

Dungeon S 251

Chapter 251 Darkness Within

Once again, the footsteps became louder. Jin had heard those footsteps for more time than he bothered to count. Each time it approached Jin, it would point the barrel at Jin's head. "All you have to do is speak, and I will disappear from your life." That low pitched voice said the same thing yet again.

Jin did not know whether he should give up or if he should accept the voice's proposal, he had been hearing the same thing for hours...for days maybe even weeks.

"Everyone carries a shadow." The voice spoke as it slowly paced around Jin and this time around, he placed the gun at the back of Jin's head.

"The less the shadow is embodied in the individual's life..." The voice paused his sentence and Jin could feel its presence lurking right beside his ear. Jin did not dare to move since any drastic movement would result in colder harder chains tying him up even tighter than before.

"The blacker and denser it will be." The voice was so close to his left ear that he could hear the person breathing. Did he merely imagine stuff? Or was that really a person in this total darkness? Jin was sure that the room had been empty when the lights went off.

"I am willing to bet that your thoughts are just as dark..." The voice moved away from him yet again, and he heard a spinning sound. This was the first time he overheard that. That mechanical spinning sound made it feel like that person...or thing was holding a revolver.

"If not darker." It was at that point the revolving cylinder stopped, and pieces of metal dropped on the floor.

"No fun at all." The voice complained. "Why don't you and I play a new game?" The voice was now projected at his right ear.

"But my time is up so till then!" The voice once again faded away as Jin heard that 'person' having thrown his gun on the floor.

Jin waited for a while after counting up to a minute in his mind before he sighed out loud. His willpower was fading. Each time the voice visited it got harder to resist and each time it returned it approached him even closer. Jin felt himself being charmed to say something. Only through sheer determination did he manage to resist that urge up until now.

Perhaps, Jin was already bleeding in his mouth as there were times he could feel that his tongue wanted to move involuntarily and he stopped it from talking. Was there no way out of this situation he was in?

This whole situation made Jin become aware of how much he missed seeing his monsters, his bellators, Qiu Yue, Zhen Qing, Yun and even Ming. He never imagined, that at one point in time he could feel so alone without any of them around. All he desired was to see them just one more time before he was taken over by this madness. Jin could feel the insanity slowly infecting his thoughts and trying to fit itself into every crevice of his mind.

"Did I ever tell you the definition of insanity?" The voice suddenly came out of nowhere which scared the hell out of the brooding Jin, so much that he cried out in surprise.

"AHAHAHAHHAAAA YOU SPOKE! YOU SPOKE!!!" The voice was so exhilarated that Jin could hear him jumping up and down, celebrating the fact that Jin finally opened his mouth.

"Brilliant! Just god awful brilliant!" The voice exclaimed as it went towards Jin once again.

"Come, talk to me. I know you can hear me now. I know you can speak now. Come talk to me!!!" The voice commanded in an ecstatic tone.

"If you don't talk, I am just going to stay here with you for all eternity." The voice goaded Jin.

"F.U.C.K! FINE! SCREW THIS! I WILL TALK!!!!!" Jin shouted, but at that moment a metal piece covered his mouth. It was the same metal barrel that he felt through the time he was in total darkness.

Jin had enough, he bit the barrel to the side of his mouth and focused his eyes to the top as if he was trying to look the person at his face. "Shoot then. I am not afraid. I have had enough of you babbling! If you want to shoot me, just shoot!"

"Woooo so angry! So much anger and hatred within you." The voice expressed joyfully as it pushed the hammer down.

"How about it... Let's play Russian roulette? You answer a question honestly, I will put the gun on my head and push the trigger. You answer me with a lie, and I will shoot you instead. I have one bullet in here." The voice explained as it once again spun the gun cylinder with the barrel in Jin's mouth.

"Do you want to return to your old life? Where you walk blindly through life till death? Wherever fate brings you, you follow it obediently? Yes or no." The voice asked.

Jin refused to answer.

"Not answering? You are willing to risk your chance of survival in my hands?" The voice questioned as it took out the barrel from Jin's mouth and slammed the handle of the revolver on Jin's head as it aimed once again at him. This time around, the barrel was pointed at Jin's right eye.

"No matter the odds, the game is rigged." Jin claimed as he spit his saliva at the person who was holding the gun.

"Clever. So clever." The touch of the barrel suddenly disappeared from his eye, and a flash of light appeared abruptly. It was too blinding for Jin, making him unable to even take notice of what the shape of that 'person' was. His eyes were simply too used to the darkness.

All of a sudden, Jin felt pain in his thigh. As if something was biting him, trapping him, and eating Jin's life away bit by bit. He started to feel something like claws scratching his leg and he could not move an inch apart.

"Next Question. If Qiu Yue and Zhen Qing were in the same position as you right now and you had the power to save one of them, who would you choose to save?" The voice demanded another answer as he turned the revolver's cylinder once more.

"Both."

"Honest answer, but invalid." Another flash of light appeared, and Jin could feel another creature biting his torso. Right now, he could roughly feel two canine-like beings chewing away on his flesh, and all he could do was shout in pain. His tears were rolling down continuously, and Jin kept shouting until he was drowning in his own echoes. Jin's body involuntarily moved from the constant gnawing resulting in more chains appearing and squeezing at the wounds that were inflicted by the mysterious 'person'.

"Tell me, what has this period of darkness taught you? So I can end your life... Then you will not hear from me anymore. I did promise you that after all." The voice yawned as he said that. It was as if he had his fill of fun with Jin.

"This darkness?!" Jin nearly lost his voice from all the screaming, but he began to feel faint from the supposed loss of blood, but at that moment, he felt like he could see a glimpse of the room. Everything that was within that room. He noticed two foxes were biting through his flesh, the multiple bloodless chains on his body and a silhouette of a man wiping his revolver.

"What else?" The man inquired as he now pointed the gun at Jin's head. Jin knew that he could only defy the man one more time before he was shot in the head. That man was not joking anymore. Jin could see the killing intent in his eyes, his body and in his gun.

"Thanks to this darkness, it showed me the beauty of light!" Jin answered as he tried to rock the chair despite the two black foxes biting him with the little mobility he had left.

"Hmm... haha... HA HA HAHAHAHAAAA!" The man laughed as he placed his left hand on his forehead.

"After this much pain and suffering, you still think that you have learned a lesson from this?" His face now turned serious and he looked at Jin. Despite the teary eyes, Jin could recognize the movement of his finger.

"Now!" Jin thought to himself as he rocked the chair backwards, causing it to topple slightly. Before Jin hit his head on the floor the chains started appearing and stabilizing the fall. Nevertheless, the shift in height resulted in the bullet only scraping the scalp of Jin's head.

"HAHAHAHAHAHAH!! Excellent! Excellent!!" The man started clapping.

Suddenly, Jin saw that the two foxes stopped biting him and returned to the man's side. "It seems my new master is at least worthy of my slightest attention." The man walked towards Jin with heavier footsteps now as he knelt right beside Jin and placed his hands on the chains.

"Master. I am your newest Bellator at your service. Please pardon my way of testing you. Name's Kraft." The man solemnly bowed his head before he ripped apart the chains trapping Jin. Because of his previous action, Jin and the chair both toppled over, but he did not care.

Jin was finally freed from the chair and like a newborn baby, he moved his arms and legs within the darkness of the area, trying to get a feel of the place.

"At the very least, you have somehow unlocked the Dark Sight from your so-called Inverse Eyes." Kraft said as he helped Jin up and aided him to sit on the chair.

"Now, let us talk for real. Master." Kraft took the second chair that was left behind by Ming and sat opposite of Jin who was busy rubbing his tears away with the hoodie that he was still wearing.

Chapter 252 Kraf

Jin took the time to calm down as he watched how the foxes interacted with Kraft. That was when he realised something. Wasn't the System not supposed to know about the existence of this place? The subconscious? How was a Bellator able to come into this 'realm'?

"Because I am not part of the System and yet at the same time I am part of the System too." Kraft clarified as he looked at Jin. The two black foxes even stared at Jin which caused Jin's hair to stand up.

"I can hear your thoughts in this place because I am in your subconscious. You must learn how to control your thoughts." Kraft explained as he whistled once and the two black foxes turned into bullets.

"Let me introduce myself properly. I am Kraft, a Bellator in service of Ming. When the System abandoned Ming, I was unable to return to it because I was still in a contract with Ming to teach him how to protect his subconscious. Therefore, I had no other place to go other than staying in his subconscious...until you came into the picture." Kraft continued his story.

"Initially, I've always cursed Ming for abandoning me in his subconscious. And since he was no longer in contact with the System, I was not able to do much. Each day, I hoped to get out of this prison mind. However, he proved me wrong." Kraft gave a knowing smile towards Jin.

