the processor within her making temporary adjustments. Her hands started to tremble and she discovered that her arm was glowing mildly before showing slits that opened in the middle where the ulna and radius bones are located. A barrel accessory emerged as if the War Maiden had 3D printed it on the fly.

To put it gently, Tellie was undoubtedly overwhelmed by the temporary power boost and her ability to create something out of the blue. However, now was not the time to be surprised, as she knew that these buffs only lasted for a while.

She quickly picked up the Range Extender from her left arm and, using her Mechanoid dexterity, changed the barrel and took aim. Just one deep breath allowed her to steadily hold her weapon of death.

"Take the shot," Jin said as he continued to lure the sniper's attention by zigzagging around, attempting to kill the Mechanoids in the vicinity as well.

"Yes, LT," Tellie replied, and pressed the trigger. The bullets flew out, aimed not just to disable the snipers, but to ensure that they were killed.

Chapter 1445 Shootout At The Cabin -Final

The shots buzzed through the woods as they left Tellie's extended barrel and the light flashes from the rifle were not seen until the Rebel Mechanoids heard the first few shots above them.

By the time they were able to react to search for their enemy sniper, Tellie had already leapt to the next tree branch to reposition herself again for the upcoming fight regardless of the fate of the snipers that she had targeted previously. This confusion allowed the ground defenders to take advantage of it and slaughter a few more rebel Mechanoids.

It wasn't until Yinn gave the Grey Bears an affirmation that the enemy snipers had been taken down that Tellie was able to have a look of relief on her face. Yet, she did not allow herself to celebrate as the Tactical System Buffs were still active and she intended to use all of them to the best of her abilities.

Enemy Mechanoids returned fire at her position, but they had forgotten that they were also being suppressed from the Cabin side and by Jin. This gave the Grey Bears, with the exception of Yinn, the opportunity to give the remaining Mechanoids a taste of hell.

With the Grey Bears having the tactical advantage once more, the rest of the Mechanoids believed it was futile to stay and probably were ordered to retreat.

"Continue to press on the targets to the best of your abilities, but do not advance any further than a hundred meters from the cabin," Jin ordered, and the rest acknowledged.

In a shootout that lasted no more than 30 minutes, the cabin finally fell quiet and the rest heaved a sigh of relief. They did not expect to get out of this mess in the first place, and the result they had gotten was surprisingly shocking to the entire squad.

It could have been worse, but they got away with just a few grazes, damaged armor plates, and Diaz's broken leg.

Jin continued to breathe heavily as he tried to recuperate all the Maqi he had expended. It was not easy to maintain it with all his cultivation force stripped away from him, but his foundation was solid enough to last this long, enabling them to achieve victory with the power of information on their side.

"What are we going to do next?" Yinn asked as the Grey Bear Squad congregated near the cabin since Diaz was immobile.

"Salvage what we can from the dead enemies. Replace our existing armor plates, collect the working rifles, refill our ammunition," Jin said as he started to pull the armor plate from one of the dead Mechanoids who was killed with a headshot and place it in his empty vest. He even pulled out armored kneepads and found a pair of gloves that fit him comfortably.

What was more important was that he could finally get a decent weapon from this impromptu graveyard: a p90 submachine gun and a bag full of its associated magazine clips. Inside that bag were other items that were useful for combat purposes, such as a quick nanomachine healing patch for Mechanoids who suffer injuries, and combat supplies suitable for both Mechanoids and humans to consume.<.com>

But what he found in that treasure trove was an item that might potentially change the whole scenario in their fight at Artbridge.

A working communicator.

Thinner and smaller than a standard military radio, this heap of green metal was still working perfectly despite the shootout that they had had with the Grey Bears. And more importantly, there was a notebook with all the radio codes that had been used by them. It looked like this Mechanoid could have been a messenger or used as a mobile 'item carrier' by their commanders and they had been used for this fight as a way to have more manpower or perhaps to gain experience.

However, the rebels might not have expected a major loss on their side with the turn of events, and this allowed Jin to gain access to the most important piece of equipment that could be vital for their turnaround.

But as elated as he was, he suddenly remembered that he was talking through the Tactical System Console and the enemies could be doing the same as well. Why would they need a military radio? Yinn managed to notice the perplexed look Jin was showing and explained well ahead that not every commander would use the Tactical System Console like Jin did.

