

Dungeon S 1671

Chapter 1671 Search For Crystal Dragon -Part 3

As he finally finished washing the last dish, Jin decided to speak to Denise who heard the commotion. "Shouldn't Commander Eggshells be the representative for Diamondz? He would be a more credible source compared to Diaz."

"Well, if you send your overall Commander in charge for Diamondz, what will Parry City officials think? They might assume that the Dragon issue is truly a threat and we have to go for secret talks."

"But the threat level does substantiate that kind of authority," Denise replied.

"That is assuming the Crystal Dragon threat is real. What I am trying to get is. Let the Grey Bears go incognito for a moment. Besides, we need Mr. Eggy to coordinate plans with the military should the Crystal Dragon threat be real. So, I would need him for at least a few days to formulate certain plans that can involve the Diamondz Corp and Daimon Military."

"But if you do that, you are assuming that the Crystal Dragon is within Daimon's territory. The Crystal Dragon is in Parry City. There is no way they are going let our military waltz through and only Diamondz Corp may have the 'pass' to move in that circumstances."

"Ehh but didn't Edmond use Daimon's military to circumvent the Mount Sunn problem?"

"I won't deny that but Mount Sunn is not part of any jurisdiction until well. Now. And Edmond surely had rubbed quite a lot of hands to make sure that he got to do what he wanted. I do not have that kind of luxury." Denise replied.

"Not to mention, Daimon is currently in a precarious situation after what happened with Jin's mindless use of politics." Page interrupted. "But what he said does make sense. Even though the gravity of the situation requires a person of authority to look through things. It would be a little concerning to the eyes of Parry City's officials if we were to bring Commander Eggshells along for the investigation. I was not against the invitation of the commander into our ranks as he could remain undercover but the risk is there should the Parry City officials know if the commander is within our squad."

"I am fine with anything," Diaz stated and Click agreed with Diaz on that too.

"I am afraid, I am on the fence as well." Tellie decided to show her neutrality on the subject.

"Then what about Yinn? You would be the leader when you start this investigation." Jin asked and Yinn sighed and shrugged her shoulders.

"Commander Eggshells does not seem very interested in going for an investigation but he did it reluctantly because it would be a violation of an order from the CEO. If given a chance, he would not have gone but also due to the fact that Lynn is going, he decided to give it a try." Yinn stated. "Also, from what I can see, he is somehow still struggling with the fact that he has been defeated badly. Allowing him to go have both good and bad consequences which could go both ways. If I were the leader, I would not wish to bring such a variable factor into battle."

"At the same time, I find that what Jin wants to do to prepare for the eventuality of Crystal Dragon is an equally important task. If Parry City ever gets under attack by the Crystal Dragon, contingencies on how

Daimon City would react are equally important. Supposedly we are able to field a quick response team and coordinate with Parry City's military to lure it somewhere for the fight, I think that would be the best decision." Yinn continued.

"However, we do not know the dragon's strength and that is hurting our sense of strategy. Knowing that, even if Jin would take Commander Eggshells for contingency preparation, there is not much he can do as well. Except to improve and coordinate with Diamondz security to make sure that evacuations are smoother and the military movements are better. But ultimately, it is still a better move than to leave Commander Eggshells with us, and its more befitting of a status for him. Should he find confidence during the preparation phase, I think that would be great...else. No further comments."

Everyone looked at her blindly for a second before Jin spoke out. "If he were to coordinate with the defence against the Crystal Dragon, I believe we need some time at the backend to send some additional equipment and Mechanoids to Parry City. Diamondz Commander would be the best person to ascertain how much firepower is needed to boost Diamondz attachment in Parry City."

"I guess, that would be fine." Denise sighed as well and took a sip of her drink before nodding her head to the change of proposal. "I just thought he had been down and going out for investigation would be a good change of pace for him."

"See, I told you she thought that way," Jin said to Lynn.

"But seeing how Lynn had reservations about him going and the others made a valid point of his usefulness. We will get him to work hard on the preparations but if he does not improve, there is no point keeping him as the overall commander."

"Not that I am overly attached to him. I only knew him today. I merely say it in a somewhat... objective manner that he would be more useful in the preparation phases. Whether he proved to be useful for those phases would be a different matter at hand. Can you imagine if the Generals actually have some grudge against him? I am so dead."

"I apologise, I do not have information on that. You have to see it for yourself. Eggshells don't usually complain about things, he just boasted." Denise said and the conversation ended rather nicely for Lynn to also go for her practice match with Eggshell.

And since everyone had talked about him, they all decided to have a look at how he was doing or how Lynn was going to train him before the day ended.

Chapter 1672 Search For Crystal Dragon -Part 4

Mr. Eggy was there standing alone at the centre of the training hall as if he was stoning. Only when he heard footsteps, did he turn his head and see a group of people coming in.

"Everyone is here to watch the match," Lynn said to Eggshells as he stood there and greeted his new master. "That is if you do not mind."

"No, I do not mind at all. But I am afraid I am not up to the standard that it will be a fulfilling match to watch for the audience." Eggshells said.

"I'm cool with it. My master slaughtered in training so many times so I get where you are coming from." Jin said from the bench.

"We Mechanoids do not have masters and would not be able to judge," Yinn said on behalf of the group.

"This is a private match, I am never here," Denise remarked so as to not demoralise Eggshells any further. In a way, she already saw him being defeated by Lynn and Mr Eggy felt that it would not do any harm if he had lost.

"I am not giving you any quarters, alright Mr. Eggy? When I go, I will hit it all out. If you faint, Page will try to rescue you as much as she can. If need be, we will send you to the hospital." Lynn said and Commander Eggshells understood the risks.