"When he was in the military, this guy from the so called Royal Zodiac Snake Clan wanted to teach Ming a lesson for messing with him during training. So he actually offered himself to teach Ming a little about infiltration and information extraction. However, his true intention was to corrupt Ming's brain, and turn Ming into his lackey."

"Never has he expected that there was a bellator inside Ming's mind, dying for some action after all the years of imprisonment. Oh, I had fun. So much fun bullying that Royal Snake Zodiac. During that time I managed to learn how to use his own tricks against him, and suddenly he became best buddies with Ming. What a joke. Ming thought that he was some sort of super genius, a prodigy in information extraction, that it was all because of his efforts. Nope, it was I." Kraft took credit for everything.

"Here is a secret which he may not tell you. He used to be part of the special forces for some time before he became a desk jockey doing all that boring paperwork. That is if I remember correctly. But those days were fun since the job required information extraction and the mental torture of another person. After all that time I finally got another chance to use my skills, and that sort of excitement continued every day until he was bound to the desk. I think his codename used to be Fox."

"At one point, I went ahead to take a decent break since it was boring doing nothing in his mind and when I woke up from my slumber, I noticed that he was already dead! The fortunate thing was, that he was already in contact with you! A real System user! You who had a System, a way out for me, I could not help but be excited. My heart was pumping furiously after such a prolonged time. Of course, I knew that I had to play this carefully. Had to be careful not to accidentally torture you to death. Otherwise it would have been back to square one for me once again."

"You know the story from then on." Kraft twirled the bullets in his hands before he slotted them into the revolver.

"The two black foxes you just saw were Tsu and Kai. They are a part of my skulk of foxes, but those two are my best. And I guess you have noticed. They turned to bullets. When I shoot them out, they can transform back to their main form as Fox Demons."

"So I am assuming you have six foxes under your command?" Jin asked since he knew the revolver could only hold six bullets.

"Mmm. I should have a total of nine, but I am stuck with six though Tsu and Kai interact with me more than the other fox demons. For some particular reason, they seem to be rather attracted to me. I think the System prevented my full powers from being unleashed when me and Ming first met."

"You mean there should be a way to upgrade the current power of my bellators?" Jin was surprised there was such a thing. He thought that their powers were locked because of Jin's grade.

"The System no longer binds me so I can say this kind of stuff. From what I know based on your understanding, I guess it is fine to tell you about it. Your cultivation restricts their powers, but the System currently locks their skills." Kraft said.

"Sounds like some troublesome roleplaying game..." Jin shook his head.

"It is part of the System's decision to prevent the User from being overpowered. Otherwise you could unnecessarily be exposed by the members of the public. So they stay locked, until it judges that the User was capable of handling himself." Kraft clicked and unclicked his hammer.

"However, as much as I would like to leave this realm of darkness, especially when a System User is finally around me, I fear that I am starting to like this place." Kraft smiled as he clapped once. Suddenly the walls inside the room grew spikes and started to move towards Jin. However, Jin was confident that Kraft would not hurt him.

"No one has better mind manipulation techniques than me. That is also why the System is unable to read subtle thoughts about Ming from you. Because I am stopping that sort of information from getting out, under the commands of Ming." Kraft stopped the walls the moment the spikes slightly pressed onto Jin's body. Yet, during that period of time, Jin did not move a single inch. Jin's confidence towards Kraft made the latter grin. It looked like Jin was not scared of Kraft anymore.

"But you said that he did not know you existed in him." Jin continued to query Kraft as if it was the norm.

"Yeah, that's what I said. I was surprised to learn that I did not fade away along with that old man's physical body. So I decided to confront Ming, but apparently, he had been aware, that I was sleeping inside him. Also, Ming said that the System left him a particularly ancient technique to transfer the System into your body."

"He said it was because of me, a forgotten link to the System that he was able to modify that technique to transfer part of his will and soul within your subconscious when the System was being moved into you." Jin realised Kraft was talking about that old encryption letter that he had found alongside with Ming's note. He did not know that Ming was so well versed with modifying techniques.

"Guess, Old Gramps is smarter than he let on." Jin thought to himself. "But why would Gramps want to enter my subconscious?"

"You are his one and only grandson." Kraft did not say anything else but later changed the topic back to his story. "We subsequently talked about the old days. This whole meeting between us, was also part of his plan. Ming just need to leave you here in the bas.e.m.e.nt."

"I see..." Jin tried to gather his thoughts about the turn of events.

"You did okay... For a beginner. I will teach you more when we have the time, but it seems like you are a very busy person for a lazy cultivator." Kraft sniggered.

"Also, I think sooner or later the System might bestow you another Bellator with mind manipulation techniques. Perhaps then, I might gain a friend, who will appreciate this darkness with me. So here is the contract I wish to forge with you, my new master." Kraft adjusted his coat and pushed his chair closer to Jin.

"Let me be part of your darkness. In return, I will demolish any, who try to enter your mind." Kraft extended his hand to shake with Jin, who did not hesitate to return the handshake. Suddenly Jin felt the darkness around him was warm rather than the cold, creepy feeling he used to sense in the past... Jin did not remember how long he was in there.

"Ahhh, the contract with a System user, now I can feel my powers being refreshed once again!" Kraft thought to himself. Instead of being bound by the System and getting his powers from it, Kraft was now obtaining his energy and powers from Jin's subconscious mind. There was always a loophole in the workings of the System and Kraft did not hesitate to exploit it for his own use.

"Wait, if what you said is true...I did ask the System for a reward about having some adaptable immunity towards manipulation and Psionic Magic. Could that be a Bellator too? Or is that an innate ability?" Jin asked Kraft if he had any idea.

"Who knows?" Kraft shrugged his shoulders before he suddenly disappeared, but his voice lingered. "But remember that within the darkness, you will always have an ally...if you keep him entertained."

Chapter 253 Jump in Cultivation

Kraft had fully disappeared. Jin could no longer feel another presence. Only then did Jin realise, that he had been unable to view Kraft's face. He had been able to recognize his silhouette, wearing a trench coat, but his facial features could not be distinguished even with his Dark Sight. It was as if he was purposely hiding to prevent anyone from seeing him.

While Jin was still busy pondering about Kraft's appearance, he suddenly heard the hatch opening. "Seems like you have finally met with Kraft. That took longer than expected, but still better than nothing." Ming opened the hatch ajar before he threw a burning flare in there.

"This will help you acclimatise your eyes to light before you come out. Otherwise the light will be too bright for your eyes." Ming said as he walked away from the place. "Come up when you are ready."

It took Jin some time, but slowly he climbed out of the bas.e.m.e.nt to find himself back in the same old cabin. He felt like he was in there for ages. "Have a cup of drink." Ming offered the same drink he had to Jin, and he took it after thanking him. After some time, he realised that his entire shirt and hoodie had been torn to shreds from the chains and fox bites.

"Guess it was real..." He took off his clothes and was astonished to find out that a side of his torso was suddenly tainted with mysterious looking tattoos. It looked like a small black fox had imprinted itself onto his body.

"Hey look! We have matching tattoos now! Looks like we are fam now." Ming pulled up his shirt and laughed heartily while showing Jin the side of his torso with the exact same small black fox tattoo. "This is the proof that you have a contract with Kraft but no need to worry. The tattoo won't appear in your real life."

"Anyways, it's more or less time for you to get back. You were in there for more than four months." Ming said which caused Jin to be surprised.

"WHAT?! Didn't you say you would only cage me for a single month?!" Jin suddenly shouted at the top of his voice.

"Woah Woah, calm down. The whole idea was for you to come into contact with Kraft. I did not know that you would need much more time than I did. Guess I should add that to your flaws. Not as competent as me." Ming said it out loud as if he was making a mental note. Jin could not help but sigh and swallowed the rest of the cup of drink.

"But well done. Perhaps it's not entirely your fault. I mean it has been ages since the last time Kraft has had some action. Maybe that was why he wanted to play with you some more. Can't say that I agree on the way he played with you, but what matters for me is the outcome. You got the contract. Now, off you go." Ming gestured with his hand to shoo Jin off, and a blast of wind appeared out of nowhere, causing Jin to magically return to his conscious state.

"AHHHHHHH!" Jin woke up to see that his face was the only thing above the sludge. Everything else was filled with black, and the sludge was trying to consume him. He tried to pull himself upwards out of the muck but realised he was stuck. The only thing he could do was to exit the hot spring instance forcibly.

"What the hell exactly happened?" Jin jumped from one instance and returned another. The Shop Level One Instance. Mr Patsu suddenly appeared and grabbed onto Jin, crying and begging for forgiveness.