"When you turn the tactical console on, it takes up most of your concentration to handle it because you will be the sole communication point for the entire team. Not to mention, these console systems only

have a maximum of 10 slots. While it can be upgraded to accommodate more, any extra Mechanoids would not have access to the Tactical System Console." Yinn reasoned out.

"But what makes me more curious is how LT is able to use the Tactical System Console without any burden. I have never seen any commander using that bulky system without taking a major strain on their willpower." She added, and the rest eventually had their realization upon assessing Yinn's explanation. "Not to mention, I saw LT use the Tactical System Console before he lost his memories and he hated it a lot, complaining how lackluster and resource heavy it was to his computation processor unit in his head. And he is already using one of the latest chips despite our debts."

"That explains where all our money went..." Diaz said as she was hopping around with the help of Click.

"More importantly, you are saying that this LT is not exactly the same LT we know?" Tellie inquired as she too felt uncomfortable with how competent Jin was compared to the one she had previously known.

"Yes, it could be that we might have an imposter in the squad." Yinn said as she drew her pistol out quickly. To her amazement, Jin had done the same. His pistol was drawn at her direction, and he had a grenade on the other hand, which he looted from the dead Mechanoids. Seeing how they were in an impasse, Yinn asked a very simple question.

"Friend or foe?"

Chapter 1446 Who Are You?

"The identification scanner indicated that this is still that same Jin we should know of." Tellie's eyes shone upon slightly checking his credentials with the Empire's database.

"It's pretty obvious that this is not the same Jin that we know after that fight," Yinn said as she had also been monitoring Jin since she was ordered to not fire at all. Her initial thoughts on his orders were conflicted, thinking that this would be a suicide run but seeing how he had asked the CPL of the squad to not participate in the fight shows that he might have some ulterior motive.

At first, she thought it was all about conserving strength and not showing the enemy their full hand. However, now that she learnt Jin was not who he is, Yinn had other considerations running through her mind. And those concerns were not friendly towards their commander especially when she remembered that he had an 'ally' which he had accepted and did not come to their rescue at this point.

"So, speak. Friend or Foe? How did you even possess this body?" Yinn said as she knew how the Synthesis World works and assumed that Jin would surely know.

"What if I tell you I was from another world and had been banished to this place by some supernatural forces? Would you have believed me?" Jin asked and the rest felt that Jin was making fun of them.

"What kind of ridiculous reasoning is that?" Click said while staying stationary and readying herself to pick up her pistol as she knows that this Jin was not as simple as they thought she was.

"As I said, this is the only explanation I can give you. I would like to get out of this world, of this situation if I can but right now, I am prioritising my survival and using whatever I have at my disposal to make it so." Jin said as he felt some regret for even saying that he felt tired of all the bullshit in his home world. Perhaps, if he did not do that, the gods who were watching him might not have intervened although that was also something he could not have controlled.

"So, all I can tell you are. Work with me. I am risking as much as you are from the previous fight but I cannot do this alone in my current state." Jin was genuine at his request and while the Mechanoids were not humans, they were able to read verbal expressions decently.

Yinn walked backwards slowly and lifted her rifle away from him. "I do not trust you yet but according to my truth detector, there was no hint of lies at the moment."

"You have a truth detector built into you??" Jin asked as he put his pistol away but the rest were grinning behind their ears. It was a fact that there is no such thing as a truth detector module installed in War Maidens since they were supposed to be combat oriented.

"You seriously thought we have truth detectors installed in all of us? Then we would have caught that previous Jin's lies so much more easily and report him." Diaz chuckled as she used a nearby tree to lean on. As gullible as Jin was in that particular situation, the Grey Bear Squad still need to make a decision.<.com>

"I do not mind a competent commander though." Tellie finally decided to break the ice by speaking out first. Her first hand experience using the buffs from the Tactical System had made her feel that she is finally doing a proper job.

? "Yeah. The way he jumped out of the window and ran like crazy. At first, I thought he abandoned us and really felt like shooting him from the back. Turns out he risked his life to give us a tactical advantage. Can't say it's the best move a commander can pull but for him to risk his life for us? That's a first and I am digging it. This broken leg is a small price to pay compared to the number of rebels we had gunned down." Diaz said.

"I won't deny that either. He is already a better commander than previous Jin." Click agreed as well although Diaz told her that the bar of their previous commander wasn't that high, to begin with. "Heh, I will take anyone better than that piece of a shithead. And since we have one right now, I would take it." Click also agreed to the change of command.

