

Dungeon S 481

Chapter 481 Enlightenment in Cultivation

Chen Xun was muffling his giggling with his hand after he saw De Tian being rejected like a guy earnestly confessing his love. The Ruby Rat Triad Boss found himself ashamed that his challenge was so easily denied, but then he noticed something.

Why the hell was he even doing something as stupid as to ask for a duel? Was it because it's an honourable thing to do right in front of his Ruby Rat lackeys? Or was he scared of the laws? God damn it! Wasn't he a Triad Boss? Why did he suddenly become so timid because of the change of circumstances?

Shouldn't this case be the most ideal? Instead of fighting against District Guardian Yuan who was around two to three grades above him, De Tian was given a heaven sent gift. A little young panda who was acting all haughty just because he had the cash to buy over the land.

"Not only is he the new owner of Tiangong Shopping District, but he also has the financial backing... probably by his parents? Ah, who cares. I should just kill him and later demand money from whoever is backing him. Yes...That's right. He does not want to fight with me because that brat knows he can't win!" De Tian began to snigger and subsequently started laughing out loud, which made Jin feel that Triad Boss had to be sick in the head. Even the Ruby Rat lackeys were wondering if their boss had gone insane.

"Kill him, extort an exorbitant amount of ransom from his parents to retrieve back his dantian! Or relatives or whoever is backing him! No, wait! I should get the ransom and the deed to this land as well! Heck why stop there, might as well demand a pardon in case the authorities really make things hard! Killing three birds with one stone. Oh, Jin you are my golden goose... before I cut you open!" De Tian was laughing so hysterically that his chi burst out and suddenly his cultivation was revealed right in front of everyone.

Ten silhouettes of reddish furred rats running above him in a circle and suddenly another rat jumped out of the ring. His aura got even more stifling, and every remaining Ruby Rat lackey had to display their cultivation in order to survive this suffocating aura that was being emitted.

"He had a sudden enlightenment and thus an increase in grade?!" Mu Bing could not believe his eyes that De Tian managed to attain a Grade 11 in such circumstances, displaying his might to everyone.

In the meantime, the three policemen saw all this happening from a distant apartment which they managed to use with the occupant's permission. Gupta was the spotter while Ren Wei was preparing his sniper rifle. Abdul had asked the family to move to their neighbour's house temporarily.

While a little untrusting, the father had decided to stay behind and promised not to interfere in anything. He just wanted to make sure that they were indeed police. (and also hoped to see them in action.)

As the policemen did not have any warrant to enter their house, they could only be grateful that they had gotten access to his home. It was not ideal to work where there are civilians around, but regrettably, this was as good as they could achieve without any roof access and this particular apartment had the best vantage point according to both Gupta and Ren Wei.

"You may stay, but I will have to confiscate your phone for a while to avoid you from filming us, sir," Abdul demanded politely and the owner of the household grudgingly passed it to them. "Thank you, Sir."

"How is the situation?" Abdul asked, and Gupta shook his head.

"Not good at all. We haven't exactly expected so many Triad Bosses to be here. Worse still, De Tian had surprisingly broken through to Grade 11. Even with Ren Wei's at Grade 6 Peak, the additional offensive inscription we can pack in a bullet will at most only hurt him." Gupta lent Abdul his spotter binocular.

"That is why we will only snipe when the opportunity comes or when Jin needs help. At most, we may have two shots against them. The first will be a surprise, and the second bullet is the one that matters. But let's hope we don't have to use any." Ren Wei concluded as he was startled when watching the events. Jin appeared to be in some negotiations before De Tian revealed his cultivation.

"Whew, that is a lot of rats. And they aren't alone. The Triads are serious in attacking Jin and man, I really applaud the dungeon supplier to have guts. I did not expect him to face all of them by himself." Abdul praised as he saw the situation was getting tense.

"Heh, that is why his dungeons are always that realistic. Jin must have gotten through a lot in life to be standing alone so fearlessly despite at such a young age. From the looks of it, I believe he is still hiding a few trump cards against those Bosses." Ren Wei replied as he was taking out a worn hard covered suitcase with scratches from his storage ring.

"Let's hope it's not ignorance.:" Abdul returned the spotting scope to his friend.

"Want to make a bet that Jin does not need our help at all?" Gupta suggested, and only Abdul was interested. Ren Wei decided against it as he knew this was not a laughing matter.

"Abdul, report the situation to Captain Mao and the detectives through the radio. Study this building's structure as well in case we need to make a quick getaway with minimum disruption to the public." Ren Wei ordered as he borrowed the coffee table and a few pieces of the sofa furniture so that he could position his sniper rifle (which he ironically bought and customised at Jin's store)

The only difference was that he had acquired the live bullets from Tiangong police station with a bit of help from his buddies instead of Jin's store. The owner of the house was a bit shocked, and Gupta assured him that he would be compensated for any damage to his furniture.

"Ehh grats on the jump in cultivation?" Jin bitterly realised that all the effort he made to avoid conflict appeared to be for nought if De Tian chooses to enter into a confrontation without any regard for the law.

"Not all futile, User. If the Ruby Rat Triad Boss decides to attack you on your grounds, you not only have the right to kill him legally, there will be no additional repercussions to you. The Royal Zodiac Rat Clan won't be able to use that to execute you since he had personally initiated the fight against you, especially after you have informed him of the situation." The System reiterated.

"I give you credit that you are not even a bit afraid of me. I am not sure whether you are foolishly brave or merely ignorant about the fact that you have no way to get out of this alive!" De Tian said as he pulled out his personal weapon, a war club similar to Xiong Da, but it seemed to be glowing with various inscriptions infused into it.

"Is there any way to detect what inscriptions he's using?" Jin asked the System as he lifted his Panda Head Staff and aimed it directly at his opponent. De Tian nearly laughed at how ridiculously cute Jin's weapon was but recalled that half of his Ruby Rats were decimated by it.

"Negative. As De Tian is not within the store, a thorough analysis is not possible." The System stated, and Jin wanted to curse how useless it was outside of the store.

"However, a superficial level of analysis is possible. There are at least three inscriptions according to your Pandaromic Eyes. System had already eliminated and narrowed the possible inscriptions Ruby Rat Triad Boss is using."

"That is more like it." Jin briefly looked at the list via his Pandaromic Eyes and prepared to insert Maqi into the staff as he saw De Tian kept releasing his chi aura, trying to intimate Jin while dragging his warclub at him.

"All our plans won't matter if I can't get out of this alive...Honestly, what are the odds of winning this guy? " Jin asked as he prepared to get Zeru out for help. Luckily, the ability to teleport his bellators wasn't hindered outside the store.

"With your current grade? Roughly 30% survival rate. However, following your true awakening, User has access to the Astral Panda forms." The System finally had the perfect opportunity to reveal Jin's hidden Trump card .

"By combining your Astral Panda forms with them, you can temporarily borrow powers from Zeru, Milk and Peppers. Proper and opportune usage of the Astral Panda Bellator forms should increase your chance of survival up to 75%." System clarified and Jin nearly opened his jaw wide open right in front of De Tian. Instead, he quickly pretended to yawn a little. He did not expect such a feature being available with the bellators.

"Why you brat...underestimating me through and through!" De Tian was pissed looking at Jin yawn and decided not to hesitate anymore and rushed towards him. He dispelled his aura to be able to use it in his attacks, which gave most of his still living Ruby Rats a breather. (With his increased Grade, some more fell victim to pressure and died from the suffocation of the intense chi.)

As the war club smashed to the ground, Jin managed to dodge backwards in time, but he did not expect an aftershock from the attack. Thus, causing him to be knocked back by the impact force. Fortunately, he used his Panda Head Staff to summon a wind barrier as well as infusing his body with an Astral Panda with the powers of Green Panda Wind to balance himself.

However, that was not the end, Jin also riled the surrounding dust and debris on the floor from the impact and created a temporary smokescreen to confuse his opponent so he could talk to the System for a while longer. "So, you mean I can sorta become Zeru, Peppers or even Milk?!" Jin asked, and the System clarified that Jin had the potential to inherit their abilities for 8 seconds.

"For that 8 seconds, User can possess the powers of your bellators without any potential strenuous setback to your body. You will have access to the full extent of their abilities that have been unlocked according to your grade. Do note that the training that you had with Zeru was an exception. Because he needed to teach you, System had boosted his powers to several grades higher than User's current grade." The System stated as Jin found himself defending another blow from De Tian though the smokescreen did buy him a few precious seconds.

"Not so tough, eh?" De Tian spat at the dungeon supplier, but Jin did not give De Tian another glance.

"I do not need to be tough. I just need to be fast." Jin said out loud as he commanded the System to provide him with the powers of Zeru through his thoughts. Suddenly, Jin could feel another soul coming into his body, and he felt an immense amount of strength coursing through him.

The System's artificial infusion of Astral Panda form and Bellator Zeru immediately streamed through Jin, and the dungeon supplier smirked as he transformed his Panda Head Staff into a two handed Odachi.

He placed the two handed sword behind his back while he spewed out a Panda Yawning to distract De Tian for a moment. Within those three seconds, he felt a burst of strength through his stomach as he could feel every fibre of his muscle turning the Odachi and making one quick stroke with that massive thin blade.

"Snip, and the petal of the lotus falls," Jin whispered as his blade had cleanly gone through the innards of De Tian while the Triad Boss was attempting to swing his war club upwards in order to perform one of his War Club Epic Arts.

In De Tian's perspective, he already predicted such the beam technique from his mouth but did not realise it was that weak when he purposely received the damage to intimidate him. However, he did not know because of that split second distraction due to his pride, De Tian was bound to lose his life.

For that few seconds, Jin was enlightened on how Zeru's technique worked. The technique was so ...stingy in its movement, making the strike as clean as a perfectly polished granite which allowed one to see their reflection through it.

"I hope that brief movement was able to provide some insight into the ways of my sword," Zeru said via the System channel and Jin nodded his head as he saw half of De Tian slowly descend to the ground while the other half was left standing, spurting blood from the rest of his blood veins.

"Yes, it did, Master. I shall learn to do it myself in the future." Jin promised as he went to De Tian's lower body and grab the solid dantian with the aid of his Pandaromic Eyes.

Chapter 482 Triad Boss of the Prosperous Pig

The other three Triad Bosses and the Ruby Rats lackeys in the vicinity saw how Jin cleanly bisected the notorious De Tian. Even as Jin came over to pick up the solidified dantian from the lower half of the

body, the upper half of De Tian was still barely conscious and could not believe that the dungeon supplier annihilated him within seconds of his first counterattack.

"Anyone of you three also wants to come at me? I've offered all of you a peaceful solution by purchasing the land here. Yet, the Ruby Rat Boss came and attacked me on his own volition, did he not?" Jin asked with a forceful tone.

He now had the upper hand in negotiations.

The three other Triad Bosses were scared as they regarded this as a threat. If Jin could easily wipe out De Tian with a single stroke, that meant Jin was stronger than a Grade 11! "No wonder, Tiangong District Guardian Yuan was willing to part this small shopping district for this dungeon supplier." Mu Bing, the Triad Boss for the Prosperous Pigs as well as the most experienced one among the three of them concluded.

"So, you also think we should make him an ally by sucking our pride up rather than make him our enemy?" Tang Wei asked as he suddenly saw an opportunity that could be struck.

"Well, we three haven't done anything to him. Up until now, all our boys did was stand around. And at the end of the day, we are still the Triad Bosses of our Royal Zodiac Clans despite Chen Xun being the youngest and inexperienced one here." Mu Bing replied, and Chen Xun realised what was going on.

"Just because I haven't received my official initiation ceremony, doesn't mean I am not taking up the duties of the previous Boss of Deranged Dogs." Chen Xun commented, and Mu Bing had decided to say out what they were all thinking.

"So? What are you waiting for? Send away your own goons along with the Ruby Rats. I have had enough for the day." Jin ordered as he lifted his sword and placed it on his shoulders since it was rather heavy to bear, holding it with just one hand. But instead of moving away, the Triad Bosses were having an internal discussion among themselves before Mu Bing decided to personally enter the fray.

Jin held his Odachi steady and the small portion of the Ruby Rats as well as the rest of the other gang's goons who were already over the shock of the sudden death of Ruby Rat's Boss, immediately went forward to protect Mu Bing. After all, Mu Bing was one of the oldest Triad Boss among the various clans and had sufficient influence despite his lack of cultivation.

Yet, instead of fighting, Mu Bing raised his hands up from afar and asked Jin for a truce to restart the negotiation instead. "We have a new proposition that we wish to discuss."

"I do not see much of a proposition here. What I see is a lot of chaos, made by the leftover garbage still protecting you." Jin pointed out as he held onto his sword.

"Forgive them. They are just doing this because of my identity. After you took care of their boss, their line of command is disrupted. It is pretty much protocol to conform and listen to the highest ranking and most experienced ally in such a situation." Mu Bing explained as he asked all the surrounding lackeys to stand down.

