

Dungeon S 511

Chapter 511 Opening Ceremony - Part 1

"Oei, sleepyhead. Time to wake up!" The intercom voice sounded like it's from Yun as Jin felt groggy within the sleeping capsule from the forced awakening.

"... Five more minutes." Jin managed to grumble as he could barely move any part of his body within the uncomfortable capsule. He was too tired from another night's worth of projects with what little money he was left with.

"It's your big day. Do you plan to skip out on your own opening ceremony?" Yun asked through the intercom once more, and the System proceeded with opening the capsule without waiting for Jin's permission. The amount of black sludge, as usual, was more than terrifying but the System had already collected today's worth, and the rest was for Jin to keep.

Yun could see that Jin's head was still drooping from the heaviness of his sleep, so she personally went into the dungeon maker's room to pick him up. With a snap of her finger, they were instantly teleported to the Emerald Mountain Hot Spring Instance. At her beckoning, the Panda Masseur from the wooden cabin came out to carry Jin to the changing room aiding his barely awoke master in changing to something skimpier.

But instead of a bath, the Panda Masseur brought Jin onto his massage table and started to work its panda massage magic on Jin. The System had provided the masseur with a type of essential oil which was enriched with various effects to perk Jin up and bring his energy back.

"Master, I am starting from the back." The Panda said as he placed his paws on Jin's scapula and started to rub the fatigue out of his body. Jin, who was aware of the massage, became briefly unconscious from the pleasure of the massage and the instant relaxation of his muscle made his body to go all soft.

The Panda Masseur smiled, seeing his massage working as intended and proceeded to his lower back, subsequently his legs and later back up to his arms. At the last part, the Panda placed a warm wet towel that encompassed the whole of Jin and allowed him to experience the heaviness of the towel as well as the comforting warmth of it inside the air conditioned cabin.

"Master, you are good to go for a bath." The Panda Masseur said as he removed the towel and gave him an ordinary one to cover his genitals for decency sake.

"Gosh, I feel so much more refreshed than ever. I didn't even realise that my shoulders were previously stiff as a piece of hardwood. They are so relaxed now~. Thank you." Jin praised the other for his work as he wrapped his lower part of the body and went to shower.

Suddenly the penguins that were manning the hot spring instance dashed into the same cubicle as Jin and pressured him to sit on a stool as they wash his entire body for him. "What are you guys doing?! I can shower myself!" Jin exclaimed as a penguin placed its two flippers onto Jin's face and began rubbing it with face wash.

"Lady Yun's orders. She said there is not much time left before the opening ceremony. A crowd of people has already formed, and she asked us to assist you in your bathing in case you fall asleep while bathing. She is not taking any chances with you. Please pardon us for the assistance." The penguins

exclaimed as they began to scrub Jin's body from head to toe after not showering properly for the past few days. (Disgusting, but true.)

After which, the penguins opened a portal which led him back to the room with his towel barely on. Yun had already prepared an appropriate set of clothes, belt and even shoes for him. "Quickly get changed. The crowd is getting anxious."

"How big can the crowd be? It's just the reopening of their old district. It hasn't been that long..." Jin grumbled once more as he quickly wore his underpants with Yun looking the other way, busy with some messages on the phone. As soon as Jin was done looking decent in his new outfit, his supposed motherly figure had put a Lynn-made sandwich in his confused looking mouth.

"Eat the sandwich, another one is on your study table if you want more. Here's the script that has been prepared for you." Yun instructed as she helped him trim his unkempt hair. Yun somehow was able to pull off this magic trick where the hair would disappear the moment it was cut away, enabling Jin to enjoy his sandwich while he reluctantly read the script that was vetted by the System.

"Do I really have to do this? Can't I send out Another Jin in my stead?" Jin asked Yun as she berated him to not move his head and only his mouth.

"No you can't. I know you it might seem boring to you and not exactly what you want to do, but it's your district now, and you have to accept some of the responsibilities. Also, it's exactly because it hasn't been that long, which caused the interest in your district to be that big." Yun said as she lifted his hair and snipped it off.

"Your little stunt of building a gigantic tree was one thing, which many had accepted that you used some impeccable 'Trade Secret' level of magic, but you basically rebuilt an entire district within a week, and that made everyone's attention to be on you."