"Sorry, Boss! There was no way we could help you..." Mr Patsu told Jin the whole story, who realised he could have killed himself if he had stayed a bit longer in that subconscious realm he was in.

"We tried our best to help you, but there was nothing we could do. We even called Big Boss System, but for some reason, Yun was not able to help you at all either. She said that the only way to help you was for you to come out of the cultivation stance." Mr Patsu wiped his tears away.

"What exactly happened, Jin? How come you could be so deep into your cultivation that you have forgotten your existence? Even the System was not able to barge in and rescue you? That was unusual for a cultivator to be this deep into a trance." Yun was rather fl.u.s.tered when she saw Jin alive again.

She could not help but hug him and physically checked his body.

"System, analyse his body," Yun commanded the System from her phone, and in seconds, rays of lights appeared from nowhere and started to detail any possible problem on Jin.

"Nothing out of the ordinary. No problems discovered. The only difference: The deep trance resulted in the cultivation having increased his Grade to 7. A considerable jump of grade was not expected. Analysis: Cultivation Manual might have been more suited for User than expected. Considering that the truth was revealed to him, enlightenment phase along with the hidden help from the Zoo Pandas and the Random Arena might be the probable cause for User to jump in Grade from 5 to 7. User has exceeded System's expectation. System shall reward User accordingly." The System spoke out, and suddenly a treasure box came flying from the sky, crashing through the Halloween stained glass ceiling and onto the floor.

"Do not worry. Repairs will be made in an instant. The dramatic effect of reward for coolness factor." The System said before its voice disappeared from Yun's phone.

"Ehh, Congrats?" Yun did not know how to react in the current situation, and Jin thanked her before he opened the treasure chest box. "Hmmm." Jin took a look inside and noticed there were not many items in it.

He noticed there was an old ragged looking red covered manual with a thumb drive tied to it and realised that was the reward for Qiu Yue. The Cultivation Manual Radiant Red Panda in the Umbral Snow. "Hey, this isn't a reward for me."

"I guess the System was lazy and packaged it with your reward? Hahaha!" Yun giggled at Jin's pouty face for being bluffed. "Come on. There are other things in there too, right?"

Jin placed the manual in his storage watch and noticed there were three technique cubes in it. He remembered receiving the very same technique cube when Zeru gave it to him to learn the Perfectly Normal Parry Slash technique. When he held onto the technique cubes, he discovered some small fine print at the edge of the cubes.

"Black Panda Fire Basic Mastery....White Panda Ice Basic Mastery....Pandaromic Eyes aka Inverse Eyes Basic Mastery.... Oh? So the eye techniques do have a name." Jin then looked at Yun with a suspicious look.

"Why did you not tell me that these techniques exist? I thought I had to find and learn how to control the spiritual union skills myself despite me being able to unlock them!" Jin questioned Yun.

"Annnnd did you use the Black Panda Fire on me when you were fighting against me??" Jin asked once more after he remembered the existence of the black fire. Yun did not reply but gave an excuse instead.

"Ahhhh, suddenly I feel that my eyebags are too bigggg! And my eyes are so heavy! I need to sleep now. Bye~!" Yun suddenly disappeared and he was left alone with the treasure chest box.

"Yun requested those items for you. They are considered as part of your manual. If you have read the last few chapters of it, they were categorised as Epic Arts of your cultivation manual." The System spoke through his phone.

"Ah, now that you mention it, I do remember reading about it briefly before...no wonder it felt so familiar," Jin replied as he used the technique cubes on himself. Each time he pressed the cube, it felt like a can of glittering dust was being sprayed at him. Jin suddenly experienced variety of colour overwhelming his sight and felt a little high from the inhalation of the glittering dust.

"The Pandaromic Eyes or as you termed them Inverse Eyes, have been categorized as Legendary Arts of your manual. Previously, only the basic description of these advanced techniques have been revealed in your manual. It has been deemed harmful for the User to try them out, before reaching the required cultivation grade. It was a coincidence that they were part of your Spiritual Union skills. System can provide the basic mastery since it was defined as part of your cultivation manual. System is unable to give you full mastery since they are categorised as Epic and Legendary Arts."

"What exactly does basic mastery mean? To will it freely?" Jin did not have to focus as much to activate his Inverse Eyes.

"Interesting. User's Inverse Eyes is 25% completed even though the basic mastery should only allow you to freely will it." The System noted.

"What do you mean?" Jin asked as he picked his phone out.

"Your Inverse Eyes have Dark Sight. It was not part of the basic mastery. System can only conclude it was from the spiritual union skills." The System analysed.

"Oh, perhaps. Hahaha, lucky me, I guess!" Jin had a cold sweat, but he now knew that Kraft was not lying. He was defending the information Jin had obtained from the subconscious realm. Although Jin did wonder why Ming and Kraft would want to be kept hidden. Especially Kraft, when he had nothing to lose to be in contact with the System.

"Maybe, he just wants to see how much can he pit against the System." Jin wondered to himself.

"Maybe..." Kraft whispered in his mind as Jin could hear him snigger.

Chapter 254 Not My Faul

"OEIII!!!! Zhen Qing, give me some money!!!" Zheng Hui, Zhen Qing's father, was banging on her door repeatedly. "I know you are back. I know you have the money!!!" Zheng Hui shouted through the roof, and Zhen Qing tried her best to hide in her room.

"Please, Zhen Qing! Please, my daughter, I need the money or the debt collectors will come and find me." Zheng Hui finally ceased his banging and slid his back along the door as if he was really desperate this time round.

"I gave you money two weeks ago!! GO AWAY!" Zhen Qing could not handle the pressure her father was giving her and retorted back. She was thankful that she bought a new lock and installed it in time before her father noticed it. Else, her door would have been broken minutes ago.

"Lies! I know that you have a new job right now! I can see that you are happier than before! Not only that, you don't have any ingredients stocked anymore! Are you doing what I asked you to do? Which establishment are you working at?!" Zheng Hui questioned Zhen Qing as he banged on the door once again before taking a big sip from his liquor bottle.

"Tell me. I shall inform them about our plight and ask for an advance payment." Zheng Hui's speech started to slur. "All you have to do is to work hard for me. Work hard and repay your debt of sins to me...."

"I AM NOT WORKING AT THAT KIND OF DEROGATORY PLACES!" Zhen Qing shouted back before she hid under her blankets.

"THEN WHERE THE FUCK ARE YOU GETTING YOUR MONEY FROM?!" Zheng Hui used his leg to kick the door. It was apparent that the old lock on the door disintegrated from the kick. It was also not the first one, to suffer such fate.

"Why you... HOW DARE YOU INSTALL A NEW LOCK? Are you filled with distrust towards your very own father?! Your father that brought you into this life? Who has been sheltering you in this place? Running away from the Yakuza's?! For covering for YOUR MISTAKES that CAUSED your mother's death?!" Zheng Hui got so mad that he kicked the door with even more force and it visibly trembled under his strength.

"It's not my fault...It's really not my fault..." Zhen Qing teared as she curled into a ball and suffered under the noise until her father decided to stagger back to the living room.

"Do not think this is the end..." Zheng Hui tapped a few buttons on his phone before he sent a message to his debtor before he eventually fell asleep drunk on the sofa in front of the TV.

"This can't go on...I really cannot stay here any longer...Do you think he can help me?" Zhen Qing thoughts were in a mess as she cuddled with a broken penguin plushie that was given by her mother when she was little. It was the last memento she had of her and a constant reminder of her old life. It was also one of the few things she managed to take with her. She cried miserably until her body was not able to take it any longer and made her rest.

"What?! You want to resign from the job?" Qiu Yue's superior Shao Wai was stunned early in the morning when Qiu Yue placed the letter of resignation on his table. Qiu Yue was determined to a cause and nodded her head firmly.

Shao Wai knew that expression in her eyes from the few years of working with her. He took off his glasses and rubbed his temples. "Why are you quitting? Which company poached you? How much are they offering?"

"There isn't any company that came to poach me. It is of my own volition that I wished to resign. I would like to pursue my dream with a friend of mine." Qiu Yue told Shao Wai frankly seeing how they both were rather familiar with each other's attitude.

"You do know that the new multinational project that we have recently managed to acquire was mostly because they were inspired by your pitch? They wanted you to be the overall in charge of this project since they realize how talented you are and they are sure that you will get the job done well. What am I

going to tell the director when you are leaving us in a lurch?" Shao Wai tried to coerce her into a guilt trap, hoping that would make her stay.