The Ruby Rats obeyed and opened a passage for him to go through. Jin, on the other hand, refused to relax and instead stuck his odachi on the ground so he could pick it up at any moment of notice for another fight.

"Hmm, Jin. Is it? I am very curious. You really aren't easy to read. You pretended to be weak, but in fact you yourself managed to defeat a Grade 11 with your own hands so effortlessly while not even revealing your cultivation to us. And yet here you are still wary of us as if we might have the upper hand. Will it help you relax if I tell you that De Tian, was the most powerful out of all of us?" Mu Bing remarked, but Jin continued to have his guard up.

"I see. You are indeed an experienced fighter. I know that a Dungeon Supplier has to experience a lot, to make a dungeon appear real. I heard rumours about you providing very realistic dungeons to the point of them being called lifelike. I daresay I no longer doubt your capabilities after witnessing today's brief...encounter." Mu Bing continued.

"There is no need for any flowery language. If you wish to negotiate, do it fast. Or else get the hell out. Other people still need to clean this place up, and I'm now forced to be the one to give out these statements which are a waste of my time when I could be attending to my business instead." Jin felt like they were buying time unlike De Tian who was straight to the point.

"Not to mention there is a need to renovate this place considering how much thrashing your Ruby Rats gave. By the way, you can all expect a large invoice for all the damages caused." Jin grumbled right in front of Mu Bing who he laughed.

"I see, I see. You are a businessman through and through. I am sorry to have wasted your time. As you may already know, we were indeed planning to build an entertainment venue. A Grand Casino. I was wondering if you would let us do that?" Mu Bing proposed. Jin did not even need to consider it, he just shook his head in disagreement.

"You have yet to hear me out. I guarantee you that the profit would be more than substantial. You might even get your land's purchase worth within a month or two. We could even sweeten the deal and provide you with some manpower for the renovation of this place."

"Not interested one bit. If I wanted to build a casino, I could just create one within my dungeon instance, and it would definitely be more interesting than whatever you might have planned." Jin said and Ku Wai who left by the side suddenly chimed in.

"I can vouch for it. His instances are out of this world. The current state of entertainment will be considered crap if you compare it to his." Ku Wai said, and Jin smiled at his compliment.

"Maybe that's why the Tiger Princess wished to keep this place alive. To send the Three Eyed Tigers to protect you is no ordinary feat I tell you." Mu Bing replied as he noticed the Three Eyed Tigers gangsters suddenly bow near an alley behind Jin.

"Exactly. That is why any further negotiations about this land will be invalid. If I am not wrong, I believe I know what you are going to talk about next. Too bad for you, I am going to issue his disagreement to you instead." A bespectacled male, seemingly in his mid thirties walked in, wearing a smart casual outfit, unlike the other Triad Bosses.

"Boss Ya Bai, it's rare enough to see you in joint meetings and even rarer to see out in the open. If you are willing to come out of your den, then Jin must be a big deal." Mu Bing commented as he nodded to acknowledge the Three Eyed Tiger Triad Boss's presence. Ku Wai even bowed similarly along with the lackeys he commanded right in front of him.

"Jin, what this old pig was going to propose was to make them your go to partner as a dungeon supplier. They will then strike a deal with you since you just killed the boss of the Triad's main dungeon supplier for Shenzhen." Ya Bai explained, and Mu Bing sighed and nodded his head in agreement.

"In return, King's Monster will cease its operations, assets will be liquefied for you to use. Alternatively, you can expand over King Monster's current assets and take them under your control. You will effectively be the biggest dungeon supplier in Shenzhen with the Triad's backing. In return, they have access to your dungeons at a low to no cost for training." Ya Bai added, and he could see Jin's reluctance or annoyance to that particular matter.

"They will, of course, assist in paying the operating costs and then some. Do note it is not just their triads, but the entire twelve triads who will benefit."

"And since there are three Triad bosses here, with me as one of the senior bosses, we can also crown you the new Ruby Rat Triad Boss and the Ruby Rats here would have no choice but to follow you. Should you want to kill them all because of the crimes they have committed, you are allowed to do so at no consequences." Mu Bing offered more in front of Ya Bai and Jin.

"What if I said no? Seeing how you are still the Boss, I would probably still be bound by all these Triad rules. Also, I assume that would somehow make me a subordinate of the Royal Zodiac Rats, wouldn't it? I'd prefer being my own Boss." Jin asked, and Ya Bai nodded.

The older man also figured Jin would go that route.

"Technically speaking, they will not be able to harm you in your own little territory should you refuse. But the moment you leave this strip of shopping space, be prepared to be killed anytime, anywhere. You don't need me to tell you how the Triads have their own laws." Ya Bai commented, and Jin shook his head.

"Is this how you coerced other people to join your cause? Either serve or die by the swords and guns of our Triads because you spewed our blood?" Jin shouted as he reminded them again that he was not the first to attack.

"That is why I am here to give you another alternative, Jin." Ya Bai took out a tiger emblem and showed it to everyone. "Should you accept this, you will become an honorary member of the Royal Zodiac Tiger Clan. If anyone harms you, they will suffer the wrath of the Royal Zodiac Tiger family themselves." Ya Bai shouted out loud and clear for everyone, including Chen Xun and Tang Wei who were at the back.

The Triad Bosses were shocked to hear that. Honorary members were indeed treated as part of the royal family by the clan themselves. They had proven themselves by accomplishing an invaluable service to the family. The number of honorary members of each clan, could be counted on one's hand.

"No strings attached at all. No answering to anyone in the clans. This is the Tiger Lord's way of repaying his debt to you, it seems." Ya Bai announced, which reminded Jin about the favour for saving the Royal Zodiac Tiger's Head, Hu Yuan Ba from the Banned Emperor's assassination.

"Needless to say, the Princess played quite a huge role in this... including throwing a huge tantrum at Yuan Ba. It's been a long time since I saw the Tiger Head being so powerless against his daughter. Definitely worth it to come out." Ya Bai whispered to Jin.

"I see... I see..." Mu Bing was obviously disappointed that the revenge of the Triad's was circumvented by this abrupt change of circumstances. Yet, he was not entirely saddened by the whole situation. "If that is the case, I will return as a businessman to you, Dungeon Supplier Jin. Please keep in mind that the only ones who attacked you were the Ruby Rats."

"Mmm. If you are truly talking about business, then yes, I will not mind entertaining you." Jin nodded, and Mu Bing finally saw a silver lining through this incident.

"Looks like you do not bear grudges like the Triads. That is a very promising trait."

"Gains and losses are part and parcel of a businessman. What you lose today might very well be an opportunity to gain so much more." Jin replied, and Mu Bing bowed a little before commanding the Prosperous Pigs and the rest of the Ruby Rats to disperse before they were caught by the police.

Chen Xun informed the Deranged Dogs to get ready to leave as well. Tang Wei, however, had to ask Ku Wai to let go of his Raunchy Roosters, who had been ruffed up by the Tigers.

"Well said. The next time we meet shall be on another kind of battlefield." Mu Bing nodded in agreement and Jin bid him farewell.

"You sure about that? You know that we are Triads for a reason." Chen Xun asked Mu Bing, who was returning to the car.

"All the more we have to be honourable. And trust me. He might not look like it, but Jin is greedier than De Tian. Both in ambition and in character." Mu Bing smiled at himself as he asked Chen Xun to get Tang Wei and him out of the area.

While it was pleasing to know that the whole Triad business was somehow solved, there was another thing that bothered Jin.

The current state of Tiangong Shopping District.

Chapter 483 Four Clawed Scorpion

It became a whole new landscape after Lynn and Qiu Yue managed to navigate their way out of the enormous cathedral and into the outside world. "What do you think that is? An abandoned village? A town maybe?" Qiu Yue queried as she saw how nature had taken over the entire place.

"Might even be an abandoned city. Who knows? You saw how big the cathedral was from inside. Usually, you can judge a place based on their religious infrastructures." Lynn answered. She parked her vehicle near the giant building, after making sure it was safe and went up to the roof to scout. (Thankfully, she had yet to see any giants that were as large as the houses themselves.)

A lot of giant herbivores were roaming the streets. The boar rat they fought had been the size of an Ogre, but these chickens and cows that were grazing the grass right in front of them were at least three times their average size. Oddly enough, their sizes varied drastically even amongst their supposed species that it made both the Sub System users wonder if there was any order in their sizing.

"I've seen a Boar Rat as big as the largest Furry Cows before us. Seeing how some of the Horned Chickens appear to be bigger than some of the cows I can only assume it's probably the longer they survive, the bigger they get." Lynn concluded as she tracked the signal from her phone once again to find Colwaski, one of the elder penguins with the Chieftain Skitter.

The girls were unsure whether they would find any survivors... or solely their remains. They just knew that the longer it would take, the likelier the second scenario.

The Giant World was indeed a place where any creature could be a predator only to find themselves becoming the prey the very next moment. Hence, the penguins decided to take another route with their combat bikes. They believed it would be best not to disrupt any of the Horned Chicken or Furry Cows grazing at the overgrown grassland in front of the cathedral.

The penguins utilised a derelict open drain pipe as part of the cover from the overgrown grasslands and Lynn could see why they would use that as the main route to travel to their destination. They might catch the attention of the Horned Chicken on the surface, who would definitely love the challenge of chasing after the penguins.

The rocky terrain would make it hard to flee from them and who knows what other creatures would await them hiding under the overgrown grass. The drainpipe in comparison might be filled with running water and some debris, but the combat cycle was versatile enough to run along the water and at the side of the pipes.

Still, things never go as planned. Despite their combat bikes being equipped with anti acoustic inscriptions and being as silent as passing wind, they managed to attract unwanted attention. A scorpion appeared at the intersection of the drain and treated them as prey that landed in its territory.

The penguins informed Lynn about that arachnid being extremely tasty, if one managed to slay it. Qiu Yue also noticed those penguins were riling to go against the four clawed scorpions. Perhaps, they were comforted by the fact that without Lynn's additional training, they would have already been scared to shit and be killed for food.

Fortunately, there was indeed a glimpse of chance as the penguins were leading the front while Lynn and Qiu Yue were at the back of the bike entourage. Thus making the scorpion be surrounded despite it trying to chase after the penguins on the combat bikes.

"My Queen, do you wish to stop so we can properly fight against the scorpion?" Kido asked via the system channel which Lynn denied his request.

"Let's keep moving forward. The scorpion might just be the very guardian angel we need. It could become a distraction we need in case other giants appear." Lynn replied while she slowed her bike down in order to not arouse the predator's attention.

"Way to go, Lynn. I did not think of that." Qiu Yue, who was holding on to her tightly, responded via the system channel since it would be stupid to be shouting and possibly create even more hassle for the group.

"Well, it does not mean we have to risk our lives throughout the entire run. Injure the scorpion whenever possible. Refrain from using the Combat Bike functions as of yet. This is just a small fry compared to what we might encounter later!" Lynn ordered.

"Lynn! Please remember we still have the teleportation magic at our disposal, it would be stupid to not use it." Qiu Yue reminded and suggested that they could get the System to fix the bikes, or maybe ask Niu Lang to do so. Their Sub System informed them that it was certainly possible if they returned to their world, but it would cost them some dungeon dollars.

"That's true. Qiu Yue, please inform Niu Lang about this. Tell him to get the schematics of the combat bike from the Sub System and the necessary armaments." Lynn replied, and Qiu Yue squeezed Lynn a bit tighter (albeit a little more joyful and playful and not due to fear.)

"Yes, Mdm!" Qiu Yue agreed as she decided it to take the backseat (literally) and watch Lynn handle the situation. After all, the penguins were Lynn's underlings, and it would be disrespectful to command her team, especially when she was present. Even though Qiu Yue could overtake them, she also needed time to know about the penguin's fighting capabilities. For now, the red panda cultivator was looking forward to seeing Lynn's battle tactics.

"So my Queen, weapons free?" Kido asked for a confirmation, and a simple yes from Lynn ignited the penguin's bloodlust. The four clawed scorpion had no idea that it was ultimately chasing its own doom.

At the moment, the penguins had decided to run full speed through the long drain to deter and exhaust the scorpion as much as they could with their own weapons. The bike's weapons did cost quite a bit of money according to their fellow penguin accountants.

Yes, Lynn had tasked a few penguin chefs to take up the accounting role, all that despite having a Sub System. To Lynn having a clear understanding of one's own stock and predicting how much food they needed was a vital skill she wished to impart into her peggies.

That was why Lynn had increased the number of penguins to open and create their own stores in the WunderPanda Theme Park instance. The Sub System would eventually take note of the amount of food left and money they made, but the penguins would have to do it first as part of Lynn's training.

She believed that a cook without a financial sense would not know the value of his kitchen. It could make one unaware of the real worth of particular food stocks and eventually lead one to abuse the kitchen with his ignorance. While the concept seemed somewhat shallow, it made the penguins learn an important lesson.

By handling the money themselves, the penguins would grasp how much of a portion that needed to be given for it to be both profitable for the chef and beneficial to the customers. Too little a serving and the customers might get disappointed, giving too much food and the chef would make a loss. A balance had to be struck.

