

Dungeon S 41

Chapter 41 Venus Four - Part 1

Customers might think that this group of girls were courting death for trying Normal+ mode in the Goblin Dungeon Instance. They could not believe a group of pretty girls fighting for the sake of clothes would have any chance against a single goblin.

Little did they know that the girls themselves have a few tricks up their sleeves and possibly might blow their minds. Regardless, some people started to gather around Station 6 to watch the show.

Stronger goblins were still goblins. They might be tougher, harder to kill but they were merely a type of monster with only limited intelligence. That means with good team combination and some decent preparation, Yue Wen's group might pass the dungeon.

For a good team combination, Yue Wen purposely chose these three girls for Boss Jin's dungeon because each of them had an identity not known to almost any in this store. They were all part of the national team of various sports from their university, the National University of Shenzhen.

Jing Ru, majored in Mathematics was a meek looking girl with short plaited hair which she had it dyed in light greyish pink. Despite her appearance, Jing Ru was the university team leader for air rifle and possessed a Grade 2 cultivation, the Gunning Giraffe Style. Her skills to shoot a target at 45 meters while moving was a skill no one in the team could perform. Do not underestimate her because of her demure attitude.

Jia Ying, the girl who majored in Fashion Design was in the university team for Wushu and specialised in the art of spear. Her long silky hair and well rounded bosom did not sullen her nickname, 'Zhao Yun' who was a famous general and spearsmen in the Romance of the Three Kingdoms.. Her Sanguine Stag Style eliminated many of her opponents in the field of combat and it propelled her to Grade 3 at such an early age.

Shi Hui was just a student in Audio Engineering but she was known as the upcoming modern dancer in Shenzhen's field of performing arts. She also had the opportunity to become a dance choreographer for a music company despite her age when she was interning for her degree.

This girl always had hair with long outward curls and a smile full of sunshine made many suitors down to their knees begging for just one date. Her Shadow Swan Style complemented her dancing which was infused into her fighting skills making her a competent Grade 2 Peak cultivator.

Last but not least, Yue Wen, a Grade 2 cultivator who studied chemistry and had the Healing Maiden Style. Although she was not in any national teams, she was somewhat the clique's leader for this elite group of girls.

Her innate chi was so strong that she once studied at the Cultivation Centre in Recovery Arts (CCRA) for summer school and fared better than any of the students residing in the centre. She cultivated her own style with the help of a professor in the CCRA and created the Healing Maiden Style.

For the past week, she returned to the CCRA in search for the professor who aided her and within that short period of time, she managed to reach Grade 2 Peak, utilising the spirit force she received from Jin's dungeons.

These four girls were the best of buddies since Junior High and even went to the same High School. They were so well known in school that fellow students and classmates called them the Venus Four.

The Venus Four teleported safely into the Goblin Dungeon Instance. This time round, Yue Wen noticed that the atmosphere was slightly different. The sun was setting in the distance, giving the entire forest a warm amber glow. That also meant that the Venus Four may have to fight in the battleground with a reduced line of sight.

However, this entire situation did not deter Jing Ru. As a marksman, she had borrowed and prepared a night vision scope in case they really had to fight in the dark. Yue Wen had indeed planned for the worse case scenario knowing Boss Jin's attitude towards a rich and deep dungeon experience. Jing Ru went up to a small hillside slope and prepared a few strings with bells in case goblins tried to ambush her from behind.

Jing Ru's stepfather was an accomplished police sniper who also happened to have survival training experience so when Jing Ru sought the advice of her stepfather, it totally made his day. He never thought his ever so quiet step daughter would approach him. The week before visiting Boss Jin's dungeon, Jing Ru learnt much from her stepfather and now applied what she had learnt to this Goblin Dungeon Instance.

She took out her Winterwolf 39 Caliber air rifle and placed it at the spot where she can cover her friends. She took a pellet out to infuse with a little bit of Chi and inserted it into the rifle. Jing Ru was locked and loaded.

Jia Ying, on the other hand, was trying to attract as much attention to herself so that the goblins will go after her instead. She took out her highly flexible waxwood spear and flaunted her skills in the small clearing. Jia Ying had the waxwood spear tip sharpened just for this dungeon instance. She also wore a Grade 1 inscription silk wushu uniform which she used for tournaments when she entered the dungeon instance.

Shi Hui wore a simple blue buttoned shirt with her sleeves rolled up and tied her hair curls up to a ponytail. She took out her War Fan and stay aside Yue Wen, since she was the only healer in the group.

Yue Wen knew the goblin dagger had poison coated daggers so she had her mates to carry a pill necklace with the poison antidotes on standby. If they got hit by the poison, they should immediately take the poison antidote from their necklace. However, it was not just a simple antidote. Her study in chemistry allowed her to do some modification to the poison antidote.

Similar to the ancient days, she used a modern cauldron which can stimulate the effects of pill forming. By putting an existing pill into the cauldron, it can calculate and show the formula out on a screen via an internet database. It then advised the user some recommendations on what kind of modifications will have minimum effect on the pill. Of course, the cauldron recommendations could be overwritten by the user but Yue Wen decided to play safe for now and made modifications in accordance with the recommendations.

She controlled her chi effortlessly during the pill making, allowing the cauldron to produce a poison antidote with some wound healing effect. In addition, due to her good control of chi, the quality of the

pills she made was approximately 80 out of a 100 as deduced by the modern cauldron hence the wound healing effect in the poison antidote was strengthened.

With all the preparations, she only hoped that they could at least put up a good fight in this new Normal+ mode. Yue Wen initially wanted to do the dungeon instance for the challenge of a realistic dungeon experience and the spirit force but now she and her team had a new goal in mind.

For new clothes.

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Chapter 42 Venus Four - Part 2

The system's dimensional space system worked in mysterious ways that no man could ever deduce. When Jin activated a portal station at the Panda Port, the System created a clone of the real goblins along with the current living environment, which the System provided for them as the dungeon instance, at that particular time and date.

When Jin activated Station 6, the goblins were having their meals in their dimensional home. The system copied the entire environment system to Station 6 as if the goblins themselves were experiencing a butterfly effect in their particular timeline.

Whether the goblins managed to kill their opponents or not, they would gain experience and the experience of the cloned goblins would merge with the current goblins through the workings of the System.

When Station 6 was activated, the cloned goblins heard a loud alarm coming from the north of their hideout. It was an environment wide alarm which they believed was a spell their master had placed to alert the goblins of enemy cultivators to be teleported into their current dimensional home.

The goblins hurried to pick their worn out weapons and pieces of cloth for their armour. All ready to run and hunt their opponents within minutes.

As they were about to leave their hideout, a red pigeon came flying to their hideout, signalling a message from their master. According to the message, the goblins were able to remove their restrictions and fight at their best for this particular encounter.

In addition, their master authorised them to wear the latest armour and weapons that they were bestowed. All of the goblins were dancing with joy since they had been wanting to try them ever since they got it more than a week ago.

The new leather armours and alloyed-iron weapons they had been keeping in their hideout could not be worn because of a restriction given by their master. Unless told to do so, they would not be able to don the new equipment and there was a powerful spell binding on their abilities.

With the arrival of the red pigeon, it not only gave the message to the goblins but also cast a spell to temporarily remove those ability restrictions.

The goblins placed their old items aside and helped each other to put on the new equipment before they head out.

"It's too quiet for far too long. Are they really waiting for night to approach so it will be easier to strike us?" Jia Ying walked around impatiently without straying too far from Jing Ru's protection.

"Speak of the devil." Through a walkie talkie, Jing Ru whispered she saw some movement from the south east and started to adjust her scope.

Jia Ying noted and raised her guard for any attacks. To her surprise, a goblin came out from the bushes, wielding a spear. Yue Wen was startled by the change of appearance by the spear goblin.