"Well, that's one way of not going for either the preparation phase or the investigation. To be in hospital." Jin told Denise and she could not help to shake her head that Jin could think of ways to skive.

"I will give you the initiative," Lynn said as she was still in her regular shirt and pants and half tied apron, indicating outwardly that she was not taking this seriously or Commander Eggshells' strength was not sufficient for her to be serious. Yet, her stance to defend herself showed conviction that Lynn will go all out against Eggshells.

"Thank you for taking me seriously and giving me the first move." Eggshells said as he went to his battle stance. With a deep breath, he jumped towards her and wanted to give her a diving punch. He yelled and screamed in hopes of frightening his master but she was unfazed by it. In fact, she did not move away and took it head on.

It was at that point, Lynn also can see Eggshell's hesitation but Lynn shouted back with him. "DO NOT FALTER!" which made Eggshells decisive enough to slam his way into Lynn's direction. But even before he could have a direct impact with Lynn, he found out that his vision turned upside down and his body's momentum had be rotated.

He found himself being slammed on the ground and he did not realised he had been deflected by Lynn. The Grey Bears saw it with great intrigue as they expected her to be rough on Eggshells after what she did to kick him away from the top floor of Daimon.

"How did you do that?" Eggshells asked as he found himself already incapable of fighting.

"Don't ask. AGAIN!" Lynn shouted and Eggshells quickly stood up and tried to throw a punch. This time, it was more obvious to him as he saw Lynn using his momentum once more to break the flow while low kicking his leg and causing him to lose balance and fell to the ground.

For the next 15 minutes. Eggshells never improved as he kept getting one shotted by Lynn no matter what he do. Mr Eggy tried to think of various ways to outmanoeuvre Lynn but no matter what he thought of, Lynn was able to break it in one move. It was frustrating and yet an eye opener to see that he was definitely inferior. Even if he had the chance to try again on the very same day where he lost, there was no way he could win this master in martial arts.

"Stop." Lynn said as Eggshells tried to stand up after being hit multiple times. "You do not get the concept and getting stronger won't bring you anywhere. I am not going to teach you directly but you have to see and try to capture the underlying essence of the fight. Jin!" Lynn looked up at the audience direction.

"Yes, Mdm." Jin immediately stood up and walked towards the centre of the training hall.

"Good job buddy. You hang in there for the entire duration and did not give up. You can do it." Jin said as he asked him to sit with the audience.

"Mr Eggy, this is how we fight." Lynn said as she took a fierce stance against Jin.

"So, a demonstration round?" Jin asked as his hands still stayed in his pocket.

"You could say that and I hope to give you a bit of a whooping to compensate the time when you suddenly disappear."

"Hey, not my fault okay. If its not for the gods who suddenly pop out from nowhere." Jin tried to defend himself.

"Just let me whoop your ass. Its overdue." Lynn said but Jin refused to give it to her, knowing that she wanted to show how two cultivators fight. They could go into high speed but they purposely slowed the fight down for Commander Eggshells to see.

Lynn went for the first blow and Jin dodge with his hands still in his pocket. To the audience, it felt like Jin was trying to act cool but Denise could see that he was attempting to give Lynn a handicap because he was supposedly more formidable than her.

And so, the brawl began and Eggshells could see how Jin had anticipated each and every attack rather than to just react or merely soak the damage in front of them. He use his elbows, his knees and even at times, his torso to counter a few of the attacks but most of the time, Lynn's attack had been deflected.

Just as it was becoming boring to watch as much as it was flowing so smoothly, Jin suddenly stopped moving and Lynn slammed his head right to the practice floor.

"Thank you, Jin." Lynn said as she takes in air and felt so much relieved.

"No problem, babe." Jin said as he could feel his head still ringing even though there was a mat on the floor to cushion the blow.

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When the fight was over, Jin stood up with the aid of Lynn and Eggshells felt like he somehow understood he had much to learn and at the same time was equally clueless about where to start. All he knew was that he had been humbled by the fight and would continue to work hard on it.

Soon, all the other Mechanoids also wanted to have a spar with Lynn just for fun before the day truly ended. Denise returned to her abode while Jin gave a heads up to General Ost and Grieves about the potential meetings they were about to have.

For the next morning, the Grey Bear Squad had been scheduled to leave Daimon and they were rather well equipped for the trip. Diaz had been designated as a representative as suggested and she was also being chosen to drive the entire trip because of her supposed familiarity of this place being a Diamondz Mechanoid.

"You girls..." Diaz wanted to complain but she also happened to draw the short stick when they were deciding on the person to drive. When she got it, the other Grey Bears stated that she would be the one who would do so especially since she was a 'Diamondz representative.'

Thus, everything was in order and even the immigration into Parry City had no issues. The only issue was that Lynn was surprised by what Parry City looked like. When they were in Daimon City, all they saw were cold stone high rise buildings at every corner while for Parry City it was the opposite. There were little to no high rise buildings but it was like a forest town.

"Known for its 'natural' atmosphere, Parry City was famous for their pro nature capital view. Most of the buildings were built with plants or trees growing out of their roofs and that also meant uneven roads since the brick roads had been infested with the growth of tree roots and weeds. While there were also controlled cutting and pruning of trees, most of the city folks had to do it themselves.

"Some believed there was corruption when it comes to the government pruning but there were no real allegations to them. It is all conspiracy theory as they all know that the nature theme was the only thing that was allowing the city to grow and their government does not even have the budget for them to do such maintenance. If not for Parry City's accidental alliance with Daimon, the citizens might have fallen to a harder state in the days to come but that is just my opinion since the alliance had only started." Page described.