But there was another reason why the penguins had yet to initiate any attack. The Sub Cooking System possessed something similar to Milk's legendary skill, Scan. Aside from scanning the body parts for any damage or condition problems, it also displayed the nutritional value and how similar it was to certain groups of food that Lynn would be familiar with, be it on Earth or from other worlds.

That way, Lynn could decide whether it was worthwhile to keep it for food purposes as a whole or if just a part of it would be sufficient.

Similar to Jin, Lynn could have killed the scorpion and allowed the Sub System to analyse its corpse afterwards, but Lynn wished to play it safe whenever possible. (Less the ones she already knew, like the Boar Rat.) At the moment, the four claw scorpion was not an immediate threat since the penguins were able to outrun it, so knowing the properties of the monster would have a significant advantage in a battle.

Most importantly, they could try and damage its non edible parts and minimise the damage on the edible ones despite the fact that the Sub System could recreate it. However, the more complete the food stock was, the more data the Sub System could play with rather than compromise. (After all, it was a Sub System and not the main System. In terms of omnipotency, it was a few notches less capable.)

"Sub System shall now list the conclusion of the Scan for the User. The four clawed scorpion consists of Grade 3 meat, with its texture similar to Earth's crab meat. Caution is advised against its tail, as it contains a paralysing venom. In the case of smaller targets, like the penguins, it may be directly life threatening."

"Its claws are agile and strong enough to grab hold of a boar rat and hold it in place for the scorpion to jab it's opponent multiple times guaranteeing the paralysing venom to work to its fullest potential. Combat bikes stand no chance if hit." The Sub System had finalised its scan and explained the possible weakness that the monster would have was its thin carapace.

In addition, the Sub System indicated that there was a subtle glow on its carapace and had identified it as the heart of the scorpion. It told Lynn that hitting there with a blow through the glowing part of the shell will no doubt kill the scorpion instantly.

"If only Jin would be as patient as you are when it comes to fighting monsters. You are practically Liu Bei, preparing your moves while he is Zhang Fei rushing in blindly to defeat his enemies." Qiu Yue sighed as she too heard the Sub System's analysis of the four clawed scorpion.

"Thanks for the praise. But what am I compared to you? You're Zhu Ge Liang in the making or probably a mix of Cao Cao and him." Lynn replied back, and that compliment made Qiu Yue rather happy.

Lynn saw the battle against Qiu Yue's mock battle with Moloch, but she felt Moloch had been holding back quite a fair bit. Still, it was also because of that mock battle what had made Lynn decide to work harder in commanding her penguins.

The kitchen itself was a battlefield, and she was the commander in chief in that warzone. It had been easy handling a few penguins, but as the numbers grew exponentially large in less than a week of the restaurant's opening due to the influx of demand, she had been forced to change her tactics to handle the kitchen as well.

There was no way that Lynn could handle the high request load all by herself. Even a general could not control each and every one of his soldiers. Instead, she relied on a chain of command. That was when the penguin cultivator began to trust her penguins and taught them what she knew so that they could do the same.

Lynn was apprehensive at first, but as she experimented with how the Sub System worked and observed how Jin used his minions to leave them to their own devices. Lynn also chose to let go and change her way of life accordingly. Like a penguin swimming along the currents of a raging ocean to get to their destination by any means possible, Lynn did the same.

She did not know how Qiu Yue was handling things in the construction site, but Lynn knew that when she compared with people, it was to improve herself and not to be envious of other people's success.

"My Queen, we are reaching the end of the drain tunnel soon and do not have much space to manoeuvre. We, your loyal peegies, will be engaging the monster soon." Kido informed her as the other penguins began to get into formation.

"Go ahead, give the four clawed scorpion some fishy surprise," Lynn said, and Qiu Yue laughed at the terrible pun. With the command, the penguins simultaneously pressed a trigger button on their bikes, and the entire bike body including the seat shifted 180 degrees while the engine and wheels continued to stay in tack.

Thus the bikes were moving 'in reverse' with the penguins facing the scorpion, and that was when the internal compartments of the bike were revealed. "So, they are going easy to the scorpions." Lynn deduced when she saw what internal compartments were engaged.

After sending the Sub System's scan information to the penguins, they had deduced to use the combat bike's grappling hooks to hold down the monster.

"I shall join in too then," Lynn revealed her bike's internal compartment and shot almost simultaneously with the penguins.

It was time to reel in a big catch for the kitchen.

Chapter 484 Rocket Boos

The fast approaching grappling hooks were a shock to the four claw scorpion, but it managed to react fast enough to snip away at one or two. Unfortunately, due to the lack of lightning reflexes, the rest of the grappling hooks managed to pierce its carapace.

When the hooks pierced and locked themselves onto the scorpion, it screamed in pain and stopped in its tracks. However, the penguins riding the bikes did not stop and instead, they accelerated even more when they were pushed back by the inertia of the falling scorpion.

They did what they can to continue dragging the scorpion along with them there was no way the scorpion could retaliate. On a separate note, Lynn was thankful that Hou Fei's stabilisers were working exceptionally well or else the weight of the scorpion from the fall would pull the bikes towards it instead of away from it.

At the same time, Lynn slowed her bike before shooting her grappling hooks. They managed to pierce through the tail and sent a mild electric shock that caused the scorpion to flinch.

After making sure it was unable to move, the penguins in the pillion seat took the chance to run across the ropes of the hooks like tightrope acrobats and went straight for the scorpion's main body with their weapons drawn. The first thing to stab was the joints of the claws so that it would not have any chance to retaliate back.

"Qiu Yue! Go!" Lynn turned her head and commanded at her pillion passenger.

"ARE YOU MAD?! You want me to climb on top of a motorcycle and jump across at I don't know how many hundred kilometres per hour hoping I can kill it in one shot?!" Qiu Yue was scared shitless and did not want to follow the instructions.

"It's not even a hundred kilometres per hour! Don't exaggerate!" Lynn leaned to one side and showed her the speedometer.

"NOOOOO!!!" Qiu Yue denied seeing it at all.

"Fine! Then hold tight!" Lynn sighed as she broke off the grappling hook and turned her accelerator handle multiple times and pressed on the pedal to change into the highest gear.

At that moment, she also lifted her bike handles with her cultivation (despite it being extremely heavy due to the numerous hidden compartments it had) and voice activated her bike's compartment with her helmet that was wirelessly linked to her motorcycle.

"Rocket Boost!"

"ROCKET WHAT?!" Qiu Yue managed to catch that in time but had no opportunity to do anything about a sudden nitro boost from the back turning into a dual rocket booster that provided them with the lift they needed to fly momentarily. While in the air, she turned her combat bike sideways and summoned a Ninja Yari (Spear).

"Spear Arts! Penguin Beak Pierce!" Lynn shouted the name of her Combat Art, and she threw the spear right above the scorpion's carapace. The spear had the silhouette of a penguin diving into the scorpion, and as it hit, brownish yellow blood spilt all over the area before it was continuously dragged by the penguins.

Meanwhile, Qiu Yue was screaming her lungs out in her helmet (thankfully the anti acoustic inscription from the inside covered it) as Lynn skilfully returned on her bike with a slide while running the accelerator on so that she would be moving forward the moment she found her balance on her bike. (Else, she would be hit by the scorpion body.)

The rest of the penguins slowed down their advance as they were reaching near the end of the tunnel while Lynn continued to speed up towards it. "WHAT ARE YOU DOING LYNN!?! YOU WANT TO CRASH?!" Qiu Yue did not know whether to continue on this adventure with Lynn or teleport back.

Lynn smirked within her helmet as the combat bike stopped within centimetres from the dead end of the drain tunnel, but the inertia caused Qiu Yue to knock her head on the wall (a little too hard).

"Oops. Hehe!" Lynn chuckled as she managed to balance herself.

"HE HE MY ASS!" Qiu Yue took out her helmet, placed her hands on Lynn's shoulder and squeezed it tightly. (Powered with some chi as well) Lynn shrunk her body inwards as she felt the pain vibrating

through her entire body, and Qiu Yue was not letting go a single bit. She was going to let out every inch of fear she had accumulated and passed it into this chef's body.

"Owowowowow!! Okayyyy, I'm sorry!!!" Lynn apologised for scaring her companion as she laughed in pain and fell from her combat bike. Qiu Yue stopped with the rough treatment, but as she still felt unsatisfied by her retribution, so she proceeded to lift Lynn's shirt a little and began tickling at her waist level.

Lynn immediately squirmed and cried for help from the penguins. (Although they refused to enter, knowing too well not to get involved in a girl's fight.)

The penguins on the sidelines enjoyed the sideshow very much until the four clawed scorpion, which was supposed to be dead, suddenly shot one of its claws towards Qiu Yue and Lynn at a frightening speed. There was no time for the two girls who were playing around to react accordingly to the monster's strike.

Fortunately, someone else did something at the same time. A spear flew down from above the crevice of the drained tunnel and stabbed through the four clawed scorpion's carapace and forced it to stop before it managed to touch either of the two girls.

"Lady Lynn, it was the right choice to pierce the heart of the four clawed scorpion, but there is one feature of it, you could not have known about it. Especially since you come from another world." A voice boomed from above and echoed throughout the drain tunnel. A silhouette jumped down from the crevice to pick up its spear.

"The four clawed scorpion has the unique trait of being able to protect its heart, by shifting it to the left under layers of muscle when it senses danger. It is possible to tell when it does so if you paid sufficient attention to it. You should have seen how the glow was slightly faint when you were aiming your stab, right?" The silhouette turned out to be a penguin.

"Elder Perate!" Kido was delighted to see that their most seasoned hunter was alive and well.

"Elder Perate! Thank you for saving our lives. I shall remember your guidance and do better next time." Lynn stood up and bowed gracefully for this timely rescue.

"Heh, you are jesting! I should be the one to thank you for keeping our penguin village alive. Just make sure not to get deceived by its feint of playing dead in the future. One careless moment may turn the predator into its prey's next meal." Elder Perate said as it swirled its spear to remove the yellowish bloodstain.

"Be that as it may, you are not here by chance. Am I correct in assuming the penguin villagers asked you to find Chieftain Skitter or at the very least, recover the Totem of Atem from him?" Elder Perate wondered, and the penguins and Lynn nodded their heads in acknowledgement.

"In that case, you've come at the right time. We can use some extra help." Elder Perate said and told them to follow him as he led the way to their chieftain.

"As always, our genius was right on the mark." Elder Perate said as he recounted how the Elder Colwaski had broken his amulet into various pieces and placed it along the path of the cathedral hoping someone would notice it and follow their trail.

"You were betting that I would notice it?" Lynn asked, and the elder penguin laughed heartily.

"Yes, indeed. With the Elder Council and the chieftain going missing, the villagers would eventually call upon someone who has the ability to find them. And who may be better suited than our benefactor?" Eldar Perate recounted Colwalski's analysis and Kido agreed with him.

"Indeed. Even us penguins who are skilled enough to conduct searches, without finding anyone within a day, we would come to exactly that conclusion. The giants are something we cannot underestimate. For the first time, we managed to have a population increase and many of us do not relish the idea to fight against the giants blindly. You, however, have provided us with the power to ensure our survival." Kido stated how Lynn had enabled the fights to be more manageable despite the previous encounter.

"Trust me, I have much to learn as well." Lynn grabbed onto Qiu Yue's arm and pointed her to the other penguins. "If you require a tactician, you probably should ask her instead."

"Thanks, but I feel you are pretty good at leading the penguins. I am happy for the praise, but tactics also require great team leaders and capable members willing to execute it." Qiu Yue shrugged at the possibility of her being Jin's tactician even though there were rumours that Jin recruited her mainly for her skill to command armies and organising the building of his city.

The four clawed scorpion was officially dead and the Sub System, who apologised to Lynn for the gross oversight, had begun to teleport to freezer. Unlike Jin, Lynn's killing of monsters allowed the Sub System to replicate the body for consumption after an in depth analysis, much like the counterfeiter machine.

However, that does not mean catching or killing the same monster again would not be beneficial for Lynn. The increase in the number of catches allowed the Sub System to analyse the monsters and allowed it to pick and recreate the DNA code.

Thus, it provided the Sub System with the opportunity to replicate the exact same monster with lesser defects, and potentially a tastier food material for Lynn to utilise.

The combat bikes were kept by the Sub System, and the scouting party jumped out of the drain via the crevice as they followed Elder Perate to where the Chieftain was located. The team later realised that Elder Perate had seen them coming out from the cathedral with the gifts that Lynn had bestowed them when she visited the village.

"Glad to know the binoculars came in handy." Lynn smiled, and Elder Perate led them into an abandoned house through a broken sill of the main door. That was when the others managed to judge the kind of era the past occupants had been living, and it was probably the early Middle Ages.