It was wearing full leather armour with some metal pieces as compared to cloth rags it used to wear. The spear it was carrying had a humanoid skull attached at the end of the pole, assuming the goblin used it as a counterweight.

The goblin raised its spear towards Jia Ying as if it wants a proper duel. Yue Wen immediately informed Jing Ru to be on guard for the dagger goblin. It was the same trick they used on Bu Dong.

Jing Ru acknowledged and continued to survey the surrounding with her scope but oddly enough, two other goblins came out to the open as well.

They were not ambushing them like they had been doing in Normal mode and this made Yue Wen a little anxious. "Could they be thinking that they are a match against us in a proper duel or is this a ruse? Is there a different goblin waiting for us?" Yue Wen started to panic at the goblin's sudden change in attitude towards fighting fair and square.

The sword goblin eventually raised its sword at Shi Hui and spoke angrily in goblin language as if it wanted to pick a fight with her. Yue Wen nodded her head when Shi Hui looked to her for guidance and she went forward to face the sword goblin.

Meanwhile, Jing Ru had her sights pointed at the dagger goblin at all times. However as she was focusing on it, the goblin seemed to realise her presence and actually smiled back at her.

Jing Ru was totally confounded. "Did the goblin really know my position or does it just happen to smile at me?" The thoughts started to give her cold sweat. While it was true that she was a marksman, all she had been doing was hitting items that did not retaliate back. Still, she gritted her teeth and maintained her calm using one of Gunning Giraffe's skills, the Stoic Giraffe.

By initiating the skill, Stoic Giraffe, she maintained her emotions with her pulse and breathing stabilised. Fortunately, Jing Ru was able to keep her calm in time as a dagger came flying towards her. With a skillful shot, her pellet came in direct contact with the flying dagger. The dagger recoiled from the mid-air collision with the chi-powered pellet and it dropped onto the ground.

"So he does know where I am located." Jing Ru exhaled a heavy breath and reloaded another pellet into her Winterwolf rifle. She knew that what the goblin did was to warn her not to have any 'smart' ideas against the two duels as it was watching her closely.

"For goblins, they seem quite honourable for this fight." Jin casually commented which made almost every customer in the store puke blood.

"Boss, if you know what they did to me, you will reconsider your words..." one of the customers replied.

"I once had a nightmare about goblins and Boss, the goblins were from your store. I think I will not see goblins the same way ever again." Another customer added.

"Boss, do you have a fever when you said that? If so, please take your medicine." Almost every other customer tried to reply sarcastically to Boss Jin but their eyes never left the screen as the duels between the Venus Four members and the goblins began.

Jia Ying gave a straight strike towards the goblin to test its abilities. Sometimes, a play of strength was all that's needed to conclude the fight but the goblins are only that honourable in their word to fight solo.

The spear goblin slides its spear along Jia Ying's strike the moment her hand was extended and decided to attack her rear. "Hmph! You indeed have skills to foresee my play of strength was actually a feint! Yue Wen might be right after all! I could be able to find a more worthy opponent with monsters than men."

The straight strike was indeed a feint as a blast of energy from the spear was released at the tip of the spear. If the goblin had head on against Jia Ying, the energy blast would have gotten him and knocked him back.

Even if he could have resisted it, it was enough to give Jia Ying an attack of opportunity to deal additional damage to the enemy.

Jia Ying responded to the goblin's counterattack by going with the flow of the straight strike. Her spear pulled her forward to evade the attack from the goblin.

Unfortunately, the goblin was not fast enough to respond and she got away to the other side of the clearing. The battle got even more intense from here on.

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Chapter 43 Venus Four - Part 3

Shi Hui was defending from multiple slash attacks by the sword goblin. Her blocks were as graceful and gentle as the river streams while the goblin attacks were crude but on point like a hammer striking on an anvil.

During the duel, the goblin even managed to perform a sword art which made Shi Hui become very wary of its advances. However, she was still able to defend most of its attacks with style which occasionally blinded the goblin with her beauty.

"That sword art seems to come from the Grade 1 Mantis cultivators. It is simple to learn but I did not expect the improved goblin managed to pick up such a skill." One of the customers noticed.

"Wait, if this improved goblin knows about sword art, does it mean it actually learns our attacks, arts and even fighting patterns?" Another customer remarked with some caution.

"Do you mean Boss Jin's monsters can learn like AI search engines in Mooogle and Qiandu? If so, Boss, your dimensional space technology is frightening!" A female customer exclaimed.

"If my monsters do not learn, how will you ever improve?" Jin shot them back with a question worth pondering.

"Cultivators should not just cultivate, they should learn and understand that there will always be a mountain higher than the mountain you knew." An elderly onlooker in the store gave a simple reply to Jin's answer.

"But the highest mountain is Mount Everest." A customer tried to retort cleverly but everyone just ignored him and watched the TV at Station 6.

The goblin tried to do a sucker punch as a follow up of its sideward sword slash but Shi Hui managed to blocked it with her chi infused palm. Compared to the spear goblin, it seems that the sword goblin was doing more progress against Shi Hui since all she could do was to dodge or defend every other attack.

In fact, this was what Shi Hui wanted. Using her Shadowy Swan Style, she learnt the patterns of the sword goblin's attacks and found a weakness within it. All she needed to do was to wait for the sword goblin to repeat the same pattern again before she strikes.

On the other hand, the dagger goblin began to become fidgety even though he knew it would not be a good idea to interfere. While it managed to warn the ranged weapon user about her position, there was a possibility that she would retaliate if it decides to assist any of its fellow goblin companions' duel.

However, its monster instincts overtook its self-discipline and threw two daggers as a distraction at Jia Ying while it races towards Yue Wen hoping to distract the ranged weapon user. Yet, Jing Ru actually knew that Yue Wen would be the target since she was the healer of the party but she believed Yue Wen would be able to take care of herself.

Hence, instead of aiming the dagger goblin, Jing Ru actually fired her rifle towards the spear goblin. Her pellet shot managed to topple its spear and gave Jia Ying the breather she needed after blocking the daggers thrown by the dagger goblin.

"This time you made me mad." Jia Ying wanted to finish up the spear goblin and head towards the dagger goblin so she summoned her cultivation. Three stag silhouettes appeared above her and she immediately performed a Spear Art, the 'Stampede of the Sanguine Stag'.

As she moved her spear towards the spear goblin, multiple afterimages of her waxwood spear appeared alongside the spear that she was holding, causing confusion to the spear goblin. The Wushu red ribbon that was tied near the spearhead created even more distraction for the goblin.

The goblin was not able to block the afterimages as they were not just another illusion. There was spirit force imbued in Jia Ying's spear art. Hence it suffered an onslaught of attacks before the real waxwood spear pierced through the leather armour it was wearing and died.

Yue Wen anticipated the dagger goblin to come after her and she devised a way to deal with it. Before she came to Boss Jin's dungeon, she actually went to her little brother Yue Han, the cultivator of the Blind Bat Style for an item.

A shock trap.

As long as the enemy steps into the vicinity of the trap deployment, a shock will be applied to it. Yue Han had a few of these small metallic balls that were easy to deploy when he redeemed some prizes from King's Monster with Bu Dong, the cultivator of the Angry Ape Style. Unfortunately, the shock trap was of an inferior quality which were more effective against Grade 1 monsters. That does not mean it would be entirely useless against a Grade 2 goblin.

The goblin unknowingly dived into the trap since it thought Yue Wen was defenceless against its high rate of attack. However, when the goblin came into range, the trap was activated and blue lightning struck the goblin. With the multiple daggers plastered all around its body, it actually became perfect conductor for the shock trap.

Yue Wen temporarily withdrew her sword cane and projected two palms full of chi energy to the goblin, as if the chi energy from the palms were squashing it. This gave Jing Ru sufficient time to reload for attacking the spear goblin and aiming at the dagger goblin.