Yinn was the only one who did not speak anything and raised her hand up, offering a handshake. "Command us like how you did in the previous shootout and we will remain loyal to you. Else, I will not hesitate to shoot you from the back" Yinn said and Jin accepted it willingly, knowing they both came to a compromise. "You can tell us more about your actual self no matter how crazy it is once we are done with the mission."

"Alright then. Let's just pick up whatever we can for now and we need to also solve Diaz's broken leg condition." Jin said and Click raised her hand up.

"You might now know this but I am the medic cum engineer for the squad." Click said as she spread her hands around the many dead Mechanoids. "We can just replace her legs with the existing Mechanoids

but it will take some time to make sure that the legs are of decent quality and her body does not reject the insertion of foreign models."

"How long will it take?" Jin queried and Click did a mental calculation while looking at the messy massacre around her.

"Probably 20 minutes max."

"If that's the case, Yinn. Do you mind searching for those sniper nests? I think having some long range overwatch will do us good for our intrusion into Artridge." Jin asked and Yinn complied.

"Roger that. I will get it done." Yinn gave a quick salute and move out while Tellie and Jin searched the bodies before the former was ordered to scout ahead to ensure that no enemies were coming back.

Chapter 1447 Leg Replacement

As Jin was looting the surrounding dead Mechanoids, Click was dismantling those who still had a decent pair of legs to check. So far, she was able to salvage three pairs of legs and to her surprise, those pairs of legs that she dismantled were of high quality. There were combat modules attached to it mainly allowing the Mechanoid to run longer without expending too much energy.

In addition, those legs were built with such sturdy materials that Click had to measure them to be strong enough to hold minimally twice the carry weight they could hold. Three times their weight was also possible but it would impact and offset the long distance combat module that had been installed within those legs. Now all she could hope was Diaz's machine 'genetics' was able to fit in properly without any rejection.

This was because there were cases of suicidal War Maidens who had implanted latent malware or viruses into their system. And those who wished to reuse their parts would cause those latent malware programmes to activate. After that spate of incidents, newer Mechanoids were installed with better antivirus systems and rejection modules were programmed to ensure that the War Maidens were not corrupted. If their antivirus system noticed any illegal modifications to the parts' integrity, they will reject it automatically.

It was also a gimmick by the various major manufacturer to ensure that any Mechanoids that were injured to use official manufactured parts but there were some minor allowances to mix and match mainly because they know that daily battles do not allow such rigidity. Thus, as long as the parts were thoroughly scanned and reported clean, the chances to use them were high.

However, time was of essence to the Grey Bear Squads. They might have destroyed a number of Mechanoids but that did not mean it had severely dwindled the numbers within Artridge. Jin assumed that it was better to give them no quarters and pressuring them would force them to blunder in some way but Yinn who had a diverse basic knowledge understood that it is a village meant that they might have access to machinery capable of creating even more Mechanoids...just more dumb down versions of it. If the Grey Bear Squads managed to bring down the rebels in the area, it would no doubt suppress the rebel movements within the Empire too.

Thus, Click did not have the time to do a thorough scan and with the promise of it to be completed within twenty minutes, she had no choice but to cut some corners. Besides, she was sure that Diaz anti virus system would also do the job by rejecting any problematic parts. "Here goes nothing." Click took a deep breath and slammed the salvaged leg into Diaz's thigh compartment.

Diaz who was connected to the power source within the cabin did a brute force antivirus scan to search for any problems with the right leg before dividing her processing power to both legs when Click installed the left leg as well. "Doing diagnostics as well." Click added as she turned on her own tactical console and started to check the status of Diaz.

"We might be able to hit jackpot." Click mumbled unwittingly but Diaz threw an ammunition clip at her head.

"Don't jinx it," Diaz complained as Click giggled and continued with her diagnostic scan. During the scan, any misalignment of the code was rectified by Click so that Diaz's antivirus system does not pick it up as an anomaly. 'Three strikes and it would be rejected' was the usual saying for most engineers who were doing replacement parts for their squads. Even though it usually varies between different manufacturers, it was the general rule of thumb that they had to adhere to and so far Click had gotten one.

"The joints attached well with no issues. Connecting deviating nanomachines to mend and amend the electric wiring." Click reported as Diaz slowly feel the feedback from the new pair of legs.

"Installing your operational system data into the legs." Click added as her typing got fast for a while and later an interval that required loading.<.com>

"Should be fine." Yinn entered the cabin with three sniper rifles behind her back, all of them the same model, the Macmillian M50 rifle.