Qiu Yue could make out an old looking fire stove at the centre of the house which had a pit designed for wood or charcoal to be burnt and a pot hanging from the top. Along with the skeletons of the fish and dried up rotten fruits as well as the clothes that were hung up on the ceilings, those items had confirmed her suspicions.

It was also at the centre of the house that they saw the rest of the elder council who were right beside Chieftain Skitter.

"Oh, Lady Lynn! Kido! My Warriors! And good day to you, Miss... Friend of Lynn's I presume!" Chieftain Skitter greeted them from afar as they converged together to meet up.

"Chieftain Skitter, it's good to see that you are still safe. Why did you not inform the village people that you will be away longer from the regular trip to the Altar of Giants? A heads up would not make them worry too much." Lynn said, and the rest of the elder council laughed before they apologised to them.

"Lady Lynn. It's because of this. I cannot reveal much to the village people of this particular secret." Chieftain showed her the Totem of Atem, and it seemed like it was breaking apart. "You see, there once lived an oversized hamster that was somehow not affected by the giantism virus like those monsters you encountered, allowing him to retain his intelligence."

"He was the one who created this Totem of Atem and requested me to return in ten years time to exchange it with him. Unfortunately, we are unaware of the whereabouts of the Great Hamatarou." According to Skitter, Hamatarou was also the one who instructed them to visit the Altar of Giants to renew the blessing for the Totem of Atem, and with this year being the tenth year mark, Skitter had promised to return here.

"We did not mean to overstay our visit with our limited resources, so Colwaksi purposely placed the broken pieces of his amulet as a trail in case we were long overdue." Chief Skitter acknowledged that they had been running out of rations if not for this fortuitous encounter with Lynn.

"I keep telling that stupid chief to stop being so optimistic. Ten years is a long time. Hamatarou could have died or even worse, killed and eaten." Elder Colwaski reiterated. "Besides, for us to be able to live and break away from the Giantism Virus for ten years is already a blessing. We can only hope our new younglings can naturally break out from it too."

"You know...we can A) attempt to find this Hamatarou for you or B) fix this Totem of Atom-" Qiu Yue casually gave the standard few suggestions but before she could finish...

"ATEM!" The red panda cultivator was then interrupted by every penguin and Lynn in the vicinity which they all simultaneously laughed until they felt some rumbling noise from afar.

Chapter 485 Hired Killer

Seeing that there was not much for them to do, Ren Wei breathed out a sigh of relief. As much as he was prepared to press the trigger to assist Jin, he was only human and was afraid of the repercussions of going against multiple triads without official police backing.

Gupta and Abdul were also relieved that there was no need for any intervention. Should the mobs enter the apartment building to search for them, it was bound to cause unnecessary trouble and damage to the residents here too.

Overseeing the additional negotiation and discussion after the surprising death of De Tian, the police trio continued to keep vigilant and kept their Captain informed about this unforeseen turn of events.

"Good thing Mao had the foresight to spread the police force just in case. Without De Tian, we should have no problems getting most of the Ruby Rats lackeys off the street." Abdul praised Captain Mao after the latter revealed that they were ready to intercept the dispersing gangsters.

"Old Mao knows what he's doing. He had been the commanding leader against various riots before." Ren Wei said as he continued to watch out for possible threats that would try to deal a blow to a potentially unsuspecting Jin.

He recalled a case where he was supposed to guard a VIP, but the assailants had taken advantage of the chaos they incited to shoot the VIP. It had been a painful mistake in Ren Wei's career, and he promised himself never to make the same mistake. His primary focus was on the rooftops, especially the area's he would choose as a sniper himself.

"Your intuition is as potent as always. Bearing east. Near the Wacdonald's roof." Gupta pointed out as a potential assassin he spotted and began to move away from the window to give Ren Wei some space to move into position since the target was slightly out of the range from where he was lying on the coffee table.

"Good thing these Triad Bosses never learn not to repeat the same trick, I guess!" Ren Wei grumbled as he rolled himself towards Gupta instead of standing up. He had already more or less adjusted his sights. He knew he might only have mere seconds before the assassin takes his first shot. Abdul assisted by pushing the coffee table to the side too so his sniper rifle would have better stability too.

"One shot?" Gupta smirked, and the other two immediately understood what he meant as they joined his smirk.

"Five," Abdul said.

"Ten" Ren Wei replied as he took a deep breath in, exhaled and adjusted his sights. His Muskrat cultivation shone brightly within the room, not caring for anything else as Ren Wei wanted to have just one shot. He breathed in once more and squeezed his trigger halfway.

BAM

Right when the assassin heard that familiar sound, he tried to dodge instinctively along with his rifle, but it was too late. The shot went through his neck, and his body was pushed back with the impact of the bullet. Blood splattered all over the roof of Wacdonalds.

Ren Wei had used a technique to delay the sound of the impact, providing a feint to the enemies. Even though it was just a few microseconds later, it made a huge difference for his target.

"Damn it!" Abdul said as he searched his pocket for some spare change and placed it on the coffee table and it was more than ten Yuan. He looked at the owner who was still terrified of the sound of the rifle and tapped his shoulders.

"Thank you for your service to the police, Sir. Buy yourself some beer to calm your nerves." Abdul said as he pointed the hefty amount of change on the table. "Just consider this a friendly thank you for being an honest citizen. Hope we did not mess up the place that much."

Afterwards, he aided Gupta to clear the place a little while Ren Wei was squatting on the balcony and checking through his spotting scope if there were any other possible assailants in the area.

"Seems clear." Ren Wei thought to himself as he and the rest went to Wacdonalds to check on the dead assassin sniper. The lifeless body was still there indicating that the sniper most likely had been working solo.

"Let's go, guys, we need to catch some bad guys to earn our paycheck." Ren Wei confirmed the body, and they went ahead to assist the rest of Tiangong District police to catch the Ruby Rats.

Previously when they were on standby due to the Central Police's orders to not interfere, Captain Mao had given into Detective Xue Ping's and Lee An's orders to arm the policemen in riot gear.

They reasoned that the Central Police's orders were simply 'not to interfere' and allowed the fight to be spread out of the designated area. It did not mean that they could not do anything if those gangsters were out of the designated shopping district. Thus, Captain Mao had allowed all the police to suit up and wait for further instructions.

Thus as soon as Ren Wei's group had reported the situation where the Ruby Rats were running out of the district, the police had already manned their police checkpoints at every exit near Tiangong Shopping District even though they were mostly guarded by the veteran gangsters of various Triads.

In the subsequent hour, Captain Mao had ordered the search and capture of any gangsters that were involved in the terrorism of Tiangong Shopping District, including those gangsters who were merely securing the area.

All were allowed to use lethal force, and their improved weapons were no joke. Each of them was equipped with at least Grade 3 defensive inscriptions on their riot armour and helmets while their guns had the capability to shoot specialised rubber bullets that inflicted as much pain as standard issued bullets (since the gangsters were all mainly cultivators, they would survive from it).

Tear gas was also deployed, and the policemen who had trained in Jin's dungeons indeed fared better than most of the gangsters. Granted the gangsters were already injured and tired out from the fight against Jin and the Three Eyed Tiger Triad. Many openly surrendered while others fought to the bitter end until they were brutally captured by the police.

Even the Triad Bosses were not just given a free ticket to pass, but Chen Xun's combat driving allowed him to escape despite having several police riders' attempt to chase after him. The detectives asked for more reinforcement to chase after them, but Captain Mao told them to close an eye and focus more on the goons.

As much as they despised that order, they belayed their burning desire and focused on the small fries. The detectives cursed knowing that even if they caught the Triad Bosses, it would do no good since they practically had police immunity due to their underworld influence and the Royal Zodiac's backing. That is unless there was a very valid reason to clamp them down, such as drugs. Ironically, drugs and human trafficking were considered more severe crimes which even the Royal Zodiac Clans frowned over.

Soon after, Detective Xue Ping and Lee An went to the 'terror' scene and saw the sad state of Tiangong Shopping District. While it might be just a quaint shopping district which managed to pick up some slack due to the rise of a particular dungeon supplier store, this destruction would practically disable the operations in this place.

"Boss Jin! I am happy that you are still safe and sound just as the reports had stated." Xue Ping greeted Jin who was outside his store apologising for the trouble brought to all the customers that were sheltered in his shop.

The customers, on the other hand, were grateful for the Dungeon Supplier's aid. Mostly they were surprised thinking that he was a goner when he had decided to go out to protect them. While they were not there to witness his heroism, the injured Three Eyed Tigers were apparently a very talkative bunch and had spread the exploits of Jin to them.

To make it worse, some had even captured Jin on video, killing De Tian with just one blow and uploading it into the net. The System argued that while it could go into the net and remove the clip, it would be better if Jin had more exposure especially when the Shopping District had suffered a substantial blow.

"It would have been worse if Ku Wai and his men had not been here with me. Please do not arrest them. They are not the bad guys." Jin asked and Xue Ping laughed.

"They are still the bad guys, just less bad than others. Our resources are limited, so we will prioritise capturing the big bad ones." Xue Ping agreed, and Ku Wai smirked at that particular comment.

It was Ya Bai, the Triad Boss for the Three Eyed Tigers who ordered the group to stay with Jin as he had the foresight to predict what would potentially happen if they tried to escape. Besides, it was their princess who ordered to protect the dungeon supplier.

"Boss Jin! Thank goodness you survived!" Lai Fu slapped Jin on his back so hard that he nearly fell forward. Taking a look at Tiangong Shopping District, he could only sigh heavily. He had been there for many years, but this was the worst thing to ever happen to it. Even the Pachinko Incident seemed like a joke in comparison.

"Let's just be thankful for our lives have been spared. Our stores may not be intact, but we can always rebuild them." He Rong chimed in as he heard from the injured Three Eyed Tiger members the story how the Ruby Rat Triad Boss wanted to buy up the whole place cheap.

"You are right. Only I doubt our insurance will be sufficient to cover this kind of damage." Si Fang, the owner of Lele café was devastated, seeing what little remained of his café after the whole affair.

"You may not have to worry about that, Jin had already bought the whole place up. Given his status, you can be assured that they will pay out what you are owed." Ya Bai reassured them. Though the owners did not know his true identity as he looked just like a nobody from the streets, they were more excited by the fact that Jin had bought the entire place.

"Yeah...technically, I already paid the down payment for this place..." Jin did not care to explain how he got it but assured the owners that everything was going to be fine. "One thing is for sure, you do not have to worry about the state of your stores. Get the insurance money, rip those companies back for

ripping your money." Jin teased them a bit, and the rest of the store owners who were sheltered in Jin's store was given the same assurance as well.

"Hmm, you did kill De Tian, and you seemed to have some form of backing to buy the whole place down to prevent the Triad Bosses to buy this place... We will trust you for now." Si Fang, who was also the Tiangong shopping committee lead, aided Jin to calm the masses down and told them to trust the dungeon supplier.

Besides, he was also the one who had supported them to improve their business indirectly and had now become their landlord. They decided to trust him and return home for now. Meanwhile, Jin had other agendas since he now possessed the entire Shopping District for himself.

But first, he had to follow detective Xue Ping and Lee An back to the police station for a full statement. "Si Fang, tell the owners not to do any reconstruction work...I have something in mind that might prove to be a better solution." Jin asked, and Si Fang promised he would contact the rest to inform them of their new landlord's decision.

Chapter 486 Store's Coffers

It was a long haul to the police station, and most of them could not believe it when they heard the entire story from Jin. Ku Wai and Ya Bai were also 'invited' to the police station for interrogation but compared to Jin, they left much earlier.

"The records and videos from the Three Eyed Tigers matched with what you said. Now as for that solidified dan tian you are holding, are you willing to give it up to the police?" Detective Lee An asked, and Jin shook his head. "It is rightfully mine to keep since he had the audacity to attack me against all warning and paid the price in my territory."

"Fair enough, we won't pursue that, but I am just warning you that other people might come after it. Though the laws are on your side, stating that those backing him up can't just demand it back, perhaps expect them to at least try to buy it off you." Lee An said as he packed his files up.

"However knowing you, I doubt that you will let go of it that easily, so it should be only a matter of time until they try to acquire it by other means. It just might be easier if you put it in our hands for safekeeping." Lee An told Jin who gave him a suspicious look.

"Sir, it is not that I do not believe in you. I do not believe in the 'impartiality' of the justice system. For it to be controlled and sponsored by various of the clans, I can't trust each and every one of your colleagues to be as honest as you or your wife. Some are bound to have their own agenda, and I don't look forward to ever face a revenge seeking De Tian ." Jin replied as he recalled the vengeful look on Ong's face which Lee An could only sigh at that response.

"I cannot fault you for that after what has happened today. We've tried our best to clear up the aftermath though. Hahaha." Lee An laughed bitterly and understood where Jin was coming from. How was he supposed to explain to Jin, that the orders from Central HQ had practically ordered them to allow that havoc to happen.

"I'm glad the weapons and armours you got from me came in handy. Though I sold it to you guys in the hopes of preventing just what had happened today... In any case, I understand there were some things that you could not control, in the end, you did fulfil your part of our contract. For that, I am grateful." Jin bowed slightly and asked about the victims that were killed during the 'terror' attack.