"Do not underestimate us even though you are stronger now." Yue Wen spoke to the goblin as she saw two Giraffes silhouettes appeared behind the bushes. This was the weakness of a sniper cultivator, Jing Ru had been trying to cover her cultivation as much as she could. However, if she continued to cultivate to higher grades, her master said that there would be a chance for her to hide the cultivation during sniping.

Regardless of her thoughts, she meticulously performed her Gun Art, 'Phantasmic Shot of the Gunning Giraffe.' Her chi ran through her entire rifle, powering a shot that could disappear during its path of flight and appeared within five meters of the enemy's head, making it almost impossible for the goblin to predict the attack.

With the goblin restrained, it was more of an assurance to make sure the shot would be true.

Even before the others could hear the sound of the shot, pieces of goblin brain matter splattered all around the ground was evident enough of Jing Ru's skills.

The sword goblin panicked a little when it heard an explosive sound from Jing Ru's shot and it was coincidentally at the weakest part of its attack pattern.

"Good fight."

Shi Hui swiped her war fan to block the sword and went dangerously close to the goblin. She grabbed the goblin by its leather armour and with Chi infused into her palms and legs, she did a body throwing technique that made the sword goblin toppled on the ground.

Shi Hui immediately plunged her closed war fan into the sword goblin's mouth. With chi infused into her war fan, she slits open its mouth, causing breathing difficulties for the goblin. After which, she swiped her fan towards the ground to remove the goblin blood from her fan.

All three goblins dead. All customers outside Station 6 had their jaws opened including Jin. Well, Jin was actually practicing his Panda Yawning. The crowd was astounded by the performance of the girls and they cheered very loudly for them.

"It's a good thing, this place is partially soundproof even with the shutters up or else the owners in the shopping district would complain about the noise these wild animals made." Jin thought and yawned once more.

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Chapter 44 Venus Four - Part 4

"Oink! Oink! Oink!" the Venus Four heard the distant shouts of the eight legged boar coming from the south and the girls had little time to regroup for the boss fight.

"Take your positions again. Assuming what Boss Jin said was true, what we had practised for the past few days will bear fruit!" Yue Wen shouted and the girls got together into a line formation.

Jing Ru was still at the elevated slope providing overwatch for the team but this time round, she put her Winterwolf air rifle down and took out a ForestBear .50 calibre air rifle from her storage ring.

Compared to the Winterwolf air rifle, the ForestBear air rifle was heavier, sturdier and packs a larger punch than the former one. However, the drawback of the rifle was its recoil and reload. The chi needed to be infused into a .50 calibre pellet was higher in order for it to be lethal in a fight. At her current grade, to infuse sufficient chi quickly into a .50 calibre pellet allowed her to have at most two shots.

She hoped the practice runs they did for the past few days was enough to defeat Mr Oink with one full team attack. Yue Wen was at the scene for the first dungeon clear so she knew it was possible to kill the boar with one attack. If they dragged on for too long, the little piglet would emerge from the weakened boar form and they had to deal it while exhausted.

In the line formation, Shi Hui was right in front of them instead of Grade 3 Sanguine Stag Style cultivator Jia Ying, followed by Yue Wen. "The Shadowy Swan Style user is not a tank and in the current team composition, it will be more sensible for her to hold the secondary offensive role to support the Sanguine Stag Style user." Mr-Know-It-All customer who always lurked in Jin's store said out loud and this time his comment actually created some discussion.

"Maybe, they want the Shadowy Swan Style user to soften Mr Oink for the main offensive role of the team to have a one hit kill." A customer decided to voice out his opinion.

"Ah yes, the instant kill so the little piglet will not appear, but I heard it's cute! I would like to take a look at it if possible." the female customer replied happily.

"The cute things in Boss Jin's dungeons are just too dangerous. Remember the Zither Mistress? From the distance, her white wavy hair attracts your attention and when you saw her innocent pure smile, your

heart will just melt. With the melodious music she plays in every instance, she is no doubt the Young Siren of the Grasslands." A customer who tried the Zither Mistress Dungeon Instance could not forget the Zither Mistress.

"If he had known that young little girl was at least 200 years old. I wonder how he will take it." Jin was grinning at himself but continued to keep quiet.

"Mr Oink is coming! Shi Hui and Jia Ying get ready!" Yue Wen placed her palms onto Jia Ying and began to transfer her chi for Jia Ying's use. Jia Ying readied her stance as if she was going to perform another spear art.

Shi Hui knew the location of the boar from Jing Ru's overwatch so she positioned herself and the line formation was adjusted accordingly. Now the boar came into the small clearing with Venus Four on the other end.

Both of them were roughly 50 meters apart from each other and the boar stomped its feet. "Oink!" The boar did not delay a second more and sprinted towards Shi Hui. On the other hand, she smiled at the thought of the boar's primal instincts when it charged towards Shi Hui. She immediately portrayed her cultivation, the Shadowy Swan Style and initiated her War Fan Art, "Rosy Illusion of the Swan in the Shadows!"

It was a Grade 1 illusion technique which lowers the guard of the enemy. In the boar's view, it had its whole peripheral vision framed with a field of rose right in front of it. The smell of rose and sudden urge of loving it overcame its senses and emotions of rage.

The boar slowed its pace and started to roll around the mud in the clearing as if it was playing in the field of rose. Without any resistance to illusion magic, the boar's mind was controlled by Shi Hui.

"Jing Ru! Jia Ying! Now!" Yue Wen gave a large shout and pushed her last bit of Chi into Jia Ying. A heavy presence of Chi aura suddenly emanated out of Jia Ying as she tried to contain and focus the chi given by Yue Wen into her spear as much as possible.

When Jing Ru heard Yue Wen's command, she gently pressed her trigger and the ForestBear rifle fired her chi infused .50 calibre pellet. The pellet screamed through the air, subsequently creating a large hole in the skull of the boar. The eight-legged boar immediately went into a series of spasm.

"Spear Art! Turbulent Pierce of the Sanguine Stag!" Within the same moment, Jia Ying shouted and extended her arm towards the convulsing boar. She aimed her chi infused waxwood spear towards the large opening that Jing Ru created and the spear automatically extended its length and pierced through the boar.

It was as if the boar was on a stick waiting to be cooked. Jia Ying used whatever strength that she had to swing the 'boar on a stick' into a bunch of trees beside the clearing. Yue Wen could clearly see Jia Ying's muscles bulging and veins popping as the boar was being smashed into the woods.

After a 180 degrees swing, Jia Ying let go of the spear and fell to the ground panting crazily. The spear slowly returned to its original length and was still stuck on the boar. Yue Wen sat beside her, drained of her Chi too. Shi Hui went to check the boar while Jing Ru continued to stay in her hideout till the end of the dungeon.

"Did we do it?" Jia Ying was sweating profusely and felt intense heart palpitations. At this moment, the lady announcer made the announcement and all of them gave a sigh of relief.

"Normal+ Mode completed. Please stand by for teleportation."

The Venus Four teleported safely back to Station 6 and the girls saw that they were surrounded by a crowd of customers. The customers cheered in front of them and congratulated them for their efforts.

"You are an inspiration to the rest of the female cultivators! Show those arrogant males that we can do it too!" A female cultivator went forward to shake their hands.

"Guess I have to work harder, Boss Jin! One more dungeon instance ticket please!" Customers started to reorder from Boss Jin again which caused Jin to have a curious thought for himself. "How do these customers have so much money to spare? Is this not just a mildly developed neighbourhood?"

Subsequently, he erased that thought away, it would be a bad omen to even think about it. Yun nodded her head and looked at Jin. "Yes, just collect the money and do not think about anything else."