"Besides, Qiu Yue, I can guarantee you that your promotion will be secured by the end of the year and the track to my seat, heck! The director's seat is not far from now! In just a few more years, you will definitely have that. Also, are you forfeiting that 13th month performance bonus you have worked so hard for? In a month or so, are you sure you are making the right decision and won't regret it?" Shao Wai continued to try and hook her but he did not know that Qiu Yue was unfazed by his allure of fake promises.

"Sir, no one is indispensable in a company. You can always find someone better to take over as the project head." Qiu Yue said it so bluntly that it made Shao Wai fumble with his words.

"Are you sure? You will lose every progress you have made till now. The only thing you have is experience which is worth nothing more than peanuts in this dog eat dog world." Shao Wai now tried to threaten her, but Qiu Yue was adamant.

"I understand." Qiu Yue did not say much. She had imagined that after working so long together, her superior would have been more understanding. Guess he was using her just like everyone else in the public ministry. "Lazy assholes, always wanting other people to do their work while they hog on all the glory. I am not a stupid woman who will allow you to manipulate me any longer." Qiu Yue thought to herself as she remained ignorant of Shao Wai's grumblings.

"Fine, if you are this adamant. It will be your loss. I will pass this to the Human Resource Department later in the afternoon." Shao Wai believed perhaps he could delay the resignation for at least a week or two by saying he had forgotten about it. During that time, Qiu Yue might possibly change her mind.

"It's okay, Sir. I have already sent them my notice in advance. This is simply a courtesy letter to inform you. I will be leaving by the end of the month. Please pardon my intrusion." Qiu Yue said before she started to leave his office.

"Wait. Qiu Yue." Shao Wai stood up trying to stop her.

"At least, one last dinner before you go? My treat." Shao Wai asked politely but the look on his face. It's one that Qiu Yue could not stand.

"Get away from me, you creepy cheating husband." Qiu Yue thought to herself but she forced a smile out. "It's fine. I do not need that. Please pardon me. I have some work to clear before I leave the ministry."

Jin took a power nap for an hour, resting on the couch in one of the Auditoriums. He did not know it would be this comfortable to lie down on it.

"The System does pamper my customers..." Jin walked up to the Bar Island to get a cup of water before he saw Zhen Qing, who came earlier than usual into the Shop Instance.

Jin immediately realized that Zhen Qing was not her usual self, in fact, she looked more tired than usual. Not only that, she was carrying a piece of mini luggage with her as she immediately bowed in front of Jin. The beak of some sort of bird-like plushie could be seen sticking out from the luggage.

"Boss Jin...I apologise for requesting something that I refused previously. But can I ask you for a favour?" Her eyes were red with tears on the verge of dripping.

Chapter 255 Real Name

"What happened?" Jin was confused. Was he still in a dream state? This was the first time he saw Zhen Qing being so powerless, so helpless.

"I'm aware that I refused your offer for lodging previously but is it okay if I request it now?" Zhen Qing asked as her tears started to drop.

"It's alright, Zhen Qing. Everything is gonna be fine." Jin replied to her, but immediately send a mental SOS to Yun for help. "I have no experience with handling this kind of situation. Help me! Please, Yun, I'm begging of you!"

"What are you talking about? It's 5:30 in the morning. I am still sleeping..." Yun grumbled in his thoughts before she cut off all communications, resulting in Jin having to handle the situation all by himself.

Jin panicked for a while and decided to try to help her calm down in whatever way he could. "Here have a hot cup of coffee. You look terr- You look like you might need one." Jin bit his tongue trying to be sensitive as he took out the saucer while waiting for the coffee machine to start and make the coffee.

"Do you want to discuss what has happened?" Jin subsequently took out a few onigiris for Zhen Qing to fill her tummy along with the coffee.

"I will pay for the..." Zhen Qing hectically tried to search for her wallet in her backpack, but Jin stopped her.

"There is no need for that. Just eat in peace." Jin retorted to change the subject since he was more or less aware of Zhen Qing's personality. He knew that she was not the kind of person to share her thoughts with everyone. She was more of a reserved lady despite her hotshot temper in the kitchen.

At the same time, Jin pretended to be a bit busy by checking around the Panda Port counter and his phone. There was no need for him to clean the place at all but he pretended to finish the cleaning, to allow some time to gather his thoughts. Afterwards, he returned to Zhen Qing hoping that she had calmed down a little and started to ask what had happened.

"Can I ask why you would need the lodging? That is if you are comfortable to speak about it. I can provide a listening ear." Jin offered Zhen Qing, though she seemed a little reluctant to say anything. He could see her internally debating whether to share it with him.

Zhen Qing did not believe Jin had the power to change any of her current circumstances. However, there was an inkling of hope in her heart. Wishing that Jin might be able to get her out of this situation. After

all, ever since she joined his dungeon supplier store, this young store owner in front of her has always managed to exceed her expectation of him. At the beginning, she had thought this shop was bound to fail in due time. Who could blame her? With Jin providing dungeons at such provocative prices and branching out to different kind of services instead of focusing on one specialisation.

Therefore, Zhen Qing thought that she could probably earn a quick buck before her boss would go bankrupt for not following along common business logic of a new shop owner. But the longer Zhen Qing stayed in this shop, the more she started to unconsciously develop a sense of belonging. Ever since the time she was fired from the restaurant she was working wholeheartedly for, there was always a part of her that felt empty.

"I..." Zhen Qing fumbled her words a little before she plucked the courage to finally get it off her chest.

"I need the lodging to escape my father's constant harassment for money." Zhen Qing said.

"Oh...erm okay. I can arrange some lodging for you." Jin planned to let Zhen Qing stay in his house, the one that was minutes away from the store. He currently did not have much use for that house. No one was living in that house aside from Yun. Occasionally, Jin might use that house as a place to rest. Otherwise, it was left empty. Most of the time, Jin would be in the hot spring instance cultivating himself.

"I will stay at most for a week or so. Maybe until the salary comes in, then I will leave. Of course, you can deduct a part of my salary for the lodging expenses. I do not mind that." Zhen Qing was quick to defend herself, giving reassurances making Jin feel that it was all courtesy. He had a hunch that it was not something so simple, and that there was something more significant behind that, something he should not interfere in unnecessarily.

However, the System and Yun did issue a mission to help with Zhen Qing's chef's block. What if the current situation she was in was the main problem that caused Zhen Qing to have a chef's block? Besides, from the limited information Jin had gathered, Zhen Qing was probably going to merely give the money she had earned to her father and the cycle would continue. It felt as if Zhen Qing was always running away from her actual problem.

Then it struck Jin that Zhen Qing was similar to him. Jin had also been trying to escape his problems by going with the flow of things. Maybe the System had planned this mission but it was too much of a coincidence. This father issue might be a deeply seeded predicament. But one thing for sure, if it affected Zhen Qing's chef block, it was part of his mission.

"Time to help her." Jin decided for himself.

"I would like to know the full story if possible. And if your father comes to harass you again, I will not hesitate to call the cops to protect you." Jin said bluntly already expecting that Zhen Qing would most likely either refuse the lodging or ask Jin not to call the police.

"I will quit if that happens." Zhen Qing immediately replied in a straight face. It was no threat. It was a statement.

"What?" Jin was a little shocked by the speed of her answer and the seriousness behind it.

"If he harasses you, please don't call the police. I shall simply quit and not cause any more trouble for you." Zhen Qing clarified. She could not find any other lodging on such short notice because she had no other relatives nor friends she could rely upon in Shenzhen. Neither did she have the money to pay for any lodging in this part of the city. That was why she decided to bet everything on Jin's kindness.

"Then, all the more reason for me to stick my nose in. I will help you as long as it is within my power and influence." Jin tried to act as if he had connections when he had practically none. However, this should make Zhen Qing open up a little, or that was what Jin hoped.

"I... have not been telling you anything about my past before. Because I was sure if you were to know it, you probably would not have hired me." Zhen Qing muttered in a soft voice, without daring to look into Jin's eyes. "I am not from here. I was not even born here."

"I...actually ran away from the Yakuza. Because of a thing I did in the past... My mother ended up paying the price for it... She paid with her life to save me." Zhen Qing explained on the verge of even more tears. It was apparent these were memories haunting her daily.

In the meantime, Jin did not hesitate to refill another hot coffee for her.

"Even my real name is not Zhen Qing." Zhen Qing added after sipping on her drink and taking some time to calm herself once more. This confession made Jin furrow his eyebrows. Yet, he was in for another surprise. At that moment, Zhen Qing, who was wearing a hoodie with a beanie inside, slowly unveiled it.

After which, Zhen Qing slowly removed her beanie that revealed long dark blonde hair as if it was her natural colour. It was entirely different from the look that she portrayed when she was in the shop.