"Captain Mao is currently trying to accelerate the process for those victims to get the most basic resurrection. There will be some loss in cultivation, a bit of memory loss but hey, at least they will come back to life free of charge as guaranteed by the government." Lee An answered, and Jin felt more than relieved. After filling in some additional information, Lee An was done processing Jin's statement and finally let him off.

"Oh, and eh help me thank Ren Wei for the assist. Ask him to find me the next time he visits my store. I owe him a brand new weapon customisation voucher." Jin said before he left the police station.

He was aware that the sudden sniper fire as the Ruby Rats dispersed came from Ren Wei since Jin caught a glimpse of his cultivation with his Pandaromic Eyes. In fact, Jin was prepared that there could be an assassin waiting for him as soon as the destruction of the district started, but he couldn't know when he would strike.

Nothing happened during his fight with Ong. Neither did he intervene in Jin's duel against De Tian. Was he waiting for the Triad Bosses to leave? Or was he waiting for Jin's guard to drop after everything was over for the moment the dungeon supplier would leave his back wide open?

All he knew was that the assassin was biding his time to take the shot, which was why Ren Wei managed to kill him before he could make a move. Now Jin could only hope that some kind of connection would appear who the assassin worked for. (He believed it was from one of the Triad Bosses since it was way too convenient and too weak to be a Banned Emperor assassin.) But chances were slim to know the connection, and Jin just left it as it is.

"Haha, you knew? I guess Ren Wei can't claim to have been your secret guardian angel then. I will make sure to pass your thanks to him." Lee An acknowledged and bid Jin goodbye.

"So, System. What shall we do with the new plot of land? You know I actually wanted to create one more dungeon instance before Christmas, but with all that is happening, I don't know whether it is wise to do that anymore." Jin asked as he called for a taxi.

"User does not have sufficient cash to renovate the Tiangong Shopping District, nor does he have any budget to make any new dungeon instances." The System stated, and Jin frowned at his phone..

"Then what am I supposed to do? Wait for craploads of money to drop from the sky?" Jin questioned sarcastically. The System took a moment to connect Moloch into the secured telecommunication channel.

"Oh Boss? I hear you want to earn a quick buck? Why not just do what you did to us? Just invade some of the dungeons from the Dungeon World. With your current power, you may even solo clear those mid-ranked ones."

"Funny, as I recall after I invaded you guys, you provided me with a new set of problems. The kind which only increased my daily spendings instead of alleviating them." Jin remarked, and Moloch laughed at that prospect.

"Oh, come on. You should know that it requires spending money to make back even more money. Can you imagine the income from owning a whole city?" Moloch asked via the channel.

"Heh, but are we guaranteed to make that much money? Even if we offer unique products and services, it won't help us, if no one comes to us. Besides, even after completing the city, we are bound to still have a lot of cost for any future projects or just trying to pay for the upkeep of our buildings." Jin replied as he dreaded remembering the expenses on that ambitious project.

"There, there. I admit it might not earn sufficiently for the first few years to cover the costs we incurred. And as unfortunate as it seems, we are also not in any major trading routes nor are we famous in any way as of yet. King Baal did place us in a very secluded place." Moloch didn't deny the facts.

"But I am too surprised an 'adventurer' came to invade us at that point in time. Little did we know it would change our lives drastically."

"Enough of the bootlicking. So which dungeon do you suggest to invade?" Jin queried as he saw his taxi coming forth to pick him up,

"I have several in my mind, but I need to double check with some of my sources first to verify. Give me a day or two to see if it's alright."

"User, you can also have Hungry Hippo Cultivator Xiong Da issue out the threats that you made previously to the Triad Bosses." The System advised.

"What threats?" Jin could not exactly figure what it was that he said since it was in spite of a moment. The System reminded him that he threatened the triad bosses to send them the repair bills for the damage incurred.

"While I'd like to do that and am probably in the position to do so, I'm sure it would just infuriate them even further. I've had enough of them for a lifetime. Who knows they might use this as an excuse to incite some schemes that I've yet to foresee. Let's just wait for them to approach me. It seems they want to do business with me. I can always just scam them for all they are worth then the time comes."

"User's worries may be valid, but System is unwilling to spare any extra cash until User finds some by himself."

"That plot of land really did dip into our coffers, huh?" Jin wondered if that move was really the best in hindsight. He had some feelings of buyers regret, yet it was too late for him to return his purchase.

"Yes, after the acquisition of Tiangong Shopping District, the System estimates that it has only two months worth of budget to maintain operating costs."

"Yea, I guess everything we've been doing so far, are long term plans. We might need to focus a bit on short term profits."

"Alternatively, you can get your monsters to work for some of the dungeon fortresses. Sometimes, they are hiring extra monsters to defend their place." Moloch suggested, and Jin became very curious with this scheme asking him to elaborate.

"If you think of the dungeons in our world as a store like your own, it should not surprise you that some dungeons are more popular than others. The more adventurers come to try and conquer a dungeon, the more losses on our side."

"For us monsters, we are granted resurrection from the Dungeon Core after a certain amount of time passes. There is a limit of how many monsters can be resurrected at the same time, before the next batch. Since we don't have a System who can just use copies of ourselves, it isn't that rare that adventurers are slaying monsters faster than we can resurrect."

"So in cases where a dungeon's monster resurrection timer can't keep up with the number of adventurers, that is when monsters for hire come in. This concept also allows those monsters who lost their dungeon cores to find a new place or those monsters living in less popular dungeons to get subcontracted."

"While uncommon, certain adventurers do pick up these jobs and fight against their fellow adventurers. Eventually, they revive in their churches like any other adventures, but since in the eyes of the dungeon world, they had 'sinned' for siding with the monsters it takes a lot longer." Moloch explained.

"Why would other monsters from lesser known dungeons be subcontracted out? Won't it leave their dungeon vulnerable?" Jin questioned the validity of such a method.

"Sometimes, there are some dungeons that don't have a single adventurer at all. There may be a number of reasons for that. For example, they could be in a place that's hard to reach, making it undesirable for adventures to get there; Sounds stupid and defied the meaning of adventuring but yeah."

"Or there may be a more popular dungeon near them. It may sound all fine and dandy, but the monsters do have quotas to hit. While we do get resources for protecting the dungeon core, it actually requires adventurers to thrive. It's something similar to your System, the dungeon core will issue out quests periodically to those monsters."

"Eh?!" Jin could not understand why it would do that.

"User, the Dungeon Cores utilise a similar concept as what System wished to use to trick User to kill humans permanently. However, instead of the entire Souls or Magic, the dungeon core absorbs just a part of them. In gaming terms, User can perceive them as experience points being taken away." The System interjected.

"Ahhhh. Okay, so the Dungeon Core feeds on these things too."

"Yeap, so when the monsters get subcontracted, the essence earned will be taken and converted into physical vials which the subcontracted monsters can send back to their dungeons. And on top of that, dungeon dollars which the dungeon core also accepts as part of the resources." Moloch added.

"But won't the money be rather pitiful? Sounds like a part time job." Jin asked and Moloch laughed.

"If you work for a top tier dungeons, part time work can pay up to a few thousand dungeons dollars per raid. The longer you survive, the more cash you might earn."

"Why am I struggling to earn yuan when I can go the dungeon world and earn so much more..." Jin sighed to himself.

"Speaking of that, you can always hire monsters for work from the Dungeon World if you need extra workers or should we get invaded. Especially when Qiu Yue has the power to enact provisional contracts to monsters." Moloch remarked.

"I could do that too since I am part of the owner of this dungeon core. That way, the System won't have to worry about food, housing, and even paying for Souls since the monsters generally regenerate after being killed in the Dungeon World."

"The only caveat would be that we would have to wait for them to travel from their Dungeon Core back to us. Still, it might potentially save us some money in the future." Moloch, who was still in the chat said.

"Hmm, hiring monsters will be a secondary priority right now." Jin sent his thoughts while lying dead at the back seat of the taxi.

"Yea, but as I said, the dungeon core will provide the monsters with their daily rations and stuff. We can also sell such food to adventurers and monsters, those that are already growing in the agriculture sector... When the city is fully open." Moloch replied.

"That is WHEN the city opens. Right now, we need some major short term recovery. With the shopping town district in ruins, people probably will have second thoughts coming to visit us. I am guessing revenue will drop to less than half of what we've earned unless we get the shopping town up and running properly."

"How are we going to do that? The city is still barely defensible from any attacks and not even up and running. If we stop construction, we might be overdue for an attack when the dungeon core's shield drops. Also, we just concluded a war, and from the look of things, we might jump into another soon. That is more expenses, not profit." Moloch questioned Jin since he was just a store owner with no real financial backing though many people thought he had. Even the System's coffers would go dry at some point.

"You know you did say something about subcontracting and that we just concluded a war. I may have an idea instead of random dungeon runs. But keep me informed of those once you contacted your buddies." Jin said to Moloch as the taxi driver stopped near the police checkpoint that barred people from entering the ruined Tiangong shopping district.

"You thinking of putting a dungeon store in the Goblin World?!?" Moloch could roughly guessed his idea but Jin did not reply a single word back. It was as if he was telling Moloch to sit back and watch him unveil his idea.

"Boy, this is the closest I can get you. Apparently, there was some fight that had happened here, and the police condoned the area." The driver spoke out.

"No worries, this is far enough. Thank you, Shifu!" Jin said as he got out of the taxi and personally passed the checkpoint since he was one of the store owners. However, the Tiangong District police were puzzled why he would return to his store at such a late timing.

Because a businessman got to continue to sell things or else, he had nothing to eat.

Chapter 487 Horned Chickens

The rumbling did not stop, and with each passing second, it felt more and more like it was the prelude to an earthquake. Lynn and Qiu Yue wanted to teleport the rest of the penguins back to their world (of course, to the temporary holding area previously allocated for the Farm Rats.)

Still, the Chieftain insisted on staying in this room no matter what was to come until the saviour of his village were to appear. "Don't be stupid, Chief!" Elder Perate berated him as he could feel that the rumbling was approaching closer.

Suddenly, the gigantic wooden door was smashed open with such a force that it nearly made the whole team fly backwards and into the bed of charcoal and burnt wood. At the same time, a large furry figure appeared as it rolled into the house with two Horned Chicken double its size chasing behind.

"Sir HAMATAROU!" Chieftain Skitter shouted even though the others figured that it was in vain. Surprisingly despite the oversized hamster being four times their size managed to hear him.

"Skitter! You did arrive as promised! Your timing is great!" Hamatarou spoke as it skilfully evaded the horned chicken's charge by rolling towards the cooking area. "Don't worry! It's only two of them that noticed my presence!"

"I do not think that is the point!" Qiu Yue argued while Hamatarou took out a similar looking totem that had been hidden in his fur. He pointed it towards the two horned chickens and within an instant, the feathered horned birds gradually shrunk down to the size of the four clawed scorpion.

"Skitter! Deal with it, while I close this door before any more of those cursed birds appear in front of us. By the way, you should hurry. The shrinking is only temporary." Hamatarou turned the totem towards itself and grew half as large as the size of the door before proceeding to close it.

Meanwhile, the horned chickens became terrified of the newly transformed giant attempting to retreat. Too bad, Hamatarou had been able to close it in time, and the chickens were stuck with their prey turned predator.

"You are more than enough to kill it with that size!" Qiu Yue complained some more, but at that moment, Hamatarou jumped up and returned to his original size. Only now, the hamster jumped with a body enhanced ability and grabbed hold onto the edge of an open cabinet to watch the fight from afar.

"Hmph! Sir Hamatarou is testing us! Colwaski, Perate. Time to show our saviour that we are capable of surviving this trial!" The Penguin Chieftain roused the battle morale up among the penguins as they were going to fight a monster they had continuously been avoiding in the past. "Lady Lynn! If you could, please handle the other one with your friend."

"Qiu Yue, let's get going! Kido and the rest, assist your chieftain and elders. We will kill it if possible, else distract it until you guys kill yours." Lynn commanded, and Skitter was grateful for her enthusiasm.

"Let's separate the two horned chickens so they will not be distracted by each other's prey!" Qiu Yue suggested as she took out her mobile phone. Some clicks later, she held onto her newly purchased RPG rocket launcher. The Empire Building Sub System had given Qiu Yue the ability to buy almost anything from Jin's armoury stocks as well as the black market on the go. (It gave her an advantage against Jin who needed to go into the stores to buy them.)

"I agree!" Lynn summoned her combat bike out as well as an ornated chest and told Qiu Yue to get on the bike before firing at one of horned chicken. Qiu Yue instinctively obliged and fired her rocket propelled grenade at the horned chicken, only to realise she did not have a helmet on with her. But the moment the red panda cultivator shot the RPG rocket, Lynn had already started the engines up and began to move. Qiu Yue was in such distress that she let go of her new toy (despite it being spent) and grabbed onto Lynn tightly.