"Both of you. Shuuushh!" Diaz was anxious since the rejection of the legs had its own terrible ejection feedback as well, something that Diaz did not like.

"Woah, isn't this an anti material rifle?" Click sidetracked the conversation and Yinn nodded her head with glee.

"No wonder...with the supercharged module, its bullets would no doubt smash through anything it passed through," Diaz commented and Yinn was happy that Jin gave the order to pick up these bad boys.

"I will check whether we can refill the supercharged module or it's those one time consumables." Click said as she received one of the rifles from Yinn and she opened the side of the rifle checking the module chip but she got thrown in the head with another ammunition clip.

"Concentrate on the scan! We do not have much time and luck to spare." Diaz's frustration was visible as her anxiety that it would go wrong at the very last minute. Thankfully, it went well hitting a 100% completion rate as the scan later revealed that there was a 23% deviation from the standard requirements. 3% short of it being rejected.

At that moment, Jin came in with a briefcase with its contents locked under an electronic keypad. "Click, are you able to unlock this?" He asked but the rest within the room was more mortified by the item that he had with him. "What? What's wrong with this briefcase?"

"I forgot he isn't from this world and I am starting to believe that." Diaz shook her head and the others follow suit. It was more exciting than the instalment of Diaz's legs and she did not even do any test runs before the actual walking, forcing her legs to move so that she could have a look at the red briefcase to confirm the suspicion that she had when the rest had their eyes filled with bewilderment.

"You might have found something that might change how to acquire Artbridge from the rebels." Yinn smiled as she picked up the briefcase and tapped on it proudly.

Occasionally missing content, please report errors in time.

Chapter 1448 Scouting Artbridge

"Tellie here, the coast is clear. There is no one around the other end trap door." The glee within the room settled and everyone turned serious.

"Do not worry. Leave this briefcase with me. I will tell you more if needed later on." Yinn said as she picked up a huge camo cloth and wrapped it around that obstinate red colour of a briefcase while the rest moved out to pack the items that they had picked up. The rifles and ammunition they had savaged had been put into two crates where Diaz was able to lift them without much problem. "Tellie, scout ahead a little more and take the position. We will be on our way through the tunnel."

"You sure you do not need to do your testing?" Click was concerned with Diaz's lack of test runs as they placed the items together.

"We do not have time to spare and this is not the first I used parts that is a variant from the official store. Shouldn't be much of a problem." Diaz said as she used several harnesses to wrap the two crates together before dragging them to the trap door.

"I still think it's not a good idea to pull such heavy loads off the bat after installing your legs. Your balance sensors need to be adjusted as well." Click replied and suddenly Jin take a deep breath and started pulling them after he strengthened his body with Maqi.

"Woah...now I starting to think he might be a Mechanoid." Click thought to herself as she saw Jin pushing the two crates through the trapdoor and holding them properly via a rope before they hit the bottom of the tunnel.

"Okay, I guess I overestimated my strength a little. Some help here, please." Jin said as his face turned red but his stance was steady enough to hold the hanging crates steady. What he needed was someone to support him so he could gently move the crates down to the bottom without them breaking apart from the fall. Yinn and Click quickly assisted and they managed to land the boxes gently down at the bottom.

"That certainly saves some time," Diaz commented, thinking they might have trouble moving crates up and down through the tunnel door.

"Click, Diaz. Get those testing done by the time we reached the other trap door. I will handle the moving of the crates" Jin ordered. "And Yinn take care of the rear."

"Yes, Sir!" The three Grey Bears acknowledge Jin's commands as they descended the ladder and go through the tunnel. In the meantime, as Jin was pulling the crates, he thought that it was already a miracle that the rebels did not find the use of this tunnel or else their cabin shootout scene would have been disastrous. It was like the backdoor that broke the 300 Spartans and he was thankful nothing of that sort happened.

Soon, they reached the other trap door with them informing Tellie ahead of time so she could do one proper sweep of the area and giving them the go ahead to open it. Diaz and Click managed to clear their test run in a nick of time given the tunnel's length and they went ahead to assist Jin to pull the weapon crates up. With Jin as the pivot once more from the top of the trap door, they had little difficulty bringing the items up.

It might be seen as a hassle but the extra weapons will no doubt be of help for the upcoming raid. Especially when the weapon crates were filled with explosives which Jin had picked from all the dead Mechanoids. Not only that, upon learning that the Mechanoids could have their parts replaced, he too went around plucking additional pairs of arms and legs from the dead.