"Shhh! I am trying to drive! All your rumbling of facts is just making things harder for me!" Diaz complained.

"Oh sorry about the long rant."

"Well, you can keep your mouth shut now or you drive this damn four wheels." Diaz tried to take an opportunity to pass the wheel to someone as she never realised how bumpy the roads were until Denise told them it was best to take a four wheel drive with them rather than a standard card.

When they arrived into the heart of the city, The first place they went was the Diamondz Corps office in Parry City. It was there, that they were briefed that the Parry Military would need some clearance for them to participate in the search for the Crystal Dragon.

So, they had a day off but Yinn was not allowing them to have any rest. Even though they already had another hotel accommodation ready for them to rest after the travel courtesy of Diamondz Corp, Yinn had decided for the team to explore the city a little and check for any rumours. They were not allowed to come back to the hotel until they had some information about Parry City.

Since they were in an investigation, it was best to gather as much info as they could even as random as it is. After all, if there was a Mechanical Crystal Dragon that might be hiding itself in Parry City's territory, there got to be some odd movement from the military or maybe some incidents.

However, as much as they tried when the Grey Bears came back at an allocated time, they did not find or hear anything that caught their eye. Even the latest political news was nothing fancy at all. Perhaps, they really did hit a dead end and it could just be a coincidental finding, maybe even manmade. Yet, they ended the day without a hitch and could only hope the military had something for them to see.

Surely, when morning comes, the notification that they had clearance to check the site had been permitted and a military escort had been dispatched to their hotel to bring them to the site. At first, they were surprised the armed soldiers came and subsequently requested the Grey Bears to leave their weapons at the hotel's armoury.

Yet, Yinn insisted that they should be able to bring at least a handgun with them for safety reasons, and eventually, their officer allowed them to do so. The only condition was that those handguns had to remain holstered and seen, thus the Grey Bears had decided to hoist them at their abdomen area for quick access if necessary. Other than that, they were then being escorted from the hotel to the site that they were going to check with the blinds of the convoy closed.

It was as if they did not want them to know where was the site where they found the tracks. Yinn complied with their demands once again as they had no idea the System was already tracing them the moment they left the hotel especially since they got to the Floating Sky Station.

Surprisingly there were no satellites in the area and the Floating Sky Station happened to be the only satellite that had excellent hardware when it comes to tracking. So, even without being known where the site was, the System and eventually the Grey Bears would know.

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"This is the site. You have an hour to check." One of the Parry City Soldiers said and he was wearing such protective gear that it made the Grey Bears feel like they were underprepared for the investigation. Their names were also redacted and everyone was carrying heavy arms that they found it unreasonable that they were not able to arm themselves properly.

"Ignore them. Let's start the search." Yinn said as she turned and opened her suitcase which the Diamondz Corp office in Parry had brought for them. There were small scanners that fit the size of their palms but it does whatever it needs to do. It traced for little bits of inconsistency and see if they could reconstruct items.

The only problem was that the investigation site had been more or less destroyed by the footprints of other investigators which Parry City sent out in the first place and there was almost nothing they could see.

When asked for the reports, the soldier who was responsible for answering any questions, supposedly the Parry City's representative stated that a copy of their investigative report would be sent to the Diamondz office.

"So we came here to have a picnic? The trial's cold and here we thought Parry City was going to preserve the site for us to check."? Diaz said through the System channel so that the bastards from Parry City can not hear a single thing."

"Just continue to look for clues and if there is nothing else, expand the search perimeters," Yinn ordered.

"That is assuming the Parry City Soldiers are going to let us out of their sight. They probably tell us not to move away from a certain amount of distance as they need to care for our safety." Lynn suggested and she was correct.

The moment they moved away from the so called incident site, the soldiers called out to them, telling them to return to the site as they moved away from it. And even as the Grey Bears tried to stretch that boundary, the Parry City soldiers responded with their hands on their guns as if they were ready to shoot.

"They are obviously hiding something. If that's the case why are they asking us to check? Is it to cover a problem up?" Tellie asked but no one had an answer, only many more questions. All they could do was to check the area to the best of their abilities.

Click was expecting her teammates or even herself was able to find a miracle evidence that all the Parry City soldiers and investigators were not able to do but the reality was that there was really nothing around here.

Yet they do not know that there was something the Grey Bears had decided to do in case of such a situation. Click pretended to smoke even though this was her first time to do so and even so most Mechanoids do not even do it. Parry City Soldiers could only assume that there was such a culture for a Mechanoid to smoke.

It was an unusual behaviour no less but the Parry City Soldiers did not care as long as they stood within the perimeters of the area. Click then threw the cigarette butt on the ground and crushed it gently and returned back to the vehicle.

Yinn noticed that Click had finished her cigarette and also asked the rest to pack up and go. After all, they would not be able to get anything now that the site had been compromised and restricted by Parry City Soldiers.

The ride was an uneventful matter which they eventually checked in back to their hotel and the soldiers wished all the best for the stay. Yinn questioned if they could talk to the investigators upon seeing the report but the soldiers denied all responsibilities and asked them to liaise with the Diamondz Corp Office.

"They are going to watch us." Page said and Yinn nodded her head as they returned back to their hotel rooms for a while before spreading out again into the city. This time it was not to get any information but they were there to talk among themselves without being caught.

With such restrictions, they would have bug their hotel rooms and the only possible safe space would be the Diamondz Corp office. However, considering how much they are putting their reliance on it made Yinn suspicious that particular office might had been bugged as well.

Therefore, all they could do right now was to pretend that nothing could be done and it was better to just sightsee the city and its oh so wonderful nature theme. In the meantime, they stayed in contact through the System Channel and they discussed their next move.