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Chapter 45 Boy with the Bamboo Flute

"Congratulations for winning this time limited dungeon." Jin saw the girls was experiencing a bout of acknowledgements from the crowd.

"Time limited?" Both the customers and Venus Four immediately looked at Jin with eyes widened.

"Yes, time limited. Considering how things go, the goblin dungeon will subsequently have its first Hard mode difficulty. When the Hard Mode difficulty goes online, the Normal+ difficulty will be removed."

"I doubt I will be doing Normal+ mode, although killing all the goblins gave out decent number of medals, I do not think I can cope with Grade 2 goblins." A customer shuddered in fear of doing Normal+ mode.

Separately, Yue Wen immediately went to check her Rewards tab in the Pandamonium app and suddenly screamed out with joy. "Boss! When does this time limited Normal+ mode end?"

"Like I said, when Hard Mode goes online. I am unable to give you a proper date." Jin replied.

"Then you will be seeing us everyday at least for one goblin dungeon run!" Yue Wen quickly prodded the rest of her gang to check their rewards tab after forcing them to install the Pandamonium app. Upon reviewing the tab, all of them looked at each other with jubilation and nodded their heads furiously at the idea of coming back everyday.

"What is going on?" the customer who did not wish to proceed with Normal+ mode asked Yue Wen.

"This time limited dungeon actually gives a coupon discount of 10 Bronze Panda Medals. That is almost equivalent to getting 10 more Bronze Panda Medals! What is more exciting than clothes?"

"Getting a discount!" Venus Four smiled so radiantly that the customers were infected by them.

"Boss Jin! Can we stack the coupon discounts on a single item?" Shi Hui asked anxiously. She was not giving up the dream of getting that branded black silk dress. Jin nodded his head and the girls screamed crazily again.

The customers in the store suddenly got pumped up and started asking one another whether they wished to join up to fight against the goblins in either Normal or Normal+ mode.

They figured if they managed to get more panda medals, they would be able to procure some items from the underground stores and they would be able to eventually defeat the Goblin Dungeon Instance.

"This place is really not a bad deal after all." Jing Ru spoke as she observed the crowd interaction.

"Your reasons?" Jia Ying asked, secretly hoping Jing Ru would have the same conclusion as her.

"For 245 Yuan, I can participate in one of the best fights in my life, food that smells and tastes terrific, a wide range of practical clothes and weapons for grabs if you do well in the fights. Which dungeon supplier in Shenzhen no wait, I should generalize a little. Which entertainment outlet you know of is able to provide such a wonderful...all round package?" Jing Ru was analysing each and every benefit of 245 Yuan.

"But the Boss seems lazy." Jia Ying giggled as she drank the bamboo juice she just bought from Boss Jin.

"Then this lazy boss is the smartest boss I have ever known." Jing Ru took her contact lens off and wore her spectacles for comfort.

Venus Four stayed in the store for a while more as they tried out the variety of food which Boss Jin currently offered. The clique also gave some advice to the customers since they became a minor celebrity in the store for completing Normal+ Mode.

Jin did not forget to place their names up on the scoreboard and the Venus Four was also awarded an additional 25 Bronze Panda Medals for the first dungeon clear in Normal+ Mode. Yue Wen showed her group the ranking board and their names were at the top of the dungeon clear for Normal Mode. The girls managed to takeover Bu Dong's group first clear.

"I believe Bu Dong will go nuts if he heard you took the first clear for Normal+ Mode." Jia Ying laughed a little too loudly but most did not care as they were viewing the dungeon instances at various stations.

"Yes, he definitely would try his best to get the Hard Mode first clear in order to have his name at the top." Shi Hui smiled as she drank her black ivory coffee.

"Hey Di Ku, do you want to go to Tiangong Shopping District for dinner?" Ni Pian Zi asked Mei Di Ku as they just completed their extra curricular activities in Tiangong Senior High.

"Sure, Lele Diner Café?" Di Ku asked Pian Zi but it seems he had a different opinion.

"I heard the shopping street has a new store, we can try their food!" Pian Zi said excitedly when he placed his Er Hu, a chinese two stringed fiddle used in the chinese orchestras.

"Isn't that new store a dungeon supplier? What do you mean by you wish to eat there?" Di Ku questioned him while he kept his bamboo flute.

"Oh, you did not know? That dungeon supplier apparently provides food services if you purchase his dungeon. I personally went there to take a look but did not have enough cash with me at that point in time." Pian Zi remembered the aroma of the tonkatsu curry rice, it was simply unforgettable.

"Besides, you have yet to treat me after you won that top prize in that competition." Pian Zi was referring to an annual provincial musical competition which Di Ku participated. Only the top musicians regardless of categories were invited to join it.

Di Ku happened to be the youngest and brightest of all the participants and he clinched the top prize without much effort. Some said he could be next upcoming winning musician for the national competition.

"What is this about treating? Looks like I want in too." An elderly bespectacled man with small moustache came towards them while holding a thin file.

"Teacher Pu Ting! Ah, we were just casually talking about how Di Ku should treat us a meal at the new dungeon supplier store beside Tiangong Shopping Centre." Pian Zi included his chinese orchestra teacher, Pu Ting into the conversation.

"Oh! I think I did hear rumours of such a store. It was charging exorbitant prices for its dungeon but cultivators seem to keep going back to that store. As if there was some sort of hidden magic which pulls them in." Pu Ting remembered one of the teachers talking about it in the staff room.

"Well, all I want is to try the curry rice." Pian Zi shamelessly replied.

"Sir, do you wish to come with us? I will be honoured with your presence." Di Ku tone changed dramatically. Teacher Pu Ting was the reason why he managed to clinch the top prize. He was not any famous instructor in the field of Chinese orchestra but Pu Ting was able to find the flaws of Di Ku's music and kept on improving his skill.

Di Ku had the opportunity to work with various well-known instructors due to his family's influence but they could not come close to how meticulous and well thought Pu Ting's teachings were. Those shameless well-known instructors only wanted money and favour from his family.

"Well, this is a good time to test my cultivation as well as seeing Di Ku's style in battle. It had been a long time since I practised it." Pu Ting laughed heartily.

"Then Sir, you will be in for a surprise. Because I heard the store has a monster that plays the Zither." Pian Zi decided to sweeten the deal for the both of them so there would be a higher chance for both of them to tag along.

"For real?" Di Ku and Pu Ting had their eyes opened. They never encountered nor heard of such a monster. Pian Zi was right and decided to hook them in closer.

"Yeap, I saw it with my own eyes and believe me, even the dungeon was named after her. The Zither Mistress. Currently, no one managed to pass the dungeon yet."

"Now, this is interesting, I wonder if I will be able to have a proper music battle with Zither Mistress." Di Ku finally had something to look forward to. After the competition, he thought he could find stronger opponents and have a proper musical conversation with people who shared the same interest as him.

Instead, all he received was boot licking from them, hence the only thing to look forward to was Pu Ting's lessons at school. Of course, he did not expect much from a monster. It would just be interesting to see one just in action.

"Let's not waste time and let's go, this time I will treat you for sure. Teacher Pu Ting, you are not allowed to say no after all the help you had given me." Di Ku said with a large grin.

"Well then, let me drive you guys there. You two wait for me at the entrance of the school." Pu Ting was delighted to see his disciple genuinely smile after the provincial musical competition.

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Chapter 46 Boy with the Weasel

"Hmm Yun, are there any dungeons slightly easier for the customers? They are practically newbies that do not know how to fight at all." Jin was looking through the videos of his customers trying to get pass Normal Mode or Normal+ Mode. They were failing so badly that Jin spent more time sending his customers to the recovery bay than congratulating them.

"Most of the goblins kicked their asses so hard. It's starting to not get funny. I might lose customers in the long run even though I have incentives placed for them." Jin thought in his head while manning his store.