Click told him that installing was a delicate process but he did not believe there was no such thing as emergency installation. The engineer of the Grey Bear Squad resigned her fate and nodded that there was such a procedure available but it was not a viable option in the long run, stating that the risk of backdoor viruses and malware may come to bite them when they were not looking.

"Then all we have to do is to make sure that you girls have a proper check up before departing the next mission," Jin said during the tunnel and it made sense. How could four Mechanoids go on a rampage against a town full of rebels and think that they could survive it unscathed? Only the stories of myths and legends will people believe them. Thus, Jin's reasoning for emergency installations so that they were able to keep pushing for their objective was their only way forward.

It's not like Jin wished to continue on this suicide mission but the stakes were high according to his Squad of War Maidens and citing that if he really could pull this off, he might be able to pay the debts that his team was lamenting about.

Once the crates were out of the tunnel, Tellie told the squad that she had found a vantage point which could oversee the village of Artbridge. And when they reached the said vantage point, they could see the entire village. In Jin's eyes, it was a blessing in disguise as the vantage point was a cliff, allowing good cover from bullets until the rebels had enough and starts to level the cliff down with rockets. And even if there were no rockets, the rebels might have a hard time coming up especially with the claymores and traps that their Grey Bear Engineer had installed along the way.<.com>

"Tellie is our best shot but it would be a waste if we leave her here for long range overwatch," Yinn said as the Grey Bear Squad hid behind the rocks near the cliff to discuss their strategy. "Yinn is not bad too but she had more experienced on the ground, making her essential for the raid attack," Diaz commented but Jin eventually chose Tellie. Ever since her one sided rodeo with the snipers, he believed that she was able to make proper assessments and scout for their overwatch.

"We will need Click around with us in case of any emergencies and Diaz with her newly installed legs would no doubt be able to rush certain objectives when needed."

"Do you wish to be a spotter for Tellie?" Yinn asked Jin as she know that commanders shouldn't always be risking their lives unnecessarily.

"No, it will be better for me on the ground as well. Else, the Tactical System Console would not work as intended." Jin replied as he checked his P90 submachine gun and brought an extra P90 with him at the back of his waist.

"If you say so, commander." Yinn then took advantage of the shared Tactical System to open up the overlay of Artbridge. "We do not know if there are civilians in the area and the mission did not say that we need to be careful of civilians so it's the commander's choice to have fire on civilians that might potentially hurt us."

"If they are holding the village for a short amount of time, it is highly likely the civilians are kept or for the lack of a better word, imprisoned at a place." Jin said and the rest also agreed with his assessment.

"Then, there's a high chance they might be held at the church." Yinn reasoned since it was the largest building within the village. "But it also means that the rebel commander might be hiding in there as well."

"Do not worry. I might have a shot at differentiating them from the civilians. So, leave that to me." Jin spoke so confidently that it made the Grey Bears scared.

"On what basis?" Yinn asked and Jin's next sentence might have been a joke if he did not say it with utmost pride.

"Gut feeling."

"Gut Feeling??!" Yinn could not imagine their commander would say this but considering how he had proved himself in the past battle, there must be something that he was not willing to share with the whole team. And perhaps with this mission, she might be able to see what other extra abilities this outsider had been hiding.

Thus, she gave a sigh a moment later and nodded her head. "We will trust your gut feeling for now. There is not much to hang on to anyways."

"Alright, lets get to it then." Jin smiled, thanking them internally for putting their trust in this new commander of theirs.

Chapter 1449 Change Of Objective

"What about that exclusive ally that we supposedly have?" Click asked but Jin did not have any idea with regards to that.

"If he or she comes, then we will take improvise as the situation goes. Otherwise, this would be a never ending game of waiting." Jin said and they heard a rooster screaming its lungs out over the horizon.

"Will it be a bad time to attack now?" Diaz asked as she tilted her head in the direction of where the rooster was clucking.

"Hmm, generally, that's not a good idea. We do not know whether they have any radar capability." Yinn replied.

"Then the time they attacked us with artillery bombardment?" Jin asked and Yinn told him that it was because 'he' was previously making a ruckus killing one of their Mechanoids.

"Maybe it was the reason why they have decided to just throw Mechanoids at us since they would think that killing an idiot commander would be a simple task." Tellie chuckled and the rest nodded their heads in unison.