"I assumed you place the cigarette there as a marker for something." Yinn said when drinking coffee in a café and Click smiled while she was browsing goods.

"Yeah. But the marker won't last long. I need to get some parts so that I can create a Mechanical hound to reach that marker."

"The System had already demarcated the area where the marker is, even if you could not create the hound in time, you would still have the coordinates."

"Well, you should have told us earlier you have that."

"The System is unable to confirm until the marker had been placed for that particular reason."

"You telling us is better than nothing." Lynn said. "Any idea where can she make a Mechanical Hound."

"User can send the parts for a Mechanical Hound but it would need time. Your best bet would be a scrap parts dealer. Alternatively buy an entirely new Mechanoid parts."

"We could just get one Mechanoid from Diamondz Corp right? Its for free." Diaz said.

"Its not the time to be stingy. I am sure Jin had quite a fair bit of points. It would be better to have a high quality Mechanical hound rather than one make from scrap bits considering the distance it would have to cover from the map." Click said and now it was how they could buy without being surveyed.

Chapter 1675 Search For Crystal Dragon -Part 7

"No, but we can get one from Diamondz Corp for free, right?" Diaz said once more and Yin repeatedly said that the Diamondz Corp Office might have been compromised and getting a Mechanoid from them would raise eye brows.

"Maybe if Mr Eggy is here, the Parry City Soldiers might not be such assholes?" Tellie queried and Yinn begged to differ.

"It might make the situation even more volatile as Mr. Eggy would not be able to use his credentials here. It's like flaying around your crown when everyone in that particular empire does not even recognise you for that matter. Not the greatest example, but you get my point."

"Then what if Mr Eggy comes by tomorrow to deliver the goods?" Lynn asked but Yinn felt that it would be better if they could make the hound tonight and check the site as soon as possible before the trial gets even colder or the environment destroys the evidence.

"Alternatively, we each could sacrifice one part of our body to get the Mechanical hound to work. I mean, we definitely can buy a few spare parts to lessen the sacrifice, that should not be a problem, right? After all, we are from different manufacturers and not just Diamondz." Tellie recommended and it sounded like it was one of the better options their squad could think of."

"Well then where are we going to meet? We can't possibly return to our hotels with all these spare parts. Not to mention, not exactly the quietest thing I could do when invoking a Mechanical hound" Click said and Lynn found it confusing.

"Why can't we just do all this fusing in the four wheel drive? And tried to act like normal persistent investigators?" Lynn questioned and that was when Yinn realised that the most dangerous place to do things might be the safest place as well.

"So you are saying we get together, drive out of the city area to fuse the Mechanical Hound within the car and if we hit a roadblock, the mechanical hound goes out and we return to the city?"

"Something like this? That way the mechanical hound can save some power and we would avoid being detected by the Parry City soldiers. It's not like we are being followed, right? If we are then perhaps, we have to do something more brazen."

"Last I check, there isn't anyone following me." The Grey Bears did a quick scan with the help of the System and there was indeed no one following them. A good relief which they believed they bugged only the hotel and possibly Diamondz Corps Office.

Thus, they quickly gathered the parts they needed for the Mechanical Hound and Click decided to be more brazen as she bought more stuff considering her class as a combat engineer. The rest also did their part with the exception of Diaz who had been ordered not to get anything from Diamondz stores.

After which, Yinn got their four wheel drive up and drove to different parts of the city to pick the rest of the Grey Bear Squads where Click had already started to fuse the parts together so they could create the Mechanical Hound. Thus, they drove around the city for a while before moving out of it until the System told them there was a roadblock ahead. An upgrade card suddenly appeared in Yinn's possession and it was the module of invisibility.

She knew that the System was also aiding them but she still had no idea what her specialised class would be. For now, she took the card and used it on the mechanical dog so that when they were asked to come out of the roadblock to be searched, the dog could quietly pounce away from the scene and start to move to the investigation site.

Diaz purposely opened the door wide so that the Mechanical Hound could move out as slowly and quietly as possible. Diaz then shouted some vulgarities at them for being such assholes to the representative of Diamondz Corp and they decided to put a bit of pressure on them asking for their IDs and stuff, wasting time so that the roadblock would have less man guarding it, allowing the dog to move unhindered through the roadblock and into the wilderness.

Even Tellie's whose personality was to keep quiet and to see how things unfold had decided to join in the fun for the first time. Everyone was surprised that Tellie spoke up for Diaz when she was pinned down for a search. The rest subsequently shouted as well to create as much distraction as possible.

Only after they knew that the Mechanical hound had already moved quite a fair distance from the roadblock, Diaz decided to cooperate and they were thankful that they had only been turned away and the guards did not send for reinforcements to aid with the situation.

Maybe, they knew that they were 'esteemed' guests and the roadblock was meant to not allow their guests to try anything funny. This could be a win for those who were trying all they could to block the efforts of the investigators and hoped that they could return without much information on their hands.

Of course, that would be the best outcome but seeing this roadblock had thwarted the Grey Bear's efforts, they assumed that the Grey Bears would still be persistent for a little while longer before they returned.

And they would be. Considering now that they have a mechanical hound which had also been infused with the scanners that they brought with them. All it had to do was to reach the incident site safely and search for any incriminating evidence that Parry City wanted to hide and search for the truth whether the Crystal Dragon existed or it was a cry for help from somebody.

Either way, it is too suspicious for them to leave it alone. The more they wish to hide something, the more they want to get the bottom of it. That was the mistake they made and they would regret making.