"But I heard some of them started to get the hang of it. There were a few cultivators that even managed to raise their rank to Grade 2 because of us." Yun replied to Jin as she read a book in the recovery bay.

"Maybe I am not asking the question in the right way. How about a dungeon that allows them to collect spirit force much more easily so they can proceed to the next dungeon with more confidence? Getting them to fight the sneaky goblins without any situational awareness or decent response time is courting death." Jin shook his head as he saw another cultivator lying flat at Station 2.

"Maybe a grade restriction to this new dungeon?" Jin tried to parley with Yun, hoping he would get something out of this vague discussion.

"All dungeons have their own grade restriction, and if you are too high of a level, your powers will be restricted. However, I get what you mean. You want something like an entry level dungeon so they are able to garner spirit force more than medals."

"Yes, exactly! If they could increase their cultivation, they might be inclined to believe this shop is helping them and with the incentives placed, they will always return for more. I do not disagree on the difficulty of goblins but the cultivators in our current modern society are...just too useless." Jin dragged the body up to the second floor for monitoring.

"You were useless if it was not for your granddad guiding you." Yun thought for a moment and asked Jin to check his mission app.

Mission: Kill 200 different looking zombies

Secondary mission: Kill all 200 zombies with the Panda Yawning technique.

Reward: Great Wall of China Dungeon Instance.

"Kill, not capture? And wow zombies, they seem to be the perfect entry dungeon monsters." Jin was surprised by the new conditions.

"Well the zombies were dead to begin with, the spirit force residing inside them is the only essence they contained or received through certain conditions. Conditions like necromancy or unnatural chi disaster. However, in the Zombie World, all who were killed or died due to natural conditions would become zombies. That is their law of the world. "

"Killing them releases the spirit force. The spirit force of a zombie is unique enough to have a certain spirit signature assigned. The phone automatically absorbs the spirit signature in order to 'capture' them. You can have fun killing them without any mercy." Yun gently smiled at Jin's hardworking demeanour despite his cultivation giving him a lazy look.

"Does that mean I could also just kill living ones and get their spirit signature?"

"I knew you would ask about that possibility. No, living beings have their spirit signature within their Dantian no matter which monster it is...well unless genetically modified but I digress."

"The spirit signature of every being is the most obvious when it is weakened or near death because the Dantian which provides core of the chi is depleted, leaving the spirit signature to be exposed for the phone to capture."

"That is also why you cannot really capture human souls because of the solidified dantian."

"I will do this mission either tonight or tomorrow morning. Looks like I have new customers coming in." Jin stopped his conversation with Yun to greet the new customers.

"Two high school kids...and their teacher?" He thought to himself when he saw the kids' uniform and they were being too formal with the elderly male for him to be their relative.

"Ah, this is indeed the store of the infamous dungeon supplier. Such extravagant equipment. May I humbly ask for your name?" Pu Ting bowed his head while he took his fur felt hat off.

"Name's Jin. What can I get for you guys?" Jin did not question much but Yun noticed a slight disturbance from the first floor and utilising the system's powers, she turned her book into a screen of one of the CCTV.

"Get me the Zither Mistress dungeon instance, three of them." Di Ku raised three fingers to reaffirm his choice towards Jin.

"Careful Jin, the elderly is not someone to be trifled with." Yun quietly sent her thoughts to Jin.

"Sir, might I add that this dungeon instance has a restriction on your grade. You will be forced down in grade. Do you wish to continue?" Jin realised what Yun meant and said it out loud.

Pu Ting gave a slight smirk. "For you to figure it out so easily, I guess I really need to improve on hiding my cultivation. Either that or...never mind. I understood Boss, give us the three instance tickets. My student is treating me hahaha!" It was obvious Pu Ting was trying to deflect something but Jin did not care much and accepted their orders.

They did the transaction routine all new customers went and Jin directed them to Station 5. "Hmm...A proper instructor?" Jin thought as he judged Pu Ting. Although he never had proper formal training, most of his learning came from the books that were passed down from his late grandfather Ming.

Ming knew that by rote learning, Jin would just be another cultivator following the books and he would not grow to his fullest potential. Hence, Ming did not interfere with Jin as he wanted him to learn through trial and error. He still gave certain advices which allowed Jin to accelerate his training and even combat lessons to increase his combat awareness.

Those life skills could not be taught but only through experience he would learn. That was how Jin managed to stay quick witted during missions. In addition, watching how people fight in the store also became a part of Jin's hobby too. He took notes with the help of the System and thought of ways trying to counter them or how he could win if he was in that situation. Therefore, Jin was naturally interested in the instructor's teachings and how his disciples react to the Zither Mistress dungeon instance.

Di Ku, Pian Zi and Pu Ting were teleported into the grassland and the first thing that came into their mind was an illustrious yet soothing medley from afar. There was a tinge of sorrow within the medley but all three of them recognised some well known music pieces within that medley too. Was it a coincidence? Di Ku would not know until he challenged the Zither Mistress.

Di Ku could not resist his urge any longer and took out a leather briefcase from his storage ring to retrieve his bamboo flute. "Pian Zi, thank you for bringing me here. I am starting to think, this is a meeting I have long been wanting."

As Di Ku placed his lips on the bamboo flute, two weasel silhouettes appeared above him. "Willful Weasel Style, Di Ku is getting serious." Pian Zi sweat a little as he knew how single minded Di Ku could be.

The two fire and ice wrym ants also appeared from the ground and Pu Ting signalled to Pian Zi to take care of them. "I will aid you if you need help, till then fight as hard as you can." Pu Ting smiled a little as he held his hands behind his back.

Chapter 47 A Thousand Scars

Pian Zi was not as talented in music as Di Ku nor was his cultivation towards a musically inclined style. Hence he did not take his Chinese fiddle out, instead, Pian Zi portrayed his Nettled Nautilus Style and reached out for a cutlass from his storage ring.

Since he knew that his teacher and Di Ku would be aiding him, Pian Zi decided to be reckless and immediately used a Cutlass Art, 'Scramble of the Nettled Nautilus'. The skill allowed him to gain a burst of high speed like a jetstream propelling the nautilus towards the ants.

The fire wurm ant stood no chance against him as Pian Zi cut off its legs before it even got the chance to react. Despite the haemolymph oozing out of its legs, it was able to overturn its body and shoot a blast of fire at Pian Zi after he went to a halt from his skill.

The burning incurred from the wurm fire ant was sufficient to inflict a large amount of damage on Pian Zi. Unlike Hong Deng Long, whose style was the Wobbling Wombat, Pian Zi did not have any resistance against elemental damage causing him to scream in pain. The Ice Wurm Ant took the opportunity to gather ice energy within its organs to shoot but an ethereal large weasel ambushed the ice wurm ant from its back and bit it hard.

The ice blast missed Pian Zi which allowed him to recover a little. "Thanks, Di Ku!" Di Ku was using his bamboo flute to summon and command an ethereal weasel to stop the attack of the wurm ant, allowing Pian Zi to throw his cutlass into the wurm ant's body. Pian Zi then gave a punch to its head, causing it to be knocked down.

He later plunged the cutlass further into the ice wurm ant and it was unable to move any further. When he turned to see the fire wurm ant, he saw his music teacher had one of his foot on top of the ant's body. The ant was already dead.

"Pian Zi, you have done enough. Let Di Ku handle the rest. Just wait for the battle to end, and you can eat your curry rice." Pu Ting beckoned Pian Zi to stand on the sidelines to see the entire battle unfold.

Customers who were chilling at the bar counter started to recognise that the trio who went into the dungeon made significant progress against the ants. They began to gather around Station 5 to watch a possible first dungeon clear.

A command was given again by Di Ku by blowing a single sound from his flute and the ethereal weasel started to zigzag around the grass fields to attack the Zither Mistress. Unfortunately, the Great White Snake slammed its tail on the ground causing the ethereal image of a weasel to disappear from the impact of the attack.