"My real name is Lynn Arisato. One of the chefs involved in the Last Supper Scandal in Japan. The one who helped to plot the death of six major Yakuza Bosses through a grand gala dinner." Zhen Qing- wait no, Lynn said in a form of declaration.

Chapter 256 Trap

Jin did not know how to react to this revelation, but he slowly shook his head. "No, I am really sorry. This is the first time I have even heard about this Last Supper Scandal. Would you care to elaborate?" Jin asked Zhen Qing kindly.

Zhen Qing smiled for a bit before continuing. "Suffice to say, that scandal is the reason why my father...and I had decided to come here. No one exactly knew our faces. On the other hand, I think it's probably for the best that you do not know too much about my history. The less you know, the less trouble you will be in." Zhen Qing's hands continued to tremble as she tried to hide them under the table.

"This is not helping. Kraft, any chance you could extract information from her? I would like to know what exactly happened." Jin asked his all new Bellator for some advice.

"Do you think I am some god? That I can just extract information at the snap of my finger?" If Jin could see Kraft right now, he would definitely be rolling his eyes at Jin's ridiculous request.

"Well, if you kiss her. I might have the chance to jump into her subconscious." Kraft suggested, but Jin refused adamantly.

"I am not so stupid to fall for these tricks. If all you need is close contact or a scare to drop their guard, there are other ways, no need for a kiss." Jin was now the one rolling his eyes.

"Damn, here I thought you would be like. 'Yes, Kraft! For Lynn, I will do it. I will do anything to save this poor sheep. This pitiful soul.'" Kraft tried to be dramatic, but it was annoying Jin even more.

"Forget it. I will simply try and use the net to search for anything related to this Last Supper Scandal." Jin shook his head and looked up to Zhen Qing. "Zhen Qing? I assume you still want to be called that way to prevent any suspicion, right?" Jin asked Zhen Qing, and she nodded her head.

"Follow me then. I will bring you to your temporary lodging." Jin said as Zhen Qing offered to wash the cup and saucer before leaving, but he told her it was a small matter. Within minutes, Jin showed Zhen Qing his house, and she could not believe that the lodging would be this grand. Zhen Qing assumed she would be staying in some hostel or a more broken down apartment, yet never dreamed of such a lovely terrace house.

Jin opened the gates and subsequently the door to his house. "This is the key to my hous- erm I mean the lodging. Yun is currently the only other occupant in this area. You can use the guest room if you like. You are free to use anything you want, but do not make the place too messy. Do not bring any other visitors into the house unless you have my approval." Jin made his statement clear. Zhen Qing had no qualms obliging, seeing as most of these rules were just common decency.

"Yawnnnn, is that Zhen Qing?" Yun was in her singlet and shorts as she walked down the stairs from the second floor. "What happened to her?"

"She needed some place to stay, so I allowed her to stay here for now."

"You brought a girl into your house? Rather bold I might say." Yun said it out so bluntly that Zhen Qing panicked. "Are you planning to revive the Panda Bloodline through her? I did not expect such quick action from you. I probably have misjudged you, Jin." Yun spoke in Jin's thoughts, but all he could do was blush a little and refuse to acknowledge the accusation.

"Am I intruding?" Zhen Qing asked frantically as she could not understand the relationship between Yun and Jin. Was she becoming the third wheel?

"No no, do not listen to her nonsense. Although this is my house, I am only staying here momentarily. Most of the time, I will be in my store for ehhe cultivation and creation of dungeons. So don't mind me, you are not intruding." Jin tried to correct the situation that Yun created and went on to show Zhen Qing where the guest room was.

"I am sorry there isn't much food in the fridge. I did mention to you previously that if you needed food, you have my permission to take some from the store's kitchen instance. Consider it one of the perks for being an upcoming chef for the store." Jin smiled at Zhen Qing as she placed her luggage down.

"I shall give you some time to unpack. If you need anything, just holler for Yun since I will be returning to the store." Jin told her, before he went out of the house.

"So, you are not as stupid as I thought you were." Kraft sneered as he could learn the thoughts of Jin plotting for something else. "Yea, I mean that guy's stalking skill is rated zero out of ten. Of course, I would have picked up something this simple."

"I am not judging you or anything. Honest! Cross my heart." Kraft sniggered, and Jin continued to walk back to the store. It was at that point of time, a person, who was not only poorly dressed, but also with his breath reeking of alcohol, came towards Jin.

"My good man, I see that you are keeping my daughter for your own personal benefit. I am her father, and I cannot endorse this kind of behaviour." Zheng Hui complained with one clear intention in mind. Blackmail for money.

"What do you want? How do I even know if you are her father?" Jin immediately understood why Zhen Qing would want to run away from this kind of father. Zheng Hui did not hesitate to take his wallet and presented a torn and tattered piece of a family photo with a slightly younger version of Zhen Qing inside. There was another person on that photo, but due to the horrible condition, Jin was unable to see it clearly.

"How about a fee to assure this worried father? I mean, you are staying at this wonderful terrace house, surely you have the money as recompense for a father's heartache, being unable to see his daughter?" Zheng Hui tried to sweet talk his way to Jin, who clearly was not buying it.

"You know, I could extract some information from him if you just knock him out and bring him to the dungeon maker." Kraft suggested torturing to get what Jin wanted. "I believe the System would find that to be the most effective and efficient way of getting the information."

"It's fine Kraft. Stay your...gun." Jin then smiled at Zheng Hui and turned the question around. "Well, Father, how about we have a good breakfast and you can explain to me the situation that revolves around you and your daughter?"

"What? She even admitted that to you? That bitc-...I mean she seems to trust you a great deal it would seem. But I guess you only know one side of the story and not the whole truth, right?! Sure! Let's go for a meal, and I will tell you everything!" Zheng Hui replied, but before Jin could agree to that proposal, Zheng Hui's phone rang loudly.

"Ah shit, do you mind if I take this call?" Zheng Hui pardoned himself and started to whisper. "Listen I know I said I would pay today. But I have found a good sweet target and quite gullible too. I am very sure of it. If you manage to kidnap him, I believe his father or family will be able to pay lots for his ransom. You will clear my debt this way, right?"

"Yeah, yeah, whatever, just make sure you bring him to that restaurant so we can do that." The person on the line sounds irritated as he ended the call abruptly.

"Ahh, Big Boss! My bad, my bad." Zheng Hui started laughing at Jin as he placed his hands over his shoulders. "How about I choose the place for us to share a meal? I will make sure it is not only yummy, but pretty affordable as well!" Zheng Hui smiled with his bad breath.

"Ooooh fun!" Kraft could sense something was amiss. "Your definition of fun is somewhat unsettling. It's obviously a trap." Jin said in his thoughts and smiled back at Zhen Qing's father.

"That is what makes it so fun." Kraft rubbed his hands together as he started to prep himself in Jin's mind. In the meantime, Jin had already sent a message to Yun telepathically about the situation and told her to track him if needed.

"Awww, you will be fine. Sometimes, you overthink it too much. I shall try to see if I can get Zhen Qing to open up." Yun said, but Jin was slightly worried even though he was not showing it in front of Zheng Hui when he followed him to his car.

"Sometimes, Yun knows how to put up a death flag scene."

Chapter 257 Zheng Hui

"By the way, my name is Hui. Nice to meet you Mr...?" Zheng Hui tried to make conversation but Jin seemed to be absorbed looking into his phone. Jin was typing in the Pandamonium chat with Lee An and Xue Ping, the police inspectors he made friends with when he got them to help out with Xiong Da.

"Surname's Xie," Jin said with a slightly ignorant and lazy tone to show one's arrogance, which did not fail to piss off Zheng Hui. "You little brat, just wait a little while longer, and I will make you come down from your high horse." Zheng Hui thought to himself, but smiled on the outside and tried to keep the dialogue going with some small talk.

"How long have you known Zhen Qing? How did she catch your attention? I mean she was just a street cook not too long ago. How many times did you do it?" Zheng Hui asked a variety of questions even trying to address Jin's ego, but it was like talking to a brick wall.

"Okay, understood. I do not know what you are planning, but you are putting yourself in a dangerous position." Xue Ping replied fast in the Pandamonium private chat.

"It's for a friend, Zhen Qing, the chef that made the Black Pepper Pork Buns. I ask that you do me this simple favour. Please? In return, I will give you some tickets to the brand new instance when it comes out. I know it might be a false alarm, but can you have someone look after Zhen Qing at this address I am going to send to you as a precaution?"

"You do know that you are somewhat bribing a police inspector. I could catch you for that." Lee An managed to type something in. Maybe, Xue Ping had alerted her husband about it.