Chapter 1676 Search For Crystal Dragon -Part 8

Even though they had returned to their room, they were already pretending to do stuff while watching what the Mechanical Hound was able to search with the help of the System. The invisibility module continued to be working as long as the hound did not exceed a certain temperature. At most of the time, this temperature threshold only happened if they were to fire their weapons at their enemies.

Therefore, there was not much fear that the invisibility module should continue to work until he reached the marker. Thankfully, it did without too much of a hitch. There were some road blocks but they never cover the entirety of the area, allowing the Mechanical hound to bypass most of them without a problem.

And when it reached the incident site, there was no one around that monitors it. Even a quick scan did not show any cameras or traps around the area. (The System was sure that it passes its perception check. Lol.) And thus, it decided to move ahead of the area where it had been deemed forbidden for the Grey Bears to move and it started to scan whatever it could to ensure that the Grey Bears had the greatest amount of information transmitted.

At first there was really nothing of note but subsequently when there was a great ravine, they started to notice the same tracks as they had found at the incident site (less the tampering of it.) Mechanical Hound began to take its time to scan the footprints and it was apparent that they had indeed not find the Crystal Dragon.

"The tracks do not match the metal footprint that was left in the wake of the Mechanical Crystal Dragon's departure." Yinn said and Tellie double confirmed the findings as well.

"It's another dragon-ish monster then why are the Parry City Soldiers so afraid of showing it to us?" Lynn said and Click shouted that they found something of note that could be useful...or not. It was a torn up document with most of its printed words smudged by the ravine's river.

There were some words that were still legible but the only 'alarming' words that popped out was Dragon. There was nothing that could be worth of note so Click continued to ask the Mechanical Hound to check the area. As it passed the ravine and into a valley, the tracks had disappeared.

"Nope, the trail is gone. There is a small stream that passed through the area and it is not likely we will be seeing anything else. The stream slowly connects to bigger river and it goes to the city it seems." Click said and the rest felt that this revelation amounted to almost nothing until Lynn chipped in.

"What about ehh checking the walls of the valleys?" She recommended. "If it's a dragon, it should have wings right?" It might have flown off but at the same time it should be hitting the wall or something."

And she was right, there was actually some spurts of blood and oil on the walls of the valleys alongside a few claw marks. Yinn continued to analyse the claw marks and stated that the Crystal Dragon had one lesser finger compared to the marks. It was not an good indication but it proved that this might be another dragon working.

"The System does not have access to Parry City's database and unable to check the blood. However, the oil used is standard issued Mechanoid equipment used by the Parry City Military. The System had saw and tracked a few of those oil barrels and they were of the same ...oil."

"What's with the pause?" Lynn asked

"The System is double checking if the Daimon had the same composition of oil being used. As of now, there were no matches with the exception of one that had 78% chance. However, the System cannot confirm the oil we sell to them is the same as the oil they used."

"Its possible they might have mixed the oil" Tellie said and Yinn agreed which Lynn questioned why.

"Possible if you think they are running on fumes." Yinn commented. "Their Mechanoids are not exactly the latest models and they seemed to be rusted, indicating maintenance was not their priority. There is a chance the mixed the oil to have it run longer. Not the best solution but considering they are more or less spoiled, its cheaper to buy a brand new model of Mechanoid rather than repair an old one."

"But we are going out of the theoretical portion of the mystery." Yinn later said and Click shook her head.

"Not theoretical if we have a body as evidence." Click said as she asked the mechanical hound to jump up over the valley and they saw a rather damaged body of Parry City Military's Mechanoid as well as a broken off decomposing human arm.

There were still fingerprints which gave them the information that they needed on the guy if they were to search as well as seeing the state of the Parry City Military Mechanoid given them the clues needed to know how it was being killed.

From the looks of it, it was not just crashed by strong able fangs but rather being dropped from a considerable amount of distance before it went offline. Click quickly try to check it the memory module

was still in tact or not and asked its hound to attempt to connect to it so that they could have video or at least audio footage to see if it was truly the Crystal Dragon that had been terrorising the area.

"Then I guess, the information that had been given to us is not by willing military parties. Someone in the intelligence had decided to leak this information in hopes that we might be able to do something about it." Page stated and Diaz could not hide her laughter.

"You mean the spy got fed up that he/she decided to leak this out so that we can be involved? You think we are in some B rating spy film?" Diaz commented.

"If the spy had decided to go open channel with us to send this image, mostly likely that spy would be dead or imprisoned. All we can do is to wait for the video to be decoded and we can deduce what to do. But it will seem the week would be long."

Chapter 1677 Search For Crystal Dragon -Part 9

"The Mechanical Hound is able to get some of the footage. Not all. There is a lot of static and noise probably due to the damage that the Mechanoid had suffered. I can bring it back to do a proper analysis of its memory but so far it is like this." Click said and it played through the System Channel.

Lo and behold, it was definitely a dragon that visited them but what they did not know was that it was no ordinary one. It was a Mechanical Dragon as well and this time, there was an Empire crest at the side of it. If it's not for the Mechanoid's point of view, they might not be able to catch it all. Even though it does not act like the Crystal Dragon its movements according to the video records that Diamondz Labs has were similar.

"Since when did the Empire create Mechanical Dragons? You mean the Crystal Dragon was not the first and last of it?"

"This is worrying. If the Empire does have Mechanical Dragons, there might be a chance if the Archduke were to invade the Royal Family, the Royal Assassins and Royal Guards were not the only trouble they had to contend with." Yinn said as she asked the System to send the report to Jin.

And that troubles Jin instantly as he gets into the call as soon as possible.

"What is this? This is nothing like the Crystal Dragon." Jin said and Yinn tried to communicate to Jin as much as possible the information they had on it. "So you are saying this is an Empire built Mechanical Dragon that could have possibly gone rogue?"