"RIDE CAREFULLLY!!!" Qiu Yue shrieked as she had one hand grabbed on Lynn's chest and the other on her waist. The horned chicken only noticed the unknown projectile when the rocket hit it. While painful, it was sufficient to destroy it, but more than enough to piss it off. The horned chicken saw Lynn running away from it and figured that insect sized being was the one that inflicted damage to it. Thus, it began to divert away from the penguins and moved to chase after the other.

"I see, so Skitter found himself some new allies too. Interesting."

Hamatarou thought as he walked around the open cabinet and partook on the food that was left there. (His secret stash) The overgrown hamster wasn't too worried about the time limit since the shrinking would be effective for around half an hour, and Skitter and his penguins appeared more than capable of handling it. Hamatarou's thought was more about those new allies. He had never before seen such creatures, nor the weapons they seemed to wield.

Meanwhile, with one less horned chicken currently chasing after Lynn, the penguins felt slightly relieved, though still on edge against the impending disaster they had to fight.

"Kido, Perate. Aim for its eyes when it pecks down. Skitter, you are 'unfortunately', the juiciest among us. You will have to be bait. The rest of you guys come with me after you pick up the equipment, we are going for its legs!" Colwaski, their Elder Genius commanded the group.

Apparently, the ornated chest was filled with the familiar weapons that the penguins had used in the service of Lynn. Smoke bombs, caltrops, shurikens, grappling hooks and several ninja scrolls were waiting in that chest. All the penguins instinctively knew what to take from that chest while Colwaski personally handed the more specialised ones to certain penguins.

"You sure this is not revenge, Colwaski?" Chieftain Skitter asked sheepishly, and Colwaski shrugged its shoulders as he threw two ninja scroll to his boss. "Sand Drift Scroll and Fire Breathing Scroll!" Colwaski shouted and the moment Skitter picked up the two scrolls, he activated the Sand Drift Scroll immediately.

Chieftain Skitter murmured a short quick chain of chants, and the scroll unwrapped itself, causing the long piece of paper to turn into a pile of moving sand which increased the mobility of the Chieftain.

Next, he undid the seal on the Fire Breathing Scroll, but instead of chants, Skitter seemingly compressed the scroll, and like a magic trick, it disappeared.

The large pile of sand drifting did attract the remaining horned chicken attention, and it proceeded to catch the juicy fat penguin that was gliding on the sand. However, as it tried to peck it, Skitter managed to maneuver on the sand fast enough to evade the attacks while moving the chicken into position as ordered by Elder Colswaki so that Kido and Elder Perate could simultaneously blind the chicken.

In the meantime, Qiu Yue was complaining how selfish the hamster was despite Skitter's insistence of it being a saviour. "If it's really a saviour! Then why doesn't it just make the penguins big so they can kill the chicken easily!"

"If every mentor thinks that way, men would probably starve for not learning how to fish," Lynn replied as she noticed the horned chicken was moving closer at a much faster speed. Its beak was close to the ground as if it was ready to snap at them any moment when it had the chance.

"Any great ideas, Ms Tactician?" Lynn asked, and indeed Qiu Yue did have one trick under her sleeve.

"If you can get us under the horned chicken or at least close enough, I might be able to do something about it. Just trust me on this." Qiu Yue offered, but Lynn preferred to have an explanation rather than being kept in the dark.

"Man, you are not fun at all! Let me be cool once in a while" Qiu Yue replied.

"Save it for Jin, not me. So what's the plan?" Lynn questioned as she drifted her bike so that she can turn and ride towards the chicken.

"I bought some C4 explosives. As long as we are close enough, I can throw the C4s, it should deal some damage, probably at least cripple it." Qiu Yue replied.

"That's a rather boring plan. I was expecting more excitement from you." Lynn commented as she accelerated herself towards the chicken. The chicken was a bit confused why its prey decided to come towards it, but nevertheless quite happy, that the snack decided to deliver itself into its beak.

"You can't blame me for not being able to do anything else than holding on to your waist! Besides! I am already risking myself by throwing the bundle of C4 onto that chic- KYAAA~!" Qiu Yue stopped her explanation as Lynn was utilising her rocket boost.

"Don't throw, just drop it! I'll give you the signal." Lynn instructed Qiu Yue as she did not want to take the chance of the chicken pecking it or squashing them just because Qiu Yue needed Lynn to ride slower so that she could throw it.

"FINE!!!!" Qiu Yue prepared the bundle of C4 explosives in one hand, and the other was grabbing on to Lynn with the remote detonator. The penguin cultivator noticed how flimsy Qiu Yue's grip was and seized the detonator from Qiu Yue when she kept hitting her with it, asking her to take it. Thus, allowing the red panda cultivator to grab onto Lynn's waist rather tightly.

"NOW!!!" Lynn shouted as she zoomed passed the horned chicken's legs and Qiu Yue did what was commanded. The Red Panda Cultivator somehow managed to drop it on the top of the chicken's feet before holding onto Lynn as she moved off at top speed.

The chicken had tried to peck them but had not gotten anything, as it never predicted its prey to have the ability to accelerate. It had stopped and looked confused at where its prey had gone. Lynn took that opportunity to hit on the detonator the second they were at least dozens of metres away from it.

"BABOOOOM*

A loud explosion ensued following the detonation, and Lynn even had trouble controlling her bike despite having activating her stabilisers when the shockwave came. "What kind of C4 was that?!!" Lynn asked as she continued to outrace the explosion so that they would escape the subsequent shockwaves.

"Inscription enhanced explosives! Meant to bring buildings down!" Qiu Yue screamed as she continued to grab hold of Lynn.

That explosion was a sight to behold for Hamatarou as he clapped while chewing on some (giant) sunflower seeds. (Not to mention Peppers would have been slightly proud for the use of explosives.) It also distracted the horned chicken, which the penguins were fighting, and they seized the window of opportunity with greed. Chieftain Skitter controlled the mobile pile of sand to rise and subsequently jumped upwards.

The horned chicken was surprised that its prey came into its sight as it opened its mouth to bite it down. That was when Chieftain skitter made his Fire Breathing ninja scroll appear and activated it. A burst of intense fire came out from the scroll and directed it into the beak of the chicken, burning its insides, while Kido and Elder Perate finally had the chance to release their multiple shurikens into the eyes of the horned chicken. The bird screeched and panicked while Colwaski and the rest of the penguins threw their bolas towards the chicken feet.

The bolas were not made with mere stones but had explosives attached to them too. (Just not as strong as the explosives Qiu Yue had used.) They knew that the Bolas would not be large enough to deter the chicken, so they detonated the explosives. That act alone, caused the legs to give way, making the horned chicken to fall to the ground, which the penguins proceed to stab and injure the chicken at its vital joints. It was better to immobilise it than to attempt at a slim chance of hitting its vital points.

Kido even grabbed a few smoke bombs with a small bag of caltrops and threw it into the chicken's mouth as Elder Colwaski used a grappling hook to tie the beak up along with the aid of Skitter. The rest of the penguins subsequently went forth to its neck and kept stabbing at it while the horribly injured horned chicken tried to get up from the consecutive attacks by flapping its wings in terror, but it was in vain.

The penguins had already immobilised its movements. Its legs were terribly injured, and the articulation of its wings had been severed by the penguins due to their knowledge of cutting chicken meat up.

Lynn and Qiu Yue eventually came to their aid, and with a bit of stat boost from Qiu Yue's Sub System (by spending money), the Red Panda Cultivator managed to enter into the fray and cut its neck deep from top to bottom for its blood to spill on the floor.

While slightly slow, the remaining horned chicken eventually died a pretty horrible death.

Chapter 488 Hamatarou

"Well done, well done!" The hamster clapped at the top cabinet before he rolled down his body to the table and subsequently the ground. "Did not expect those chickens to see me when I took their eggs. I thought I could grow a few chickens of my own! Hahahah!" Hamatarou laughed at his own misfortune as he revealed two oversized chicken eggs from the depths of his furry body.

"How did he keep all those things inside his body?" Qiu Yue wondered looking at Lynn as the other gave her a deadpan stare.

"I've only come to visit this world twice before. As if I would know such stuff." Lynn replied as she took the bodies of the Horned Chicken via the Sub System. She was informed that signs of Body Restructuring had been detected inside the creatures. It advised Lynn to wait until the chicken reverted to its original sizes before processing it.

"Interesting. Are you a shaman too?" Hamatarou asked and ignored the Penguin Chieftain Skitter who was kneeling in front of him.

"You don't seem to be a particularly good host. I suggest you answer the person who is requesting your audience first." Lynn answered with a bit of annoyance in her words.

"Ah! Sorry Skitter! I did not see you down there." Hamatarou laughed loudly as he took out another exact copy of the Totem of Atem for them. "Just as promised you ten years ago. Here is your new and improved totem. According to my research, I predict that with this improved one the generation after the next should hopefully not even need this. The same routine, go to the Altar of Giants to recharge its powers every once in a while."

"Thank you, Sir Hamatarou!" Skitter expressed his gratitude as the rest of the penguins knelt and bowed in front of him as well.

"No need to be so humble. You did earn it, especially after my impromptu task of killing the horned chickens. Now if you don't mind, would you introduce me to your two companions? They seem quite capable. I regret to say that I have yet to encounter any members of their species in our world." Hamatarou requested.

"Other species? No, you are mistaken Sir Hamatarou, they aren't from anywhere around here. Lady Lynn graced us with her presence suddenly. She is actually from another world." Skitter replied.

"Another world? Well, I am surprised you appear to believe them so readily. I admit that I have never seen those strange vehicles they rode, nor the weapons they used. Still, that does not mean they hail from another world. This might as well be some long lost technology or magic." Hamatarou remarked as he suddenly became suspicious.

"It is true, Sir Hamatarou." Kido took the initiative to speak. "I've been to their world and the others had served Lady Lynn in her quests."

"...Hmm okay. Assume that I'm interested that I want to see that world for myself. Will you bring me along as well?" Hamatarou said in a wishy washy manner.

"Sure, but you will have to sign a contract with us. The short version is that you will have to serve us at our times of need." Qiu Yue immediately took out a contract form and showed it to Hamatarou. The Sub System had managed to write it all in its native language based on what it had learnt about the Penguins.

As she wanted to hand it over, she noticed, that there was a bit of discrepancy in their sizes, but the hamster immediately used his own totem of Atem to turn the same size as Lynn and began to read the contract.

"Interesting. So, I will have to go into combat against other members of your species?" Hamatarou questioned, and Qiu Yue nodded her head.

"That is most often the case. However, it may also turn to you battling some species you have never seen before. If you have other talents to provide, we can also change the contract to something more suited for you. In return, you will experience at least our own world, and maybe others." Qiu Yue listed their demands, and Hamatarou was deep in thought.

"Sounds like a very unfair deal." The hamster concluded, and Qiu Yue shrugged her shoulders.

"Well, you will practically become an interworld traveller with our help. It's not something anyone can offer you on the spot. Additionally, we will provide you with decent food, entertainment and a place to stay. Not to mention, if you work for us, we will pay you some credit in accordance to your results to get better food and the chance to train yourself to self betterment. If that is not to your liking, we also offer knowledge you may never learn otherwise." Qiu Yue added, and Lynn could not help but cringe at her promotion of a contract.

"Anyways if you don't like it, it's not like we are keeping you forever. The duration of the contract is designed for a three month provisional stay. If you like it, you can renew it or turn it into a permanent contract." Qiu Yue was basically trying to hard sell it to the hamster. The penguins, on the other hand, shared their own experiences with the sceptical hamster.

"Fine. I trust the penguins more than you guys. And I am really curious to see how other world looks like. You are right, such an opportunity may only come once in a lifetime, but I am unable to leave for three months. One week. That is all the time I have before I have other matters to attend to." Hamatarou bit on his paws and was ready to use a drop of his blood to seal the contract.

"Agreed. For starters, please tell us more about this Giant World." Qiu Yue told the System to rewrite the contract, and upon verification, the hamster sealed the deal.

"Very well. Long story short, I am a druid. Which is also why I am able to provide these totems to the penguins. This place is just one of the meeting places that I had set up as a haven for the various races that wish to survive this harsh world without being affected by the Giantism Virus. Follow me." Hamatarou ordered as it grew larger once more and indicated the rest to grab onto its fur.

The hamster opened the door with much ease since it was on par with its enhanced size, and jumped up to the roofs as soon as it was out of the house. Lynn and the others saw only a part of the entirety of the ruined city that they were in. It wasn't until Hamatarou reached one of the watchtowers that they saw more of it.

"When I told Skitter ten years, I was not joking. You have seen that I can control my size, but the transformation is not permanent and has its limits. Even at my largest, the city remains vast and huge. It took me a year alone to get the totems to different races like the penguins here. After which, I had to travel using stealth to other small towns and cities to share with them."

"So there are other sentient races as well? Why are you doing this?" Lynn asked, and apparently, others who lived far away from the penguins within this city. The turtles, walrus, crocs, frogs as well as other different penguin settlements.