"Hahaha, then let me run away first. You can catch me with this location tracking ping that I am going to send you." Jin sent a devious panda emoji in his reply along with a tracker designed by the System to track Jin down. Eventually, Jin also answered one of Zheng Hui's questions after successfully sending Lee An the specialised tracker app.

"Long enough to know she is special," Jin replied. Zheng Hui thought this was a good time to hook him for more. If that Mr Xie had some feelings for her, asking the debtors to catch his no good, useless daughter that doesn't want to give him allowance would be a good idea to ask for even more ransom from this arrogant young man.

"Double kidnapping and my debts will not only be cleared, but I will even have some cash to party afterwards." Zheng Hui smiled to himself as he already imagined himself gambling and drinking more alcohol. In the end, he would still blame Zhen Qing for all the loss he made.

"You still have yet to tell me what exactly happened to Zhen Qing." Jin folded his arms as he acted all proud gazing outside the window of the van Zheng Hui was driving.

"How much did she tell you?" Zheng Hui was agitated just remembering that particular incident, but the ride to the restaurant which the debtors assigned was far. He might as well vent his anger out.

"Enough to understand." Jin tried to be vague and continued acting the part of a young noble master. He looked annoyed for getting another questioned back instead of receiving an answer. However, he noticed something peculiar. Even her father referred to her as Zhen Qing rather than Lynn.

"Fine. I will give the short version, so the story at my side is complete. That way, you can compare it yourself. Zhen Qing was an assistant chef for the Tsukemen Grandmaster Mimasaka Sensei. They were in this secret yet grand Gala Dinner for the meeting of some VIPs. Only later did I find out that those VIPs were Yakuza Heads. Apparently, she was one of the few culprits that poisoned the Yakuzas. But the thing was, they did not die on the spot. No. Almost every Yakuza Head who ate the food died exactly 24 hours later." Zheng Hui said in a loud voice which Jin listened intently despite his involuntary yawning.

"It was called an operation by the police. That's what she said to me. Merely told me I didn't need to worry too much. They would never come and find us. But what bullshit. The next few days, I heard rumours from the neighbours that they, the Yakuzas, were hunting down chefs in the vicinity. I panicked and quickly asked my wife and Zhen Qing to pack up."

"Yet, Zhen Qing fucking had the gall to continue telling me not to worry. That we would just need to go to the police. However, even before we had the chance to reach the police, the yakuza grabbed us from the streets and brought us to the town's nearby seaport. They hung us from the cranes and left us to hang there for a while. Later, they... THEY FUCKING DROPPED US INTO THE SEA!" Zheng Hui could not help but bang his hands on the steering wheel, and the van horned rather loudly. He did not care and continued to drive.

"My wife could not swim, and she drowned because of it. Zhen Qing and I managed to break out of the bindings in time. Yet when we got out of the sea port, the Yakuza were still waiting for us. They did not intend to let us off that easily. They brought contracts with them and forced us to sign them. Right there, right in front of them. With guns pointing at our heads, making us sign them with our own blood."

"100 Million Yen! (Approximately 900K USD) HOW AM I GOING TO PAY 100 FUCKING MILLION YEN? And that was for each of us. So 200 million Yen in total. We were in total debt, even had to sell the house. Guess what? It was not even close to cover everything. We begged them to let us off, but the Yakuza simply replied that if we did not oblige to the contract, they were going to take Zhen Qing away and sell her to the brothels. Oh, don't forget the exorbitant interest rate those gangsters charged."

"And in hindsight, you probably regret you did not do that." Kraft sneered in Jin's thoughts.

"I had a friend who was a hobbyist fisherman. After getting money from a loan shark, I managed to pay him enough, that he was willing to risk it. He helped us to escape the Yakuza for a hefty price and here we are."

"Meh, he is telling the truth. From his perspective that is." Kraft informed Jin.

"How do you know?" Jin asked, and Kraft sighed.

"He came into contact with you while he wrapped his arms around you right? That was sufficient contact for me to have one of my foxes infiltrate his nervous system and go to the memory area of the brain like the amygdala, hippocampus blah blah blah." Kraft explained.

"So all you need is just close contact..." Jin finally got to know how to use Kraft.

"Please, he can be considered barely conscious. Still rather intoxicated from last night's drinks. Definitely, one of the easiest targets for me to break in. Heck, it is a wonder how he can drive so smoothly in that state. Must have plenty of experience in that regard." Kraft analysed.

"Big Brother Xie, how about passing some pity money to me? Maybe I can pay back my debts that way?" Zheng Hui giggled a little as he tried to ask for some money directly.

"Why are you having difficulty paying them when you already ran away from them?" Jin questioned.

"I uhh, I found out that, I can return- I mean we can return to Japan. See, there is a guy here that knows the Yakuza explicitly. He said that as long as I fulfil the contract, we would be able to return to Japan. He said he has a high enough standing to ignore the interest." Zheng Hui started to lie so obviously, that even Jin could figure it out without Kraft's analysis.

"Oooo that's good to know. Why would he do such a thing? Won't collecting the interest be more beneficial to him?" Jin questioned.

"Ahh, Brother Xie, You have underestimated me. I am able to make friends with all kinds of people. I befriended him before I knew his true identity. When he told me who he really was, I confided all my woes to him and that is why he is doing that for me!" Zheng Hui answered.

"He said the contract money would be used to increase his standing and by doing that he will be able to remove that contract from us! It looks like we found a silver lining within all this mess after all! I mean, if Big Brother can help us, I can make sure Zhen Qing will be able to express to you how very very grateful she is going to be. Get my drift? You can surprise her with this kindness of your heart." Now Zheng Hui sounded a little more believable this time round, but still too fake in Jin's eyes.

"Perhaps, I could prepare to make some arrangements since it seems that your story tallied with Zhen Qing's. A slight variation no doubt but I can understand through the difference in viewpoint. How can I meet this friend of yours? I could try to work out a contract with him." Jin lied. Luckily, he had Kraft to figure out whether what the father had said was the truth.

"Oh! You are just in luck, Big Brother Xie. He is actually the owner of the restaurant. He should be there today. I can bring you directly to his office! You can talk to him there!" Zheng Hui gleefully suggested as he saw the exit of the highway.

"This idiot will never know what is coming." Jin thought to himself.

"This idiot will never know what is coming." Zheng Hui thought to himself.

Chapter 258 Wanhua District

"We have reached it." Zheng Hui said as he parked his van on the side of the street. Jin looked out of the window to check the surroundings. What surprised Jin was not that they travelled far away from Tiangong Shopping district but the place they were at. It was no deserted valley or some abandoned warehouse.

"Wanhua District," Jin said to himself as he looked at the map app he had on his phone. It was roughly an hour ride to this area, meaning it will take Lee An or Xue Ping some time to arrive.

Even if they were to reach here, it does not exactly mean that he would have sufficient backup if things go awry. Still, he believed he was strong enough to fight against the threats of everyday life at Grade 7.

Not to mention obtaining the knowledge to utilise Panda Black Fire and Panda White Ice would definitely be an increase in offensive powers aside from his sword attacks and basic Astral Panda skills.

The area where Zheng Hui brought Jin was still reasonably quiet. There was moderate human activity going on the streets that Jin began to wonder how was Zheng Hui going to kidnap him?

Through drugging the food he was consuming with sleeping pills? Using overwhelming strength? He was not able to think of a suitable and viable way that Zheng Hui could use to kidnap him so openly in public.

"Come, Mr Xie. It's this place, the fourth floor." Zheng Hui beckoned to Jin who looked like some tourist that got lost.

"This place's braised duck is one of the most delicious I ever ate. That is also why I am brought you here!" Zheng Hui tried to exaggerate, and Jin pretended to see through his fake sincerity.

"You wanted me to pay for the meal, right?" Jin said in an annoyed tone as they were waiting for the elevator.

"Ahh, Mr Xie you said it yourself, I did not say anything at all! Pardon me for being a little more hungry today!" Zheng Hui laughed with his eyes closed as he thought how gullible this little rich boy is. If Zhen Qing was more cooperative, they could have sucked more money together from this guy, and he might even be more forgiving towards his daughter.

"Too bad, she was going to keep him for herself so that she can escape from me? No way!" Zheng Hui thought to himself as he pressed the fourth floor button when the elevator arrived.

The elevator opened and the lady greeter welcomed both of them into the restaurant. It was there and then that Zheng Hui faced turned from scheming look to pure shock.

"Big...Brother...Ong!! Why are- I mean it is a surprise to see you here!" Zheng Hui had cold sweat dripping down his back as Jin saw a well dressed individual sitting at the centre table of the restaurant with a plethora of poorly dressed gangsters standing right behind him. The chains and rings on his hands with a pair of sunglasses at the top of his head indicated some measure of wealth. Not to mention the food he was eating looked rather sumptuous. Jin later noticed that there were even gangsters sitting at the other end of the table which was coincidentally where the fire escape was.