"Oh okay..." Jin nodded slowly since he knows that they were not referring to him. However, instead of the usual plan where they had discussed to enter and slowly search for the rebels who went into hiding from the previous shootout at the cabin, the freshly minted commander of Grey Bear Squad remembered a crucial detail he had forgotten all this time.

"Where are the artillery located?" Jin asked and Tellie who had been scouting the area previously pointed out that they were around the east of the city.

"I do not like the sound of LT asking where the artillery is at. He wished to bombard the city centre?" Tellie inquired but Jin shook his head in a systematic manner as if he was still calculating what to do with it.

"You guys said that they might have a hidden Mechanoid factory and they are working to produce more of them. I think it will be best to disable the said building before they start to produce more and overwhelm it with numbers. We do not have the manpower to facilitate a strong sweeping strike initiative neither we have the staying power to hold a place for long." Jin said. "We can do door to door clearance, but our main objective is to clear the rebels."

"What Jin said is right. Our main priority is to clear the objective and get paid for it." Diaz said nonchalantly. "We also do not know whether the fact that they are hiding because the villagers were helping them or they were being threatened to do so."

"But we cannot consider all of them hostiles." Click refuted.<.com>

"Do we honestly have the time to check whether it's friend or foe at that point in time? We do have not the manpower to do so. Neither are we skilled enough to identify them in a pinch." Diaz interrupted Click for saying more and she brought up a valid point.

"We are not heroes and we have no right to be heroes at this juncture." Diaz added and everyone looked at each other. Diaz hoped to have support for her argument while Click was looking to see if anyone could outtalk her teammate. At that point, Jin stepped in at this delicate moment and spoke.

"Secure the artilleries and its perimeter. Tellie will continue to provide long range overwatch with her sniping if needed while the four of us clear the area. Once we possessed the artilleries, Diaz and Click will plant explosives at the buildings that maintain a direct line of sight to the artillery. Yinn and I will coordinate to aim the artillery at the church. When the both of you are done with the planting of explosives, move towards the marketplace near the church. We will provide fire support to the marketplace when needed." Jin said and he looked at the stunned Privates who individually wanted support for their argument from the commander.

Yet, this slew of commands had caused Yinn and Tellie to grin widely. Yinn was the first to acknowledge the new orders and so did Tellie. This also forced the other two privates to acknowledge their commander's orders despite their difference in opinions.

"I guess having to command my minions does allow me to have some experience handling this kind of situation." Jin thought to himself as he controlled the commotion that the squad was having. It was certainly different from the usual 'heated' discussions that his minions would have but they were still similar since all of them waited for their master to provide opinions on the situation. As much as he wished to take sides, Jin usually takes a neutral stance unless he honestly believed that a particular side of the argument has benefits for the Dungeon Supplier Store.

On the other hand, these four of them reminded him much of the Demon Exorcists which he had taken in as part of his employees even though they did not work there full time.

"Alright, let's get going. Since we are going to use the Artillery as a stationary point of contest, we will bring a crate of weapons there. Diaz, I would need your help to do so." Jin said and Diaz immediately it up and strapped the entire box behind her back. Her legs gave off some steam at the start which made Jin concerned but Click reassured him that it was normal since it was more than the usual weight a Mechanoid should be able to carry.

"The processors within the legs were merely adjusting to balancing itself so that the output efficacy remained the same despite the heavy load and that's the beauty of Diaz's new instalment." Click was proud that she managed to find a good pair of leg parts. If they were to resell it within the black market (Since it's not an official part), it could most probably be catergoised as an uncommon rarity.

"But everything else has to depend on the user as well." Click said with a tinge of sarcasm but Diaz knew that Click was probably still sour from their previous conversation.

"Bleagh. I will show you what that user can do!" Diaz pull her tongue at her teammate and leapt down the cliff with some finesse.

"That's not very much a sneak attack... as I expected..." Jin thought to himself and took note that he might need to go loud before reaching their new objective.

Chapter 1450 Spotted

But as they travelled through the outskirts of Artbridge, they noticed that there was not a single person in the area. Aside from the farm animals walking around so freely, there was no sight of any humans at

all. Jin stopped for a while to take a look at the main dirt road which connects to all the side roads to spread around Artbridge. "This is odd..." Jin said as he squatted and analysed the dirt road even more closely from the side.

"Yinn, do you have any analytical tool in that Mechanoid head of yours?" Jin asked as he pondered on the dirt road.