This time round, the Zither Mistress gave a short glance to Di Ku before she returned to playing her zither. Her medley changed to a heavier darker tone and Di Ku started to play a proper song instead of summoning an ethereal weasel again.

Somehow, the Great White Snake sensed that Zither Mistress would like to battle head to head with Di Ku so it retreated a little, giving some space for their duel.

The sound of warm spring that was carried through the wind at the start of the instance began to become sorrowful and Di Ku responded by starting his performance with a slow and mellow melody to complement with Zither Mistress's tune. However, the sorrow Di Ku felt from Zither Mistress was neither cold nor sad, it was just bittersweet.

Through the Chi of Music, both the spectators Pian Zi and Pu Ting could hear and feel the emotions of both musicians as if they were signifying the end of spring and the start of a separate season, the chorus of autumn.

As if the grasslands were alive, they reacted to the chi of the music battle and the surroundings slowly transformed. The sakura blossom tree withered completely, making it bare while flowers in the grass fields bloomed to colours of yellow and blue and even the winds were slightly chilly. The short transformation of the grassland was a sight to behold that even the customers at Station 5 who were enjoying the melody, were in awe with it.

As the music continued on, Di Ku decided to be more aggressive in his conversation with Zither Mistress as he would like to know her technical skills in playing. So he started to play a more serious and yet fuming tone. His Chi turned deadly and the intent to kill could be felt even by the snake.

The Zither Mistress noticed the abrupt change of music but continued her tune to paint a picture of regret as it became the one to follow up on Di Ku's advance.

Di Ku's flute play was forceful and he gave no quarters for Zither Mistress to rest as he reached to the climax of his song. However, he was very surprised a monster was able to sync with him despite not knowing the song he was playing. She was able to ad lib at her own pace without being pressured by his advances.

Pu Ting folded his arms and saw how calm Zither Mistress was during her play. If she really competed with Di Ku, there was a chance Di Ku might actually meet his match.

Di Ku became a little frustrated by how Zither Mistress transitioned so well into his song that he did become unstable in his techniques and began to play with his emotions instead. However, the emotions he started showing was repressed feelings of jealousy, anger, guilt and loneliness.

Those emotions were repressed by his family expectations, the desire for normalcy in life and the despise he had for people not as talented as him.

The chi resonance in his music turned erratic and even the grasslands reacted to it. Flowers withered immediately, the grass turned black and the soil started to stink. The ethereal weasel was also accidentally summoned and Di Ku's emotions in the chi corrupted it to be disobedient, threatening and combative. It immediately headed straight for the Zither Mistress.

Pian Zi was shocked. He has never seen Di Ku look so troubled and uncontrolled in his music career before and he looked at Pu Ting, hoping he might do something for Di Ku. Yet, Pu Ting stood there listening to the music intently.

The Great White Snake intercepted the ethereal weasel and both were locked in combat. The Zither Mistress immediately responded with a tune of her own when she heard Di Ku's music. Her emotions of

extreme pure loneliness leaked a little from her chi of music but it was mainly focused at her recipient. The flowers right beside her maintained its vibrance of autumn.

Upon hearing her reply, Di Ku was shaken. An image of her trying her very best to be included in the society, the need for survival for the sake of normalcy in life and her longing to have her legs back flooded his mind. Her emotion of loneliness was so strong that Di Ku could not bear the weight of her music.

He eventually fell to the ground on his knees feeling all cold and wanting to cry. The emotions eluded from her chi of music was strong enough to affect Di Ku mentally. At this moment, Pu Ting appeared and shot pure energy blast of chi towards Zither Mistress which caused a large explosion.

"We would like to forfeit this dungeon." Pu Ting shouted out loud and a confirmation message was read out by a lady announcer. "Yes, we are sure."

All three came back safely from Station 5 with customers facing them befuddled. Some were tearing while others felt miserable. "Looks like the Zither Mistress has a lot more experience in the manipulation of chi in her music than expected."

"Behind that face of her probably lies a thousand of scars which could be not heal with just time. However, I would feel bad that if we left the shop just like this. Let me play a song to calm the whole lot of you." Pu Ting took out his Gu Qin, a type of zither whose music is similar to a cello, from his storage ring.

He placed his Gu Qin at the bar counter and played a tune with chi infused in it which slowly calmed the customers and even boosted their chi generation, making them feeling energetic again.

"This guy is not a simple person." Jin closed his eyes to appreciate the music.

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Chapter 48 Coupon Bookle

"Here is your all day breakfast set. Anything else?" Shen Si Fang, the owner of Lele Diner Café presented Jin his usual order. Si Fang had requested earlier for Jin to have dinner with him at his place in the afternoon. Jin knew it was not some congratulatory dinner due to Si Fang's straightforward nature. He definitely had an agenda for inviting him to the café for dinner.

"Nope, thank you Boss Shen." Jin smiled and started to dig in into the meal while Boss Shen sat beside him with two other people. Judging from the looks of their attire and demeanour, they looked to be store owners as well.

"Firstly, let me congratulate you Jin for doing really well in your first few weeks of opening. The number of cultivators coming to your place started to make our shopping street a little livelier." Si Fang said with a lively look.

For the longest time since the pachinko fire, Tiangong Shopping District nearly went into deficit for a number of years and things finally started to pick up after Jin opened his shop. People who patronised Jin's shop would occasionally visit the shops in the shopping street and found out that there were actually hidden gems in the district, which made it worth coming to.

"I would like to introduce you to the committee members of this shopping district. This is Kan Ke Ru, the franchise store manager for Wacdonalds and Ji Lai Fu, the boss for the general goods store, Fresh Price." Shen Si Fang introduced them to Jin.

"Let's cut to the chase, we like to make you the honorary member of -" Ji Lai Fu started.

"Not interested. I am sorry, too much trouble." Jin interrupted Ji Lai Fu before he could continue. "If you are asking me to do stuff, I apologise but I am technically not under your shopping district."

"No no no. We are hoping that you could provide some erm...promotional awareness to our shopping district. All you have to do is provide customers with a discount coupon booklet so they know that there are discounts available to our shops." Kan Ke Ru explained, trying to defuse the sudden tense situation that Lai Fu inadvertently created.

"Why should I do that? I have nothing to gain." Jin sipped his soup.

"While you are not part of the Tiangong Shopping District, we are providing the same incentives by allowing you to place your dungeon instance tickets for sale in the discount coupon booklet. That way, you will be able to gather more customers too." Ke Ru tried her best to keep Jin in the conversation.

"I am sorry, I do not provide discounts for my tickets. My items on sale are of a reasonable price." All three shop owners wanted to puke blood. Reasonable pricing? More like extortion!

"How about this? For this month edition, I will put you in the front page too." Si Fang said to Jin in order to sweeten the pot.

"Please do consider for the sake of the shopping district. Else, this shopping street would not be able to survive." Lai Fu tried to amend his position after being shot down previously.

"Then I will buy the entire shopping street when it goes bankrupt," Jin said so casually, the three owners perpetually rolled their eyes up and hoped that the grim reaper would come to take their lives at this very instant. What kind of confidence does this dungeon supplier had? To begin with, if he had that much money, why would he even want to work when he could have just enjoyed his life.

Si Fang thought he was just bluffing and he tried another approach. "How about we provide you 0.5% commission of our profits for this month as a tryout."

"This is not what we discussed!" Both owners started to shout and it startled some of the customers in Si Fang's store. They immediately apologised and asked Si Fang to step aside for a while.

"Why are you placing so much faith in that little kid. He is too young to even know how business works!" Lai Fu snorted.