"I need all of them to get stronger so that we can eventually prepare for an exodus from this cursed city," Hamatarou said as they were jumping from one roof to another.

"Exodus? Leave this city? Cursed? Why?" Lynn continued to ask as Qiu Yue grabbed on both her and Hamatarou's fur.

"The city has long since been depleted of its food stock. The giantism virus had infected almost everyone that lived in this city. While the different tribes are procuring their own food, there is only so much they can grow and survive." Hamatarou sighed.

"I am trying to find a place for all these people to live and thrive, a mass exodus of the most capable warriors and talented beings who will follow me to find such a sanctuary. I heard of an island beyond the sea that should have an abundance of food and animals still on the size of the penguins. This meant that they can live there." Druid Hamatarou announced its plans to them.

"Is that why most of the races that you saved...are amphibious in nature?" Lynn questioned as she had noticed, that all the races he had listed could live on land and survive in the long sea trip. Mildly surprised, the druid nodded in acknowledgement.

"Still, depending on your ability to travel to other worlds, that might change our plans a little. Although we potentially still face another problem." Hamatarou spoke out saying that they were reaching his base soon, which was at the bottom of the large tree ahead of them. At the centre of a desolated nature park.

"To search for the other surviving races," Hamatarou spoke a few words in an unknown language (though it sounded like an annoyed hamster) and the tree roots opened itself up to let the hamster in.

"While I did not tell the penguins initially, I've told the other races to meet me at the Altar of Giants within a few months time if I sent a continuous flare of light in the night. That would also signal the start of the mass exodus." Hamatarou stated and the rest immediately understood what that meant. If the entire village or even just a small group travelling will attract danger from the various giants in the vicinity.

"Can't we just search each tribe up individually? That's what you did to meet up with them, right?" Qiu Yue asked as they finally reached the ground.

"I remember he said that he met them via meeting places," Kido replied and Hamatarou nodded.

"Yes, this was to prevent any possible infiltration from another group. A group I regret having saved before." Hamatarou lit up his base, and the first thing everyone saw was an entirely horrifying body of a lizard hanging right in front of them seemingly ready to pounce.

"The Salamanders."

Hamatarou told them how he tried teaching the salamanders to shape shift ...or size shift after the Giantism Virus had hit throughout the country. However, the Salamanders had used their newfound knowledge to infiltrate other villages and steal their food.

Sadly, it did not end there. The Salamanders eventually killed entire villages and burned them down so that they could use the corpses as food stock.

The druid had been so mad that they did such an atrocious act and decided to curse them with a forbidden spell. They remained fairly large in size no longer able to revert to their original smaller size, allowing the other more giant monsters to prey on them. Afterwards, they had decided to hole up in the castle of the city which was up the hill.

The city was split into three parts. The bottom of the hill once housed the peasants with the middle being for the wealthy merchants and nobles. At the top was once occupied by the royalty, though it appeared to be a lifetime ago.

"If I shoot the flare spell up, the salamanders will use that as the perfect opportunity to kill us as part of the revenge. I also fear they have found ways on how to tame the monsters too. This will allow them to reach the cathedral very quickly. And they are prone to attack anything in 'their' territory." Hamatarou finished his story by giving the stone salamander in front of them a disgusted look.

This particular one had tried to kill the druid in his own home, but the druid managed to petrify it and decided to allow it to remain here as a grim reminder that the Salamanders could strike him at any time.

"That should not be a problem. Whenever you meet up with the other races, possibly teleport them to our city?" Qiu Yue suggested, and the others agreed that it seemed like a good idea too. "Besides, you signed the contract, just holler me up if you wish to transport them."

"If it were that easy, I would have been elated the moment I heard you have the ability to teleport people. But it seems like the Salamanders are doing their cleansing job seriously too. There was a tribe I was supposed to meet, but they never appeared. This was also the reason I was late for the meeting as I tried to track their village down."

"Same kind of destruction?" Lynn asked solemnly.

"Worse. The Salamanders massacred and decorated the place with their entrails. They were not even interested in them as food stock because they were too small for their appetite; it seems. Their marks were all over the place, and it felt deliberate. I'm pretty sure that they wanted me to find it that way." Hamatarou replied.

"That is also why I readily accepted your contract. I want to see your world, and see first hand whether it would be liveable for my other subjects."

"...Other subjects?" Lynn repeated that word, and suddenly, the two Sub System users realised.

"...You were the king of this city?" Both asked at the same time which the druid hamster was silent for a while.

"...Prince. An exiled one."

Chapter 489 Extra: Frontal Confrontation - Part 1

It had already been a while since the Deep Ones and Zombies had so much work to do. Transporting all the foodstuff, weapons, armour and back into Gold's home instance while the gold to the Deep One's treasury.

The Half Ghoul Lord Derek wished he could do something more, but for the moment, he obeyed the orders from Gold. Even Mr Derpy was a little restless seeing how much work his minions were doing. That was when Derek had begun talking to Derpy for the first time and became rather good friends. They both agreed that their minions and could do something more meaningful in the future.

Meanwhile, the goblins reached the trading town of Wecha in no time. The sun had yet to rise, and the guards obviously were unaware of the situation in Uote and Youi town.

Wyrstriker had ordered Iwen to circle around the city while Flame Ripper located the main guard quarters of Wecha. "Not a very favourable spot to hit." Flame Ripper said as they noticed how packed the trading town was. The location of the guard quarters made it very convenient for the rats to escape into the minor districts and slums.

"You sure it's a trading town? It appears more like a maximum security prison." Dread Reaver asked as he had discovered a remarkable number of humans in chains who were working even though it was the middle of the night, tolling through the goods that were transported from the various towns. Demon Rat guards were whipping the slaves to make them work harder and faster, which did not make the situation any better.

"The Demon Rats will scatter no matter what unless we trap them by burning the entire place into bits of ashes." The Wyvern Knight added and Flame Ripper concurred.

"This might prove to be a difficult war if the capital is in the same situation as what we see here. No matter how much we try to eradicate these rats, it will not matter unless the farming inhabitants decide to rise up against them as well." Flame Ripper replied.

"Heh, not to mention those outposts that Meomi found? I believe the rat issue will not end for at least several years. They don't seem to be as straightforward as the orcs." Wyrstriker commented.

"Hmm...then I guess the Demon Rats here occupied the previous occupants of the Guard Quarters rather than building a new one like in those smaller towns." Flame Ripper said as he was contemplating whether to hit the guard quarters and risk the possible deaths of the enslaved townsfolk.

"As much as I want to destroy those rats and don't get me wrong, I'm itching to do so, our orders, erm I mean- your orders were to help fan the fire of resistance. Don't you think we should take another approach rather than hitting their guard quarters?" Dread Reaver asked as he shared the sentiments with Flame Ripper.

"Hahaha, why think so much? This was meant as a surprise attack. We might not get an opportunity if we wait around. Just attack from the front gates." Wyrstriker answered, and even Iwen agreed to a

simplistic plan of his partner. "They have walls for a reason. We are attacking them because we want to kill the Demon Rats. Then clearly, we should let the Demon Rats come at us."

"Won't you think the Demon Rats will use the inhabitants as fodders first?" Flame Ripper questioned.

"That is possible but look at it the other way, we can put them down, and they will be part of Jin's helpers, right?" Wyrstriker argued, and the other two chuckled but shook their heads.

"I think Master Jin only wants capable monsters. Having normal humans isn't really part of the list for his dungeon making."

"But even Jin and the other cultivators started out as just humans. If those humans can also train as hard as them, they could become worthy cultivators one day. It's better than living as a slave."

"Technically...speaking we ARE slaves to the System. So I guess you are right, killing them will just put them in a nicer environment. Hahahaha!" Dread Reaver injected which the other two goblins laughed bitterly to.

"At the very least, we were not treated as slaves. Jin had proven time and time again that he wants to improve our lives and not just control them. Although there might be some things, I personally might not have agreed with, like him subjugating the Orcs at first. But, his outcome is usually rational and rather realistic." Flame Ripper added.

"Fine, let's just hope we are not making a mistake by sending these slaves to another master," Dreadreaver replied.

"So, kill all on sight?" Wyrstriker asked for a confirmation.

"Yes kill everything that comes out from the front gate. We will conduct multiple raids if need be. The most important thing is not destroying any of their civilian infrastructure except for their defences. If possible, try to contain the number of civilian casualties. We can't help it if they die, but we should still try to limit their numbers. What is the use of a liberated town if nobody was there to control it?" Flame Ripper said his views out.

"Heh! If we keep attacking, it will eventually disrupt their trading post too. It might be good if we have some other monsters assaulting the trading caravans. More resources for us as well." Wyrstriker suggested as he thought of someone who was itching to have his spear scratched too.

"Hmm, we will see how things go. Maybe, we might make a name for ourselves...as demons by dawn." Flame Ripper and all three loved the idea.

Iwen placed the goblin trio about a few hundred metres from the front gate of Town Wecha and decided to scout from above the city to report the movements of the demon rats. The goblin trio had a System channel connection with Iwen so it would be easy to communicate and they were mainly going to use him to destroy any ranged support the demon rats were going to use.

"Ready?" Flame Ripper asked, and the other two goblins nodded their heads. The descendant of Ifrit lifted his palm up, and sparks magically appeared right above it. Slowly, those sparks revolved around its hands, and the more it spins, the more it looked like a fiery sphere.

"Let's go!" Flame Ripper held onto his arm as he shot the fiery sphere into the direction of Wecha's town gate. It was a rather quiet release like an arrow set loose from a bow until it contacted the town's walls.

"BOOOOM"

A chunk of the wall exploded from the impact, causing debris to fly around its surroundings. Some of the inhabitants that had been staying near the wall were killed directly, and unfortunately, there was no way to go around it. The Demon Rats who had been soundly asleep guarding the area was stunned by the shockwaves as it went to have a look.

Another deafening sound was heard, but this time, Flame Ripper went for the watchtower. It was immediately incinerated into ashes as the fire goblin threw another ball of Ifrit's sparkle at it. That was when the guards had begun to sound the alarm.

"ENEMY! ENEMY! BY THE FRONT GATES!" The demon rat shouted which abruptly awoke the demon rat captain in his guard quarters.

"Resistance?!" The Wecha Demon Rat Captain asked, and the rats were scurrying to get their equipment.

"We cannot confirm how many but they seem to be destroying the town's defences! Its firepower is more demon like!" One of the guards answered, and the Demon Rat Captain grumbled.

"It must be that curse! Rumour said that everywhere those Demon Rat Special Elites go, their enemy will follow suit." The Demon Rat Captain complained as he went to one of the rooms and knocked hard at their doors.

"Yawnnnn, I barely fell asleep, and now you want me to wake up again? Come back in 5 minutes." Claw Rat Specialist 'Quell Poletaker' said sleepily as he unlocked the door for the Demon Rat Captain.

"There are rumours of demons attacking our city right now. Go and vanquish them. That is why you are here right?" The Captain ordered but Quell Poletaker slammed the door right at him.

The Demon Rat Special Elites used that excuse in every town for a place to stay, and this was not an exception. Besides, they were just patrolling at the command of the masters, and those 'demons' they had encountered were only part of the resistance, the apprentices of various Scholars. Hence, Poletake believed this current case was the same.

"It's probably just the resistance. The Dark Templars can make use of the power of demons, but they are still just humans. Call us when you verify it." Poletaker words could be heard through the door, but the Captain punched it back hard.

"Damn you! If they are really demons. It will be too late to do anything!" The Demon Rat Captain said, and there was no response to it. "FUCK! Guards, wake up the rest and prepare to assault this resistance or demons!"

While Flame Ripper was busy hurling balls of fire that destroyed nearly half the walls, Dread Reaver was preparing his spell to patron, his Death Goddess. For every skill that he wished to execute, the Death Knight needed to accumulate 'souls', be it whole or fragmented to activate his skills.

Thus, Dread Reaver had been buying fragmented souls from the System while working at the construction site. He kept most of the souls in his sword, which acted as a conduit for his skills as well as storage purposes. But right now, there was no need to use those souls that he bought.

Thanks to his 'Eyes of the Death God' which was an innate ability of a Death Knight, Dread Reaver was able to discern that those stored souls were unneeded in this particular case. It was fortunate and both unfortunate that there was an abundance of unrestful souls floating around the trading town.

Filled with the stench of unpeaceful deaths, which most were likely from the excessive punishment of slaves, Dread Reaver attempted to collect as much as he could before the killing starts.

As for Wyrstriker, he just stood right beside both of his friends and observed their performance. He took the time to equip himself with the leather armour which Jin had bestowed to them previously. Other than that, he waited patiently for the Demon Rats to appear before them.

"Ranged support incoming," Iwen warned. "But it seems the debris from the past attacks had disabled them from going up the walls...or what is left from it."

"Hmm...some are using the civilian's infrastructure as an elevated platform to shoot." Iwen continued, and Flame Ripper gave Iwen permission to kill. While it was not ideal since he did not wish to destroy any infrastructure owned by the civilians, but some collateral damage could not be avoided.