"High chance. Otherwise, the Parry City Military would not go so far as to cover the trails and restrict our movement that much. We suspect that they are trying to find it as well but Parry City's outskirts is not the same as Daimon. The territory is circular in nature and the forests are rather evenly spread but when it comes to Parry City, we are dealing with Ravines, cliffs, valleys mountains. It's a whole different ballgame."

"So you are saying, there is a chance the Empire's Mechanical Dragon is hidden around here and has yet to flee and the Parry City Military is trying its best to find it in order to subdue it? In the meantime,

there's a possibility somebody leaked this information thinking that Parry City would not be able to handle such a threat or maybe sent it out as revenge?"

"It's not conclusive but we believed it's something like that. Otherwise, they would have been upfront and honest with us." Yinn reported and Jin sighed.

"System, how are the exports going for Parry City? It might give a glimpse of the duration of the situation that had been imposed on them."

"There were no changes in export items but only in recent days, they requested more Diamondz Mechanoids but of the older versions. Diamondz Corp did not see a problem clearing old stock and gave them the go ahead." The System reported. "Those Mechanoids would be as per normal delivery. It was not stated as urgent."

"Huh, so they are really trying to play this down as much as they could and want to soften the blow before things go bad."

"What are we going to do? They are obviously not letting us search anymore and want us to return.?" Yinn said.

"Well, it will be troublesome if we enter without permission as well. And if Parry City wants to clear this on their own. We have to respect their choice." Jin replied with a bitter face.

"But Commander, this goes on. Parry City itself would be in trouble. The Empire Mechanical Dragon would hit the city sooner or later and chaos would ensue." Yinn was overly concerned that it felt that it was out of her usual nature.

"Commander, as much as I agree with you, Yinn has a point." Tellie wanted to support her vice leader and before the rest could chime in. Jin interrupted all of them.

"Stand down. This is not our fight at the moment. If we actively hunt Empire Mechanical Dragons, then what can be said of Daimon City's stance?" Jin replied in a serious tone. "Sure, we might say that we could be hunting a variant of the Mechanical Crystal Dragon but more scrutiny will emerge from us."

"It's the same if we don't hunt them down and the Mechanical Dragon destroys Parry City. They will eventually put the blame on us too and the Empire insignia would not make things any easier." Yinn argued.

"That is why we have to be smart when it comes to handling this particular problem. Do not rush through it. I will get Commander Eggshells, General Ost, and Grieves to prepare for a support and rescue mission over Parry City. But in the meantime, try to extend your stay in Parry City as long as possible. I will get someone to send you some more equipment be it legal or illegal means. It might mean much when fighting against an Empire Dragon if it comes down to it but at least it's still a deterrent." Jin said

"Does that mean Parry City had to be hit first before we can do anything else?" Tellie asked and Jin nodded his head.

"As much as it is you want to save Parry City, some losses need to be ascertained before we can save the greater good. By acting on your own to find the Empire Mechanical Dragon would only exacerbate the

problem and in turn, harm Daimon City as a whole. If we play our cards right, there is a chance we might be able to get out of this and Parry City might become an eternal ally against the fight with the Empire."

"If we play our cards correctly... Jin, this is so not you." Lynn replied and Jin sighed. "I know, but with limited resources, this is what we can only do. It's not like I have my minions with me." Jin said and Lynn clenched her fists.

Chapter 1678 Search For Crystal Dragon -Final

"The System is able to bring some of the minions into the Virtual Simulation if Jin wants to." The System said when they ended the call and Jin shook his head as he held onto it as if he had survived a headache.

"That's not the whole point. Call an emergency meeting with the other three peeps." Jin sighed as he felt that he was not able to sleep with this situation hanging on his head.

"General Ost, General Grieves, and Commander Eggshells?" The System asked for a double confirmation and Jin nodded.

"What's the matter?" All three were on the line connected but Jin did not explain much.

"It's better to say this in person. Convene to the War Room as soon as possible." Jin said and he was already in a car to take him to Daimon's Military Headquarters. Soon when Jin arrived, General Ost and Grieves were not in their usual uniform attire as they were about to return home. Commander Eggshells also came in non formal attire and Jin apologised for making them return to the base just barely an hour from coming out of the talks with regard to the preparation phase.

"Is this with regards to the situation at Parry City?" Grieves asked and Jin reluctantly nodded his head as if he was at his wit's end. He asked them to have a seat in the War Room where it was now awfully quiet compared to the day when they had their operation to keep Daimon safe from the monster outbreak.

"It's best to say this in person as the Grey Bear Squads have found evidence that might prove to be a sort of headache to us," Jin said as he showed the video that Click had managed to salvage from the dead Mechanoid.

"Is that..." General Ost pulled the video from Jin's holographic console and into his which he magnified and sharpened the video a little more to see that the beast was undoubtedly a dragon and its mechanical in nature. And worse of all, it had the Empire's mark on it.

"How is this a problem for us? Isn't our main concern the Mechanical Crystal Dragon? This is a Mechanical Dragon with an Empire crest." Commander Eggshells remarked and the other two Commanders also felt the same.

"The creation of non human Mechanoids had always been discouraged and we had already done a media coverup that this was all Edmond Diamondz fault when he transferred his consciousness into the Crystal Dragon. If not for the Monster Outbreak, Diamondz Corp would have to suffer an even harder blow trying to recover from that incident since we provided the bulk of the equipment. Now this is the

best time to rise from the ashes if we were to show that it's the Empire that had been creating, then the fallout would be on them rather than be on Diamondz." Commander Eggshells stated.