"But have you seen the influx of customers we started having? I mean look at Ke Ru. Even though Wacdonalds is an international brand in fast food, there were so little customers in the past. The profit

margins were considered the lowest in Shenzhen. How has your business been for the past two weeks, Ke Ru?" Si Fang queried.

"Nearly all the tables were taken. It was like a miracle!" Ke Ru mentioned.

"And from the look of things, I am willing to bet this guy is just going to get more famous." Si Fang's cunningness was obvious for all to see.

"I cannot fathom why you have so much confidence in that kid. Alright, say we are willing to compromise, what if he still does not?" Lai Fu's head started to hurt.

"We will raise the commission to about 1% and that is the most I can offer. If we are able to make it big, have more customers than before, we should have enough profit despite the discounts." Si Fang replied.

Unknowingly to them, Jin could actually hear the whole conversation due to his technique, Playful Panda Hearing, which allowed him to have acute hearing senses and situational awareness.

"If I get a commission from them, is it added into the store's coffers?" Jin asked Yun in his head.

"Well, if I were the System, the System will definitely say no because the System is fixed. But I am Yun. It's still money for a little give and take event. I see no reason why you could not do so. Besides, you said it yourself. You are eventually buying the whole shopping street."

"I meant that as a joke," Jin replied as he tasted the scrambled egg.

"Deep inside, a part of you isn't joking. I believe in that. Sooo..." The moment Yun stopped talking, his phone vibrated in his pants.

As he took it out, there was a notification from the mission app stating that a new mission started. "That means I have three ongoing missions." Jin sighed a little and opened it up.

Mission: Scam the Tiangong shopping committee and do a makeover of the coupon booklet such that it benefits you more than them.

Secondary Mission Objectives: Get a commission of more than 1%. The higher, the better the reward will be.

Reward: Unknown, to be rated by secondary mission objective.

"This Yun. I can visualise her sticking her tongue out at me right now." Jin laughed a little and started to think how he could complete the mission. To be fairly honest, he was actually having fun disturbing them the entire time before they stepped aside to discuss.

"Time for round 2." Jin wiped his mouth with a napkin.

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Chapter 49 Half or Nothing

The three committee members finally returned to the table Jin was sitting at and they restarted the conversation again.

"Okay, we have decided to give you 1% of the commission for the month if you decide to join our coupon booklet. However, this is a one time offer. It would not happen for the subsequent months if you continue to join our coupon booklet." Si Fang came strong in his stance.

"Half of the commission or nothing." Jin yawned as he talked to them.

"This conversation is over. There is no use talking to a lad who refuses to listen." Lai Fu immediately stood up.

"There is no use talking to an old man if he does not change his ways. Thank you for giving up your shop to me in the future." Jin placed his hand on his chin.

"Why you little..." Lai Fu immediately portrayed his cultivation in front of him. Four Great Shark silhouette appeared above him. Lai Fu cultivated in the Shimmery Shark Style and he wanted to give Jin a smack. Ke Ru and Si Fang were not able to stop him. They were of a lower grade than him and knew it was of no use talking sense when he was angry.

"You want a fight to settle this?" Jin's eyes narrowed and he portrayed three pandas silhouette rolling around him.

"You are just a Grade 3, why should I be afraid of you?" Lai Fu snorted.

"Grade 4 does not mean much to me at all." Jin stood up and walked out of the Diner café. "Are you coming for the duel?"

Se Lang, the cultivator of the Wacky Wolf Style coincidentally saw Boss Jin portraying his cultivation as he was patrolling the shopping street. "Boss Jin, what is happening? Why are you showing your cultivation out in the open?"

"Ah, great timing Se Lang, you mind witnessing a duel between us?" Jin waved his hand as he beckoned the policeman on duty to be the judge of the duel.

"If you insist." Se Lang did not know what was happening but duels happened fairly regularly so he did not mind.

"Conditions of victory?" Jin asked Lai Fu but he replied by snorting again as he folded his arms.

"One, kowtow and kiss my feet. Two, distribute the coupon booklet for the next six months without your participation in the booklet." Lai Fu demanded.

"Accepted, mine is quite simple. 100% commission from the entire shopping district for one week. Allow me to redo the entire coupon booklet and I will distribute it as well. Lastly, come to my store for training with an instructor for an hour a week for a month. Of course, you have to pay for it.

However, let me sweeten the deal. If I lose, I will give 100% of my commission to you for six months."

"Simple my ass." Si Fang, Ke Ru and Se Lang all had cold sweat upon hearing Jin's demands.

"I agree because I am going to kick you so hard, you won't see it coming." Lai Fu laughed loudly.

"I could say the same to you." Jin yawned again as he scratched his head.

"I presume that both parties have accepted the terms of this duel and it had been recorded down by me as an official witness of this duel. I, Police Sergeant of Tiangong Police Station, Se Lang now permit this duel for 10 minutes. First to get unconscious lose." Se Lang announced and asked people to clear the street for a while.

"Ready? Start!" Se Lang shouted.

Lai Fu took out his two handed sword from his storage ring and the uncle with a beer belly disappeared into thin air. It took a moment for Jin to realise that the cultivation aura of the Shimmery Shark was coming from above. He looked up and Jin could see Lai Fu diving straight at him.

"Two Handed Sword Art! 'The Nasty Appetite of the Shimmery Shark!" Lai Fu shouted as his sword dive was immediately enhanced by a silhouette of the shark's mouth at the tip of the sword.

"Eat this!" The shark mouth grew so big that even if Jin tried to run, he would still be caught in it.

"Panda Yaw---" As the sword came closer, a large energy beam of chi was shot out continuously from Jin's mouth towards Lai Fu.

"What?!" Lai Fu saw the incoming beam but he could not dodge in time. Hence, he decided to fight fire with fire so he poured more chi into his Nasty Appetite of the Shimmery Shark. The Shark silhouette came into contact against the continuous chi beam which made it look as if the shark was swallowing the beam attack.

Being a Grade 4, Lai Fu heavily focused his chi downwards as he struggled badly against the chi beam. "Is he not supposed to be just 23 years old? Why would he have such a unique technique of chi? Also, his chi quantity is definitely more than average! A Grade 3 could not have sustained such a long duration chi beam!" Lai Fu complained in his thoughts.

After a few more seconds, the beam did stop and Lai Fu placed his remaining chi into the sword dive. "I bet he would be too tired to dodge! His commission will be mine!" Lai Fu sniggled a little as his sword slammed into the ground, creating a crater impact in the middle of the shopping street.

As he waited for the dust from the sword dive to settle down. He picked up his great sword to check for any blood on it. "Wait a minute...this smell on my sword...is actually ketchup sauce!"

He quickly swung his sword around to dissipate the dust and saw Jin giving the ketchup bottle back to Si Fang. Jin thanked Si Fang but little did he know Lai Fu wanted to cleave both him and Si Fang together.

"Sorry Brother Si Fang!" Lai Fu swung his sword but suddenly a large impact of an air explosion appeared in front of him. The impact made him fly towards his general store, the Fresh Price and damaged some of the goods being sold outside of the shop.

His workers immediately tried to pull him out of the mess he made in front of his store. "All of these goods! You are going to pay for it!" Lai Fu shouted.

"Oh, you want another go?" Jin cracked his knuckles and playfully invited him to come over.

"Wow, is that Boss Jin? Why is he fighting with Boss Ji?" The onlookers started to gather and query.

"I heard Boss Ji was not happy with Boss Jin whose store had been swarming with customers! They even made a bet against each other's earnings!"

"I thought Boss Ji is a Grade 4 cultivator? Why is he losing to Boss Jin?"

"Hah! I believed Boss Jin is a genuine Grade 3 Peak cultivator! Compared to Boss Ji, who only knows how to eat, drink and collect money. His Grade 4 was probably earned through eating good food with spiritual force in them. He clearly did not train like how Boss Jin did."