"Understood." The Wyvern swooped down immediately and spat out a slew of acid on the Demon Rats before flying back up into the dark skies. The Wyvern understood that if he used his fire breath, it could burn the entire place up. On the other hand, those acidic breaths would melt the Demon Rats and do minimal damage to the area.

The Demon Rat Captain who was moving towards the frontlines, saw a frightening terror of a shadow swoop by decimating the Demon Rats while the stone walls remained on fire. It was as if Hell had descended to them.

"Demons! They must be Demons! 1st Wecha Battalion! Charge out! 2nd Battalion, gather the human slaves and use them as cannon fodder to find out their capabilities!" We need to annihilate the demons before the town gets destroyed!" The Demon Rat Captain ordered as he told one of the guards to send word for the Claw Rat Specialist to take care of the demons.

Soon, the goblin Trio could see the first wave of demon rats appearing from the front gates, and Flame Ripper waited for some time until the rest of the demon rats were out of the town to enter the fields.

But as he was waiting, Flame Ripper prepared to shoot at them the very same fiery yellow sparks that conceived his spheres of fire. The Demon Rats somehow managed to deflect the sparks and thought that the demon did not have much power left.

Thus, their battalion leader ordered them to charge forth.

"Heh! Right into our trap." Flame Ripper clapped once, and the sparks of fire ignited into a burst into a pillar of fire, incinerating any rats that were within the radius of the pillar. The Demon Rats were shocked by that attack but did not trouble them much as they continued to charge right in front of them. Death, in their opinion, were also inevitable.

"Dread Reaver you've been preparing for a while, so I guess yours is an anti army attack that could wipe out at least half the battalion right?" Wyrstriker questioned seeing how brilliantly bright the Death Reaper silhouette was shining right above him.

"Correct." Dread Reaver replied as he was reaching the limits of his weapon before he changed into a proper fighting stance.

"Then you won't mind if you let me practice a bit first. After all, I am not as strong as you guys." Wyrstriker said as he inserted chi into his gearbox spear.

Chapter 490 Extra: Frontal Confrontation - Part 2

Wyrstriker took his spear up and with a swirl, he threw the weapon into the army of Demon Rats coming towards them. The gearbox enhanced spear flew into the depths of the enemies' ranks and pierced any rat unlucky enough to find itself in its way.

However, that was not all. At the same time, Iwen attack the rats at the sides of the spear forcing them to either take their chances with the deadly weapon or his incinerating flames. Everywhere the spear moved based on Wyrstriker's chi, Iwen seemed to be in direct synchronisation with its path of trajectory as if the spear was the GPS ping and the wyvern was the tracker that followed it.

Wyrstriker had learnt how to command his spear by infusing chi into it and moved it in a large circle before it landed back on his palms. The two goblin brethren gave a thumbs up for a rather solid effort for a goblin that was side evolved unlike their own step up evolution.

"The thoughts in his brains. Urgh. Gives me the goosebumps at times." Iwen commented on how Wyrstriker loved his buddies' praise, as their symbiotic evolution allowed each one to share their thoughts and feelings even without the need of the System, making the other two goblins laugh.

"You should tell us what he thinks. Do we need to wallop him for any dirty thoughts about the princess." Dread Reaver asked teasingly as if he was hinting that Wyrstriker also had a crush on Starfire.

"Heh! You can keep that princess to yourself! I have no interest in her at all since girls of nobility are the least of my concern. I might have ninety nine other problems, but the princess isn't one of them at all." Wyrstriker replied as the demon rats finally recovered from the attack and began to return back to their basic formation.

Spears and shields at the front, with archers nocking their arrows, all enhanced with Steam Tech ready to crash the Demons standing before them. That was when Dread Reaver came forward and made his appearance by first drawing a circle with his sword around him.

The Death Knight swiftly and aptly controlled his sword with chi that he did not even need to turn his body at all to draw the circle. The sword flew from the back and to the side, enabling him to complete the circle.

"Now. Let me release these lost souls to get their revenge against those monstrous creatures so they can rest in peace." Dread Reaver announced as his sword glowed with a light turquoise colour.

The arrows were let loose from the hastily formed file of archers, but it did not seem to concern any of the goblins. Dread Reaver hardly lifted his sword up, and a wave of angry like Wraiths rushed out from the circle he drew, blocking all of the arrows and subsequently flew over the demon rats' defences annihilating the file of archers.

The frontline of Demon Rats guards did not dare to look back as they heard the pent up wrath of the demented wraiths peeling the flesh off the Demon Rat Archers. Only the rear guard started to panic as they faced the wraiths head on.

However, the conventional weapons as well as the Steam Tech was unable to damage them at all. The attack went right from them with the wraiths recovering the very next moment. Only fire managed to hurt the apparitions or the Demon Rat leaders who had their blades enhanced with litoride ore.

"Interesting. I did not expect their Litoride to work against my wraiths. That is one thing to take note of in the future." Dread Reaver murmured to himself and wondered if the Litoride had a hidden property of holiness or elemental magic in it.

"Hahah! Looks like I won't have to do anything else with the damage your wraiths are doing." Flame Ripper folded his arms, and he watched the guards crumbled right in front of them. Dread Reaver had summoned a row of ethereal Wraith Riders, with spears and pitchforks rushing against the frontline.

"Indeed, and thank you, my friend. It looks like the souls here are extremely delighted in partaking of the culling of the rats here." Dread Reaver smiled, but it was then that Wyvern Iwen notified them about a large mob of humans being thrown into the fray. They looked extremely ill equipped with pitchforks, spades and axe picks. Some of them were even without a weapon spurned by their slave masters whips from behind.

"Well so much for not burdening Jin with any slaves. The Demon Rats had to play dirty." Wyrstriker sighed, and Flame Ripper already had his flames at the ready.

"Let me burn them up quickly to end their suffering. Seeing all these demon rats only disgust me." Flame Ripper was about to shoot his flames, but suddenly all three felt a different presence from usual rushing over from the gates of the Wecha Town. It felt extraordinarily aggressive and reminded them of the bloodlust the orcs had.

"No, no, no! No more killing you demons!" A claw swiped close to Flame Ripper, but he managed to deflect it with the dagger Ifrit bestowed upon him. "Oooh, nice ornate dagger. It will be a pleasant addition to my collection. For a demon to be able to use one, you are no simple demon. I like you already." Claw Specialist Quell Poletaker grinned as his claws vibrated with the use of Steam Tech, but Flame Ripper managed to deflect another quick blow from him.

"Flame R-!" Wyrstiker was also intercepted by another Demon Rat specialist though this time, it was a large abomination rat that was the size of an Ogre with chains tied up through his mouth while another Demon Rat was controlling it at the top of its head....just way smaller than the other demon rats he saw before.

"Tsk! Pesky Demon! Do not dodge!" Rider Specialist Pallet Zort Barbedcutter shouted at Wyrstriker for dodging the attack. "Damn it! Looks like I got the short straw. This one feels weak!"

"Then stop complaining, and kill it before the deathly looking demon knight comes after you instead!" Quell spoke as he exchanged blows with Flame Ripper, but in fact, the goblin was able to dodge or deflect every single one of them.

"I'd say I am the one with the short straw." Dread Reaver snorted as he waved to his brothers and faced the incoming army alone.

"Heh! You are welcome to tag in!" Wyrstriker said as he bent his body backwards to evade the punch while using his gearbox spear to pierce the abomination rat under his elbow.

"No thanks, the souls of this place prefer to kill those rats over there. Have fun with your new friend!" Dread Reaver smirked under his helmet as he plunged his sword into the ground and a mist began to surround both the army and him in it.

"Tsk, looks like that dark knight looks more than trouble! Quickly finish the spear demon!" Quell ordered as he started to speed up with the aid of his Steam Tech. The rats were unable to understand the goblin trio, but they saw that Dread Reaver seemed keen on dealing with their army instead of helping the other two.

This meant that the death knight was confident of his comrades being able to deal with them on their own, forcing the Specialists to hurry to prevent further losses. On the other hand, Flame Ripper felt refreshed from the battle.

"Been a long time since I fought someone at this speed. But you are not someone I will bother to waste more than a few minutes." Flame Ripper said asking the System to help translate its speech to his enemy as he continued to parry his attacks.

"Says someone who had yet to even strike once. Please! I am a Specialist! One of the chosen elite by the Great Scholars! You think I will be defeated by the likes of y-?" Flame Ripper finally understood his pattern of attack and cut him down by sliding his dagger under his arms and eventually up to his neck.

It caused his right arm to be amputated and subsequently, the specialist rat was decapitated.

"You talk too much. Should have focused more on the battle." Flame Ripper lectured the dead demon rat's body laying in front of him.

"QUELL!" Zort saw his comrade perish surprisingly quickly and immediately attacked Quell's body with a whip. Making use of Zort's momentary distraction, Wyrstiker took the chance to pierce the neck of the Demon Rat.

"Didn't your instructors ever tell you not to be distracted during a fight?" Wyrstriker asked with glee, but the abomination Rat did not fall from the spear attack and instead grabbed the spear and pulled it out. Wyrstriker tried to pull it out of his enemies hand by applying the same amount of force, but it was useless. The abomination rat took the spear and threw it side wards and the goblin along with it.

"Distracted? You fool! My creations are undead! You have no chance to defeat us." Zort laughed at the small flying demon and believed it would crash into something and die. Never did he think that throwing Wyrstriker into the air was the worst possible option.

Iwen managed to soften the blow of the impact of Wyrstriker's flight with its belly before the little fellow grabbed onto his wyvern's leg for support. "See, I told you the food you let me eat was worth it," Iwen smirked a little as it allowed his master to climb up onto him by helping him hold up his spear with its mouth.

"Yeah, Yeah. I shall treat you to something nice once this is over. Thanks, buddy." Wyrstriker patted his companion on the side as he got up properly and took the spear back.

In the meantime, Flame Ripper was forced to contend with not one but two opponents. With that whip attack, Zort had resurrected Quell as his underling puppet and commanded it to fight against the flame goblin assassin.

"Ho, Ho! I did not expect your body to be so well articulated my old friend! I guess the fresher the body and the more trained it is, the better the puppet it makes." Zort laughed maniacally as he made his puppet friend attack the goblin consistently.

"Bah! I should just overwhelm you two with my powers!" Flame Ripper replied, but Wyrstriker told him to delay that plan.

"That prey is mine to kill," Wyrstriker said resolutely as he was already halfway diving from the skies and down towards Zort. Flame Ripper deduced he would just become the distraction Wyrstriker needed to execute that dive attack so he might as well focus against the undead claw specialist.

"Too bad, you were much more useful as a sparring partner when you were alive." Flame Ripper said as he ignored the blow from the abomination rat and went towards the undead Quell. If it did not have a head to chop, then slice the whole damn thing into pieces.

And slicing it to many pieces, Flame Ripper did.

However, that was not all Flame Ripper had executed as he quickly dodged the next swipe by the abomination rat. Zort tried to control the undead Quell, who was aimlessly standing, but there was no effect at all. This distraction gave Wyrstriker all he needed to swoop down quietly from Iwen's back and pierce the Demon Rat through its skull and later into the spine of the abomination rat.

As the spear goblin achieved that move, Iwen managed to turn away in time from crashing into the ground and took to the skies once again. "Gosh, thank goodness this undead puppet master did not have any other abominations with it."

"It is not exactly playing with magic..." Flame Ripper said as the abomination rat fell onto Quell who was eventually dispersed into many pieces from the cuts that Flame Ripper did.

"I found this attached to that dead guy. Looks like a controlling device." The dagger goblin showed it to his pal, and they could see it looked like it was a marvel of steam engineering. They picked up Zort's weapon and noticed that the whip was made up of many of those bug like components, seemingly alive.

"So that guy is not using magic but controlling him with this tiny little bug like device?" Wyrstriker asked, but Flame Ripper could only shrug his shoulders.

"Could be just a component of the Steam Tech. Let's be safe and pass it to our dear Head Researcher Ayse. She might be able to have a glimpse of what it does." Flame Ripper suggested.

"Heh, normally, we will just throw this kind of stuff down on the ground. Looks like working with Jin made us fairly paranoid as well." Wyrstriker said as he turned his head to the misty fog and heard terrified screams of both rats and humans.

They noticed how the enemy tried to walk, run or even crawl out of the fog, but there was this invisible force that brought them back into the mist. "HHELP ME!!! I DO NOT WANT TO GOOO IN THERE!!" A human slave tried his best to hold on to a bunch of grass, but it was futile. The fog mysteriously pulled him in as they could see the slave's fingers were plunged deep into the soil, being dragged along.

"Seems like Dread Reaver is handling stuff very efficiently," Wyrstriker mentioned and offered to take the odd looking contraption back to Ayse. Flame Ripper agreed and opened a portal for him.

They could not have known that that particular little contraption was all that was needed to turn the tide of this unending Demon Rat infestation.