Jin looked back and saw the two gangsters folding their arms, gesturing and prompting them to move forward. There was no way out of this situation no matter how you see it. "Ahh.. the overwhelming strength and quantity to the point that you have to listen and do whatever they say. So that is possible after all." For some reason, Jin was taking notes for his future instances in his brain.

"You are one weird System User." Kraft giggled at Jin's lacking awareness to the overall situation. Did he really think he would get out of there scot free?

"This, your friend?" Jin could see Zheng Hui was as stunned as a marble statue in a museum, and he slowly nodded his head. "Yes, this is the Brother I was talking about. I was just erm rather overwhelmed by the welcoming party. Aha haha haha!" Zheng Hui did not know what to say. His debt was not even that big that his 'friend' would bring such a large entourage with him.

"Brother Hui! It looks like you are hungry. Have a seat. Do not mind my goons. They are here to oversee my special VIP. He is in the toilet at the moment." Ong said as he picked up a piece of savoury duck meat with braised skin and dipped it in soy sauce before placing it in his mouth.

Zheng Hui slowly walked forward with Jin following behind him and thinking of ways to get out of this situation. No doubt every one of the solutions seemed to be brute force since that was the only language these gangsters will ever speak.

At that moment, someone came out from the toilet, and as he was wiping his hand with a disposable hand towel, he looked towards Jin's direction and shouted. "Oh?! Isn't that Brother Zheng Hui! It's had been a long time!" The man in a white suit and colourful shirt walked towards Zheng Hui.

"Yamazaki sama!?" Zheng Hui immediately fell to his knees, trembling and prostrating when the man in the white suit came towards them.

"A Japanese name? Couldn't it be such a coincidence that it's a Yakuza right?" Jin thought himself and hoped for the best.

"I had been looking for you all this time. If not for Brother Ong here to tell me that you owe him some money while I was having a friendly drink with him, I would not have known that you have fled all the way to Shenzhen. It looks like fate cannot separate you and me in any way."

Yamazaki sat down beside Ong and poured a glass for him.

"For you, my friend." He toasted with Ong before drinking the alcohol in one gulp. Yamazaki then looked at Jin rather curiously.

"So, you are the target that Hui brought?" Yamazaki asked Jin who managed to remain somewhat still for the past five minutes.

"Yes, Yamazaki sama I brought him according to Brother Ong. I hoped that..." Yamazaki banged the table hard, and Zheng Hui immediately kept his mouth shut.

"DID I SAY YOU CAN TALK?" Yamazaki shouted at him, and Zheng Hui continued to put his head down on the floor. "I screwed up..." Zheng Hui said to himself.

"You." Ong's turn to point at Jin.

"I am feeling rather generous today. Get out of my sight. Leave this guy to us. He wanted to kidnap you anyways, so we are going to teach him some manners." Ong said, and that was when his phone started to ring.

"Hm, then what are you waiting for? Just get her. Our guest wants the family to be reunited." Ong spoke loudly on his phone.

"Yeah, yeah, yeah bye. Hey you. That girl is in your house right? Don't mind we break in, take some stuff and the girl and we will not disturb your life anymore. You cool with that? Okay, deal done." Ong pointed at Jin after he hung up the phone and ate another piece of braised duck.

"I..." Jin was speechless at how gentlemanly this gangster was. It looked like their real objective was indeed Zheng Hui and Zhen Qing.

"You have no say. Now get out of my sight. You are spoiling my food and entertainment." Ong tilted his head a little to signal to his goons. The group sitting behind Ong immediately stood up, adjusted their shirts and walked menacingly towards Jin.

Chapter 259 That's The Spiri

"PLEASE! GIVE ME SOME TIME! I will get your payment for you!" Zheng Hui cried as he was knocking his head on the floor.

"Hahaha, your life is mine no matter what. You have no way to repay me. I am just going to punish you, torture you, and maybe experiment on you. But your daughter on the other hand. Heh." Yamazaki grabbed his chopsticks and started eating the braised duck.

Zheng Hui panicked and decided to stand up and grab a fork on the table, trying to rush at Yamazaki. The goons that were going for Jin stopped Zheng Hui without any effort and kicked him down to the floor once more.

"Hahahaha! You think that you can take my life? How about this? If I get defeated, I will rip up your contract and clear your entire debt!" Yamazaki spat at Zheng Hui as the goons continued to kick him while he was down.

"Jin, looks like there is a group of people trying to break into your house. They are currently climbing over the house's fence. I have snuck Zhen Qing in the basement for safety." Yun sent her thoughts.

"Can you keep her safe? I believe you are strong enough to stop them." Jin could not tolerate the current scene, but he needed some time to talk to Yun, so he had no choice but to watch Zheng Hui suffer.

"I cannot show my powers in front of them. I can get Zeru out, but even he could not stop other gangsters coming for Zhen Qing. I can sense more were stationed nearby in case things go awry. Zhen Qing did not even want to explain to me what was happening." Yun said as she summoned Zeru out. He knew what to do and went to confront the gangsters that were trying to climb over the fence.

"I have asked for police help. Hopefully, they will come in time. Stay safe, Yun." Jin said in his thoughts before he took a breath in and wanted to say something in defence of Zheng Hui, but Kraft interrupted him.

"You sure, Master? While I admire your courage, would saving him do you any good? Not that I condone this kind of knightly rescue. I'd love to get into a fight, but he is a scumbag that isn't worth saving. Let alone lift a finger." Kraft asked.

"I am not going to save him because I am kind or whatever bullshit. That asshole Ong is ruining my house as we speak. Not to mention, he is going to kidnap my employee. Anyone who dares to attack my friends or employees will suffer my wrath." Jin affirmed his stance to Kraft.

"Hahahahaha! Well, here's an option for you. I could come out of your mind to assist you, but that will guarantee the System will know about my existence."

"Though I am starting to suspect that the System might already have known about my presence and just chose to ignore it, or you can continue to keep me hidden," Kraft said as he stretched his hands in Jin's mind.

"I will use you when necessary. Will it be a problem if the System knows about you?" Jin continued to look onto Zheng Hui's beating without any care.

"Not really, I just want to mess both you and the System." Kraft shrugged his shoulders as he sat on a chair and shook his legs.

"I will give you something to mess with when we are done here." Jin's thoughts ran through Kraft's mind, and Kraft laughed hysterically.

"HAHAHAHA, you want to take the Yakuza down? That's awfully brave of you. BUT I LIKE IT. BRING IT ON. Bring him to his knees, and I will cook his brain into a tender, juicy steak. I will get him to spew every single secret." Kraft suddenly disappeared and gave Jin the full attention he needed to fight.

The goons had their fill of beating Zheng Hui and now walked towards Jin.

"You had your fun watching? Now scram off!" The goons shouted at Jin, but he was unfazed by the yelling.

"Okay." Jin nodded as he took out his Bam and Boo in Dual Batons form and immediately knocked a few of the goons away in quick succession before he dashed towards Zheng Hui and carried him.

"Oh? Another idiot is trying to get to be a hero. Brother Ong, the entertainment you provide is rather satisfying." Yamazaki sniggered as he saw Jin running towards the window.

"Indeed, I did not expect the morning to be that enjoyable. I assure you that the afternoon's massage would complete you." Ong said as he poured some alcohol into Yamazaki's glass.

"I am looking forward to that." Yamazaki raised his glass and drank in one gulp.

"By the way, how about a friendly bet? I think he will jump off the window. I feel he is the kind that is quiet and yet insane." Ong said as he placed 500 Yuan on the table.

"I say he would, but it's no fun that if I had gone with the flow. I will bet the reverse." Yamazaki took out some spare change in his pocket and placed it on the table that was equivalent to roughly 5000 Yuan and placed it on the table.

"What are you doing?! Angering the Ruby Rat Triad and the Yakuza!" Zheng Hui could not wrap his head around this gullible boy's actions. There was a way where he could have just quietly walked off, why would he want to put himself in such a precarious situation.

"I am not doing it for you, and I do want you to see through your despicable actions and live through the consequences of making your daughter suffer instead of supporting her. However, that is not for me to judge. But for your daughter." Jin turned and slammed the large glass window causing several other panels to break as well.

"But what are you doing! There is no way down! We are on the fourth floor!" Zheng Hui cried, and he tried to struggle, but Jin's grip was stronger than expected. He did not expect this boy to have such immense strength. Now that Zheng Hui thought about it, Jin could have been a cultivator.