"You mean, you want the Mecha Corp that had been allied with the Empire to take the blame? You know that's fighting against your rival, right?" General Ost asked

"You sure you want to pick a fight with Rocketeers? Your corporation might be one of the biggest in the Empire but to fight against the biggest of the biggest Mecha Corps is asking to be killed. A single command from them will force other Mecha Corps to go against you and even have cities set up an embargo against your goods. The Rocketeers is the Empire's main backbone of the army and you barely scare the surface." General Grieves argued.

"In fact, they could turn this around and say that the Mechanical Dragon might be the work of Diamondz since you have some connections to the Empire's factories and labs. And for the fact that we just let loose a Crystal Dragon, which is an even worse version of a simple Mechanical Dragon would invite even more scrutiny against us." He continued and Eggshells kept quiet.

"He is doing all this because he wishes to save the skin of your company. Diamondz Corp is the main bloodline of Daimon and if it dies, we will die too." General Ost tried to calm Grieves down.

"If they had not been doing all these experimentations behind our backs, we wouldn't have to be in such a mess like this. And the creation of non human mechanoids discouraged? Last I remembered, it was not allowed at all regardless of how the Crystal Dragon was meant to be a prototype that would be discarded." General Grieves showed his anger to the subject at hand. Jin had already sensed the entire day that Grieves was not exactly happy that they had to prepare a contingency plan for the advent of the Crystal Dragon emerging in Parry City and later coming into Daimon.

However, he had no idea that Grieves was actually angry against Diamondz Corp for pulling the rug under the military and now they wanted to do things their way once more, putting Daimon onto the target board for others to shoot upon. Perhaps, Grieves did mean well for Daimon as peace was what he wanted for the city.

"Regardless of the anger you have for Diamondz Corp, it does not change the fact that Parry City Military had been keeping quiet about this. I believe they are trying to solve this problem themselves but if things awry and their city gets attacked, it would cause major concerns for us, mainly economy wise. Do we have any military pacts with Parry City?"

"At the moment, no. We have a few military pacts with other surrounding cities but they had recently considered null because of what they had done from listening to the Empire and not coming to assist us when it was time for it." General Ost said.

"Damn, then why does this Empire Dragon have to appear in Parry City when they could have emerged in those cities. We can then have the last laugh." Jin sighed as he once again lowered his head at the gravity of the situation.

"What are the consequences of us going into Parry City if we were to rush in with armed troops if the Empire Dragon were to attack Parry City?" Jin asked

"Too early of an intervention and it could be interpreted as an invasion mainly because we did not trust Parry City military to handle the threat. Too late of an intervention and lives would be lost, and their city would be in ruins. Plus if you consider how their city is mainly made out of you know...trees. If the Empire Dragon wreaks havoc, the chance of the entire city going into flames is a real issue." General Ost replied.

"And we will lose one of our economic partners or maybe the most major economic partner at the moment due to this unfortunate event," Grieves commented.

"So either way, it's optimal that we defeat it before it reaches the city or we duked it out at the outskirts of the city to have the best outcome?" Jin said and all three nodded their heads. They were all at wits' end until Jin asked a random question.

"Our soldiers...the ones that that were marching back to Daimon from their attack of Mount Sunn. I also assume they are coming back from Parry City since they are trekking from the north, right?"

"Parry City is indeed the most ideal route back because of our recent friendliness with us. We had asked previously and they had stated that they were not going to put up a toll for our returning expedition. However, the fastest they could return is within a week."

"How so? That time when I needed to defend Mount Sunn from them, they arrived quite quickly."

"This was because most of the equipment and soldiers were flown to that destination. Now we have injured soldiers, broken vehicles, and a bruise to our military expenses, it was more pertinent that we save money on the trip back. Thus, they are marching back slowly to ensure that quick fixes of the vehicles and machinery were done and the injured were taken care of on the way back." General Ost said.

"We can ask them to quicken their march back but I have no guarantees that would work. The trail back is not exactly the most developed. Most of the transportation would be backlogged due to the size of our returning army and going any faster without proper coordination with various cities would cause the army to be jammed as well." General Grieves stated and Jin somehow understood that the logistics for the military can be a nightmare and that he was thankful he got the System to handle his minions.

"Not to mention, the cities would ask what's the rush and might need some greasing of their palms for the miracle to happen. The problem is that those greasing of palms is merely the permission for the miracle to happen and now making the miracle to happen." Commander Eggshells remarked.

"I guess, we can choose a platoon perhaps? The elite of the most elite to rush down to Parry City if you really want forces." General Ost yawned as he said that but it was pretty obvious, that he was saying that because there was nothing that could work at the moment and nothing good came out of his mind.

"If we want to push a platoon into Parry City, it would be much easier if we send our troops from Daimon to their city. It would be much easier and the soldiers would not be exhausted. But I do get your point." Grieves stated and noted the hopelessness."

"Nevertheless, it's quite apparent that we cannot rely on the soldiers returning back once more," Jin said and then this made Grievus ask a few questions in return which he could not wrap his mind around.

"Why are we doing this? Actually, risking out our troops and our people for the sake of defeating the Empire Mechanical Dragon? I understand that we are doing this to destroy the Mechanical Crystal Dragon but this isn't it." Grievus' questions got even more thought invoking. "If it's the Empire's dragon, shouldn't the main Empire army come in to defeat it if it causes harm to Parry City? Furthermore, why are we destroying an Empire related unit when we are part of the Empire? Or did Parry City do something which incurred the wrath of the Empire and they actually dispatched an Empire Dragon as ...orthodoxically as it is to release a banned Mechanoid to fight against...never mind I somehow feel my mind had been fucked up from the lack of sleep from the past few days."