"Ya! If not how could Boss Jin be able to bring us such difficult dungeons that creates so much excitement and the rush of adrenaline whenever we participate in it?"

The small talk started to annoy Lai Fu and he shouted loudly, "Shut up!" In response, Jin placed his index finger to his lips and hand signalled the crowd to keep quiet. The crowd quietly grinned at Jin's antics but it only made Lai Fu even more angry.

He was so angry that he started to gather whatever chi energy reserves he had left in his body to defeat Jin. He figured that Jin was pretending to be strong after the attack as Lai Fu saw Jin started to shiver a little.

In the previous contact with Lai Fu, Jin casually used his Lazy Panda Swipe without any chi infused in it. Hence, Jin was trying to contain the chi damage he received from Lai Fu. The grade difference does play a part in the power inequality but Jin realised Lai Fu was probably going to give it his all.

"His Chi is strong but does not have much quantity due to the lack of training. I have yet to infuse chi into my arm properly, so I should have a chance of defeating him." Jin suddenly thought a trick which might be able to turn the tide of the whole battle in the next attack.

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Chapter 50 The Grandma

Seeing how Lai Fu was ready to attack at any second. Jin quickly infused both his hands with chi. During that time, he consulted Yun with a few queries, which she answered promptly.

"Kid, what are you distracted with?" Lai Fu shouted and charged towards him. "Two Handed Sword Art! 'Shimmering Shark Dive!'" While looked like a straightforward sword stab with the chi silhouette of a shark covering his entire sword, the skill actually had the capability to turn at any angle to respond to any sudden quick movements.

"Let's see how the kid manages to dodge or halt this attack!" Lai Fu thought that this was the end of Jin as well as the many rewards he was about to reap. Not many were able to stop 'Shimmery Shark Dive' in the past and it even earned him a reputation as the Great Ji in the shopping district.

"Swipe." Similar to how one would throw a frisbee, Jin hurled his phone towards Lai Fu while utilising a chi infused Lazy Panda Swipe. The phone was thrown with such force, that it sped towards Lai Fu. Meanwhile, Lai Fu snorted at the futility of a projectile attack.

"It's just a phone, my charge will divert it." Lai Fu continued to sprint towards Jin. However, what he did not expect was the phone to entirely miss his chi shark silhouette that was encompassing his sword and pass through it to reach his forehead.

At that moment, a large thud was heard, causing his charge to be interrupted by the handphone throw. At that particular moment, he did not notice a miniature hand with a staff emerge out of the phone temporarily and all of a sudden, a large fiery explosion occurred, enveloping Lai Fu in it.

"Oh my god! Did the phone just explode?!" The onlookers were appalled.

"Could Boss Jin still be carrying the Zamzung Notephone 7? The phone that could explode from overcharging?" The onlookers whispered to one another.

"You mean Boss Jin purposely infused it with chi to ignite the battery? That is overbearing!"

Meanwhile, Jin strolled towards Lai Fu and the look on Lai Fu's face was quite pathetic. "I will finish this." Just as Jin was about to use his chi infused Lazy Panda Swipe, a large spiritual pressure descended upon the whole area. No one, including Jin was not able to move... Except for one person.

One old lady walked towards them, aided by her stick with her cultivation portrayed out in the open. It was no simple creature that was being portrayed. In fact, it was a griffin and she was able to show thirteen griffins proudly flying above her.

Si Fang saw who it was and went to his knees. "The Gleaming Griffin Style! It's Grandma Yuan!" The store owners in Tiangong Shopping District knew who Grandma Yuan was. She was one of the last guardians of a traditional practice where each district appointed a guardian of their own choosing to protect themselves from enemies during the world wars, gangsters or even monster attacks.

Unfortunately, the tradition died out when the security of every district was governed by the modern government. Most of the districts did not have a guardian anymore, and if they did, it was just a role without any status nor power. However, Grandma Yuan had been protecting the Tiangong District for the longest time ever. Some even said she was around during World War Two.

"Stop this nonsense at once." Grandma Yuan spoke in a very stern voice and she lightened the spiritual pressure.

"If two owners from the same street fight, this will only incur more hatred. Who will suffer? The street suffers. The customers suffer and ultimately the name of Tiangong suffers yet again. Do you wish to have a repeat of the pachinko fire incident? I will not allow this." Grandma Yuan stomped her walking stick and everyone suddenly trembled a little.

"Ah, I heard of the guardian of Tiangong District but I did not know that she really exists." Jin bitterly smiled at the change of events.

"What are you two fighting for?" Grandma Yuan walked slowly towards them and saw Lai Fu lying on the ground. She placed her stick on Lai Fu's face and prodded him a little.

"You have not changed ever since you started your business here." Grandma Yuan sighed a little.

She then narrowed her eyes at Jin with doubtful intent. "And the young and eager one could not help but flaunt his skills."

"Si Fang, get me the all-day breakfast set, less salt and a large serving of your mushroom soup. We will discuss this." Grandma Yuan said in a calm manner and slowly walked into the Lele Diner Café. Si Fang immediately nodded his head and quickly went into the café to prepare as he asked his servers to clear a table for them.

"Okay everyone, the duel has been forfeited. Please disperse." Se Lang signalled the onlookers to get on with their lives.

"So, Lai Fu care to explain?" Grandma Yuan gave a gentle puff before she drank the soup.

"Let me, Grandma Yuan." Ke Ru explained in full detail what had transpired and finally, Grandma Yuan looked at Jin.

"You want to remodel the whole coupon booklet and have a 100% commission for a week? That I understand that it is to your advantage, but why make Lai Fu have training with your AI instructor?"

"Because I am a dungeon supplier. It is my job to aid the cultivation of others. From a glance, I can see Lai Fu's cultivation stagnated at Grade 4. Due to what reason I do not know. However, I understand one thing. Whoever tries my dungeon can cultivate further."

"What rubbish, you just want to earn more money from me. I am not stupid." Lai Fu snapped back but Grandma Yuan pulled his ear and he kept quiet.

"Fine, assuming you win the bet and you can remodel the booklet. How will you do it to attract more people?" Grandma Yuan asked Jin as Si Fang brought her all-day breakfast set to her.

"I can explain, but it will take a while if you do not know how my shop works." Jin said with confidence.

"You only have until I finish this breakfast set." Grandma Yuan started to dig in.

Jin explained that each coupon would have a chance at a lucky draw in Jin's shop to win either Bronze Panda Medals or panda credits. The cultivators could use them for food from Jin's food services or getting equipment from his underground stores. He would not be providing any other discounts as he emphasised that his prices were reasonable.

The excuse he gave for 100% commission for the first week was to cover losses if he joined the coupon booklet. After which, he would not ask for anything more.

"Besides, I am not a part of the Tiangong Shopping District and I do not share the benefits of an owner in a shopping district like all of you. I need some proper commission to cover myself if I were to join the coupon booklet."

"Then that settles it. Do not join the coupon booklet." Grandma Yuan threatened.

"Sure, I will get back to opening my store for the evening." Jin yawned a little and stood up to leave the shop.

"Wait!" Lai Fu shouted and Jin looked back.

"Are you sure you can push my cultivation to Grade 5?" Lai Fu questioned seriously.

"Give me a week or two. I should be able to get a dungeon instance up that might be able to help you." Jin replied.

"Then Grandma Yuan, I sincerely apologise for going against your wishes. I will bet on Jin's method for the coupon booklet and the 100% commission for a week since Brother Si Fang also has faith in him." Lai Fu bowed his head in front of Grandma Yuan for forgiveness.

Grandma Yuan smiled a little and looked at Jin. "Do not disappoint Tiangong Shopping District, or I will come after you."

Jin nodded his head in respect and left the store.

"Mission complete, Jin. Guess it all went well." Yun was sipping her black ivory coffee when Jin entered the store from the side door.