"As analytical as I can be... I guess?" Yinn replied without realising that Jin was rude to ask such a question. But then again, since he is already an outsider who does not know the standard etiquette of this world, she keeps an eye close on his words and answers what Jin was thinking about.

"Then tell me what you think about this particular dirt road." The commander could only hope that he had the System back at this juncture. Forget what he said that the System was pinning him down with responsibilities. It was a crazy reliable companion to have, answering all the queries he has in an instant.

"I get what you mean." Yinn might not be a bot that focused on analysis but she does have enough processing power to deduce what Jin wanted to know. "Most of the road had been dominated by Mechanoid footsteps. I cannot find any remnants of differentiating footsteps." Yinn subsequently explained that all the Mechanoids were of a few certain sizes especially when it comes to their shoe size. This was to confuse hunters attempting to track specific Mechanoids. This allowed the Mechanoids to blend easily with other unsuspecting Mechanoids. To a certain extent, for human crowds as well.

However, that gave a disadvantage to the Mechanoids as well as it had demonstrated in this situation. Yinn had identified them and gave a rough estimate of the number of Mechanoids that could be within this village based on the movement on the main dirt road. When Jin heard the number amounted to close to sixty to eighty Mechanoids, he felt like fainting.

"Does that estimation include the Mechanoids we had taken out previously?" Jin asked and Yinn shook her head.

"It might not be obvious but there were military truck tracks being overwritten by Mechanoid steps. What I gave you was just an optimistic estimate." Yinn said and told them that they should start moving before they were in the radius of a nearby sensor.

But as Yinn was covering Diaz and Click's back, she caught a glimpse of movement at the very far end of Artbridge and quickly hurried the two to move even though she knew that Diaz was carrying a heavy load of weapons.

"Grey Bear 01 to Grey Bear 02, movement at the end of the main dirt road, do you have eyes?" Yinn said through an encrypted channel, trying to keep the communications as short as possible so they would not be intercepted by the enemy."

"Grey Bear 02 to Grey Bear 01. Unable to see. Over"

"Grey Bear 01, roger." Yinn knew she did not see wrongly, and Tellie was not able to see the enemy units because the buildings might be blocking her vision. Thus, she informed Jinn before they moved to the next building for cover.

"Possible visual on enemies. Need confirmation but too risky." Yinn said through the short range communications through the Tactical System.<.com>

"Move as per usual. I will provide distraction if necessary and intercept the enemies." Jin nodded in acknowledgement and told them to continue moving so they could act on their roles.

But as the group were about to move to the next building, only metres away from the open garden where the artillery had been parked at. The team heard the zipping of a bullet and it ricocheted from Diaz's metal weapon crate. It caught them by surprise momentarily until Jin shouted at them to move to the artillery as soon as possible.

At the same time, he used his Inverse Eyes to see the past trajectory of the bullet and his vision led him to find the shooter was hiding near the windmill.

"Enemy at 7 o'clock. Windmill!" Jin said through the encrypted channel, blasting the information to Tellie so she could verify the location of the shooter as well. "All Grey Bears continue your respective tasks! I will handle the shooter."

"Roger that." The Grey Bears reported as they continued to run to their tasks. Jin on the other hand drew out the sniper rifle that Yinn had looted and ran towards Windmill.

"What?" The shooter was surprised and elated simultaneously to see one of her targets moving closer to him. "Heh. A commander doing distraction tactics? That's a first. But if you die. It's all the more easier for us to eliminate your entire squad."

But when the shooter attempted to aim at Jin, it somehow made her uncomfortable. "Why does it feel like he is looking at me so intently?" The shooter thought to herself but later logically assumed that it was impossible from this distance and subsequently decided to fire.

Jin already had his eyes on the possible few locations that the shooter could possibly be until he saw a slight glint of the rifle due to the rising rays of dawn. It allowed him to focus as the shooter took another shot at him. Obviously, that second round had alerted the rest of the rebels, but Jin did not care other than the opponent that he was staring at. With him instinctively moving away from the bullet, it made the shooter hesitant to fire another.

At that point, Jin was running with the sniper rifle in his hand and aiming at the shooter.

"Fuck!" the shooter shouted and decided to raise to the challenge. If her enemy wishes to shoot back, then bring it on!

"Bang!" Both rifles fired at the same time but it was pretty apparent who was the skilled shooter as Jin turned back and move towards his original objective.