"Huh, I think I roughly understand where Grievus had been coming from but at the same time, there could be an assumption that the Empire Dragon could have been released by other nations and they slapped the Empire's crest on it." General Ost deduced.

"Alternative, if Parry City is trying to hide it so much. There might be a chance that Parry City is actually creating all of these Empire Dragons at the expense of their city's budget to be in the good grace of the Empire. But now they fucked up, and they are trying to clean up the mess before anyone else saw it." Commander Eggshells gave his own version.

Jin was already a goner when he started seeing stars from all these old men conspiracy theories but he felt that Eggshell's theory might have been one that hold the most water.

"Wait a minute. So, you are looking at it this way then there is a chance that the Empire wants to build Mechanical Dragons and are getting various corporations to build these dragons under the guise of research or whatever crap as if its some competition." General Grievus added to the theory.

"If that is true, then what is the motive or endpoint for the Empire? Why are they doing this to make more chaos for the country? Or is this some last defence ditch in case the Empire gets invaded by a stronger force?" Grievus added and the other two started to think about the consequences and Jin remembered why he hated meetings.

Chapter 1680 Who Will Know? -Part 2

With much rumblings from the other three, Jin decided to stop them and asked. "So, let us put all those conspiracy theories aside. Are we going to help them or not?"

"I see no merit to act early. You said that you are going to arm your Grey Bears Squad. And I think that's already the best action to take." General Ost replied.

"Yes, should the Empire Dragon invade the city centre, Grey Bear's involvement would be the most ideal as they are not under Daimon's authority but acting as Diamondz's. Even if they failed or succeeded, Eggshells would have the contribution that he wanted for the Corpo." General Grievus added.

"The most I can do is put some fighter jets on an hourly standby so that they can sortie out whenever we need them." General Ost remarked.

"As much as I want to provide some air support, most of it had already been destroyed in the battle at Mount Sunn. We got a few helicopters that can provide some support and that's it." Commander Eggshells said and Jin sighed.

This was what Jin had expected and that was why Jin had said something that had disappointed Lynn. As much as he wants to help Lynn and the other Grey Bears to prevent a catastrophic disaster from happening at Parry City, Daimon cannot do anything unless Parry City has suffered damage.

"Unless I take this matter into my own hands," Jin said to himself and the other three looked at him as if he was mad.

"...Interim Leader, what do you want to do?" General Ost asked and he felt a palpitation that he had never felt for the longest time. He was honestly hoping that his leader was not a crazy fellow.

"Does the Interim Leader wish to combat the Empire's Mechanical Dragon yourself?" Commander Eggshell who was the only daring person among the three of them asked him the question directly.

"Do you think I can beat it?" Jin asked them for their honest opinion and they thought long and hard.

"I personally saw your fighting abilities and it can also be seen that you are not going all out. But if you were to fight against the Empire's Mechanical Dragon, there might be a minuscule chance that you can win." Grievous said.

"Hahaha, Grievous. You did not see what Leader Jin did on the Eastern Front. It was beyond comprehension. If he can manifest that plus add to how he fought at the Western Front, I think we can stand a decent chance."

"The time limit is 15 minutes so we need to give everything we got if it happens," Jin said and the rest understood where he was coming from. (And he also kind of cursed Syn for limiting his dungeon instance 'creation' powers)

"Still, from the political point of view, it's best that you wait for the Empire Dragon to at least attack the city then we can act." Commander Eggshells recommended. "If we were to go in and interfere with Parry City, the best case scenario is a heartfelt thanks and the worst case scenario would be international scrutiny."

"If that's the case. Why don't we make it extremely obvious to them?" Jin queried and we could identify whether the Empire Dragon is a foe to them or a foe to us.

"What do you mean?" Commander Grievous asked and Jin tried to explain.

"If the Empire Dragon is something they wished to hide, they would need to commit resources to keep this a hush hush. We can exploit the video we found and ask for an explanation. However, that will backfire on us in terms of media coverage because of our recent release of Crystal Dragon. They might spin in a way that the Empire Dragon might have been one of the things Diamondz did as well as the Crystal Dragon which we have no evidence to go against their claims." Jin started his reasoning.

"However, we can also make things simple. Assemble troops right in front of Parry City's borders. Make them look to us as if it is an act of aggression when we can give the excuse that we were simply assembling troops at the North." Jin said.

"Ahh..." General Ost could see that latter's point. "If we assemble troops, they had no choice but to cautiously put up the troops at their borders too, and since their city is closer to our borders unlike ours where it's at the centre of our territory then..."

"They have to assemble troops in the city which might cause some panic but it would do them good if the Empire Dragon comes in." Grievous could see Jin's plan even though it is rather heavy handed in terms of military cost.

"So, if the Empire Dragon does not come out and hit the Parry City in 2 weeks, then that's great for us but bad for them since they will think we are surrounding them because our troops would be returning from the north."

"We can coordinate in such a way that if the troops are reaching Parry City, we can withdraw our assembly of troops, perhaps do an unannounced military exercise to guise it. That way, they will feel reduced pressure from us." General Ost said

"And at the same time have troops protecting their city too." Commander Eggshell could see the plan in this.

"Actually, if you think about it. It can also deduce the nature of the Empire Dragon. This is because the Mechanoid could and the human that was killed might have been compromised and Parry City was dealing with them using the Empire Dragon. If the Empire Dragon can be controlled by them and they do not appear, we will know that Parry City held a secret that they were either secretly controlling banned customised Mechanical Beasts or building such Mechanical beasts."

"On the other hand, if the Empire Dragon attacks their city, we will be the ones acting as the saints for assembling our troops in the north." Grievous started to like the idea.? "And we can respond quickly too."