"What are you goons waiting for? You think he would jump? GO!" Ong provoked his enemy while at the same time commanded his goons to capture them. Meanwhile, the goons hesitated upon hearing their leader's commands. Even though some had cultivation, gravity was still a foe not to be trifled with easily if they fall from the fourth floor.

"If you are not coming, then I am going," Jin said without hesitation as he stepped back while grabbing on the struggling Zheng Hui.

"Don't you dare let my personal entertainment go to waste or let him die. I want Hui to suffer for killing my boss. NOW GO!" Yamazaki's shout was filled with terrifying chi that made the goons feel that death by falling was a better choice than by his hands.

One of the gangsters ran towards Jin with a machete he took out from his storage ring, but the movements were predictable, and Jin effortlessly evaded the attack and kicked him down. It was, however, the second gangster that rushed in when Jin was not able to control his strength that caused the gangster to fall out of the fourth floor.

"Oops." Jin thought to himself as he heard the gangster fell.

The gangster screamed before he laid flat on the floor. Whereas the bystanders who were looking at Jin after he broke the glass started a considerable commotion when the gangster fell from the fourth floor. Jin took a quick look and saw that the person was still alive, breathing, just probably with lots of broken bones.

"Who's next?" Jin shouted at the gangsters, and he secretly changed his baton into a Katana by placing it back into his storage watch. He could not let the others see that he could change his weapon on the fly.

The goons who initially did not dare to dance with death became enraged and fearful to see one of their brothers falling off the edge. They did not expect that boy who felt ingenuous was a devil in disguise. Meanwhile, Zheng Hui could not help but trembled at the side of the restaurant as he saw the bystanders talking and screaming below the streets.

"Ahh, screw this! Let's go as a group!" It seemed that one of the gangsters with higher seniority rallied the gang and decided to move as a whole to pin down Jin.

"That's the spirit." Jin grinned as he tightened his grip on his katana.

Chapter 260 Code T Ra

"What is with that commotion?" Lee An parked his car at the side and got off the car to take a look. That was when he saw a man falling off from a building. He looked around and saw that the bystanders were taking videos and pictures of the whole scene.

Lee An looked up to see someone familiar at the edge of the fourth floor fighting against a group of gangsters. "What is happening?" Lee An said out loud, but no one care for him as the bystanders were cheering on the fight.

Lee An could not help but try to call the police for backup. "Hello, 119. Wanhua District Station Operator here, what is the emergency?"

"This is Inspector Lee An from the Tiangong District Station. Badge Number 0928X. There is currently a major fight breaking out at 19th Wanhua Street. I want to request for backup due to the situation."

"Inspector Lee An, are you injured, or actively in the fight?" The Operator asked which seemed like a bizarre question, but Lee An answered.

"No, I am neither. I am witnessing a fight breaking out." Lee An replied as he saw another guy fell from the fourth floor.

"Inspector Lee An. I am sorry to say that we will not be providing any police support at 19th Wanhua Street for today. I suggest you do not become involved with the fight. We will not be liable for any injuries you incurred. This is the first and last warning I am giving you. It is Code T Rat."

"What?! Code T Rat?! Fuck you!" Lee An cancelled the call and knew what that meant. "Damn! This is the Ruby Rat Triad territory?" Lee An thought to himself. Code T Rat meant that the triad of the Royal Zodiac Rat had full control of the street and recommended police not to interfere. The only one that was able to overwrite this is the military which was co-owned by all twelve Zodiacs Clans since they were the government. Unless there was a majority overrule, the military would not act on streets owned by the various Triads of the Royal Zodiac.

In short, this street he was currently in was a lawless state, owned solely by the Ruby Rat Triad. Whatever they say is the law. There was no other way that Jin could get out of there alive, and Lee An could not provide any solid backup. He could only pray that Jin would be okay.

Jin knew that he was facing gangsters, similar to the ones he fought in Shenzhen Zoo. He was merciless against them because these triad members dealt with drugs, prostitution and probably things against the law. The fact that there were no police till now would mean one thing. Jin figured he stepped into territory belonging to them or that was what Inspector Lee and Xue Ping talked about before as part of a casual discussion in the shop.

Clap Clap Clap

"I say, you do provide some decent entertainment." Yamazaki clapped his hand as he laughed it out.

"Tell me, brat. Why are you doing this? Did you not know that he was going to kidnap you and put you under our care? Or are you one of those people with some high fucking sense of justice?" Yamazaki asked.

"Not really. You just said that if I can defeat you, you will remove his debt. Removing his debt meant that his daughter would be free too. I care for his daughter since she is my employee. Hence." Jin said as he smashed his hilt on a gangster's head before slashing his chest.

"Ah, I see. Now that makes sense. But did you not hear from Brother Ong? That girl should have already been kidnapped right, Ong?" Yamazaki looked Ong, and he took out his phone to make a call in loudspeaker mode.

"Hello, where's the-" Ong tried to call, but all he heard was shouting.

"Boss! I am sorry I couldn't call back! We tried to intrude that guy's house as instructed, but there is this bodyguard of his that fiercely protects the house! Not to mention, we heard police sirens coming! We tried to surround him, but he beat the shit out of us!"

"Then why did you not report this earlier?" Ong suddenly wanted to turn off loudspeaker mode, but Yamazaki was looking at him sternly.

"That bodyguard tied us up...he accepted your call to relay this message." Suddenly, Ong heard another voice speaking on the phone.

"She's safe and sound. Go wild, Boss." Zeru said it clearly in loudspeaker mode before he hung up.

"Looks like your daughter is safe and sound. Brother Hui." Yamazaki's face turned sour as he stared with murderous intent.

"Who are you exactly?" Brother Ong stood up in a fit of anger.

"Just a rather protective boss." Jin grabbed Zheng Hui, and suddenly he took the initiative to jump out of the restaurant, off the fourth floor.

"Your debut, Peppers," Jin said as he pointed his smartphone towards the restaurant's window.

"Boss, you are the best." Peppers' wooden staff appeared out of the smartphone, and she did not hesitate to cast an explosion aimed at the restaurant.

BADABOOM!

A huge bomb-like bang on the fourth floor went off that hugely panicked everyone in the vicinity as they started to take cover from the explosion. At that moment, Jin utilised Panda Rolling that enabled him to land rather safely onto the streets. That was the time when he saw inspector Lee An with his jaws opened wide at both the explosion and at Jin.

"Inspector!" Jin shouted as he carried the feeble Zheng Hui to him and Inspector Lee An quickly ran towards him to help.

"Boss, are you okay? Is this the guy?" Inspector Lee An was extremely confused by the current situation.

"Things got overly complicated, but right now, I am saving this guy." Jin assisted Zheng Hui into Lee An's car, and suddenly he heard a loud defying roar from above. Jin looked up as he saw two well toned figures standing at the edge of the burning restaurant. Their eyes were menacing and directed all of their murderous intent towards Jin and Jin alone.

"Get out of this place now, Inspector Lee. I will buy you some time." Jin said, but Lee An was not moving an inch. How could he leave a civilian in a lurch?

"EVERYONE ASSEMBLE!" Ong projected his voice with immense chi as he tore the burnt clothes away, revealing a body tattoo of numerous rats running all over his body. It looked as if the rats were consuming his entire body. On the other hand, Yamazaki's body revealed a large tattoo of the god Bishamonten holding multiple spears.

At that moment, everyone in Wanhua Street suddenly started to close their windows and shop shutters but out came gangsters from the various shophouses. A gangster did not meant anything but when a shit ton of gangsters came together, the chi they portrayed was in unison. A ginormous Ruby Rat silhouette appeared right above them to scare their enemies before going into the fight.

"You fucking mess with the wrong people." Ong spat his saliva as he placed his hands in his pockets and signalled the assistant gang leaders with just an upwards nod of his head and they started to take their weapons out.

"Does the deal still stand? Defeating you will remove all debts of the family of Lynn Arisato." Jin calmly said towards the overly bulging figures with the restaurant fire continued burning behind him.

"That is if you can pass through them," Yamazaki said as he eyed at Ong. With just a hand signal from Ong, the gangsters started to charge towards Jin.

"Inspector GO NOW!" Jin shouted as he repeatedly banged on Lee An's car to hurry up.

"But! What about you!" Lee An started his engine as quickly as he could with Zheng Hui cowering at the backseats.

"I will be fine." Jin gave a casual salute with his two fingers at Inspector Lee as he reluctantly drove away.

"I will be back Boss. I will be back with support. Just hang in there." Inspector Lee did not know why but he felt that he could trust Jin to be telling the truth when Jin said otherwise.

"Peppers, Zeru, Milk and...Kraft. Time to work." Jin smirked as he brandished his katana out with style at the overwhelming crowd rushing towards him.