"Grandma Yuan received a call from the governor of Shenzhen informing her that he was hoping to be a guest for this opening. They did not expect the place to open so soon and they cleared their schedule just for this." Yun replied, emphasising his new duties as the landlord.

"And it looks like it's not just her but a few other big shots from the Demon Exorcist organisation who will be coming in to take a look at the place as well. Teacher told me the big wigs were impressed by the district's recovery and decided to personally discuss the opening of the branch headquarters for Shenzhen with you. It's your opportunity to get a big cheque from them!" Yun added, astounding Jin with her form of address for the old woman.

"I am actually surprised that Shenzhen does not have branch headquarters." Jin wondered aloud as he chewed on his food and awaited Yun's reply since he'd rather listen to her rumbling than memorise the script. He figured the System would prompt Jin with the script in the case he 'forgot'.

"There was a small outpost here that acted as the branch headquarters previously. It was led by Teacher, but as she gained renown, that outpost became a training centre cum headquarters. In recent years, she closed that training centre due to old age and only took a few bunch of kids as part of the minimum requirement to continue enjoying the perks of the Demon Exorcist organisation." Yun explained as she magically summoned an electric shaver and comb and helped Jin to further trim the sides.

"You knew quite a bit..." Jin wanted to know if Yun could remember anything about her old past. Just a mere glimpse would be better than nothing.

"All of those were from some past articles I read. Nothing too classified nor from my supposed old memories. You know it wouldn't exactly hurt you to read up things like that yourself." Yun answered understanding what Jin was hinting at as she requested Jin to lower his head a little.

"In any case, I can only do this much for you. Whether you want to follow the script or ad-lib it, it's all up to you. Now go out there and cut that damn red ribbon so we can start work." Yun smiled at him as she teleported Jin back to the Shop Instance, and people started to become aware that the new landlord had finally arrived.

"Woah! Boss Jin! It's unusual to see you wear something so smart! " Yue Wen, the Healing Maiden Cultivator shouted as she waved at Jin from afar. That shout alone was enough to start the wave of congratulations to Jin for the successful construction of the new Tiangong Tree Mall. She and the other Pandawans were queuing up too, though not as early as the rest in the crowd.

"Alright, alright! Let him through! If you guys want to see the opening ceremony, just go to the first floor of the Mall!" Yun, who magically appeared behind Jin, looked formally with a full business suit and screamed at the customers to make way.

The old store was still operational for a few more days at least until the end of December to make people aware of the new store in the Tree Mall before Jin would officially close it. (Well technically, he can leave the shophouse alone since he was the landlord, but the instances would be moved away to the new mall.)

While most of the Pandawans came to lend their support, it was not their only reason for coming. Jin had sent out the audit report on the charity funds on the day before and indicated that because of their donations, the Tiangong Tree Mall was able to start earlier than scheduled.

In return for the expedited opening, Jin had thanked the loyal customers and cultivators with a special reward. Those who had donated would be given a 'donor' status depending on the amount they had given. For those who gave less than 100 Yuan, they were given vouchers for the various stores via the Pandamonium App by Jin. The first five dungeons they decided to play for the month of December and January would be offered at a 25% discount too.

Between 100-1000 Yuan? Jin had given them Silver Donor status, and they were given the same benefits as the Donor status, but their benefits were up to ten dungeons (depending on the contribution) would come with 50% discount from December to February.

There were a few who donated more than 1000 Yuan and those were bestowed with the Gold Donor Status with their next ten dungeons priced at 25% of the normal cost price no matter when they decided to come. Not only that, they were given three times the number of e-vouchers to spend in the Tiangong Tree Mall.

As for most generous donor, whose contribution was a six-digit figure, he was given Platinum Donor Status. This came with multiple benefits (including a custom Hippo & Egret Plushie), the most obvious being that anything that was purchased in the Tiangong Tree Mall would be free for life. That was none other than Xiong Da, who was also the guest of honour for the opening ceremony.

Jin thanked all of them, but Yun pressed him to move faster out of the store instance and into reality as the first thing they saw were reporters vans and an unbelievably long queue of people that were lined up from the front and side gates of the Tree Mall. It was so damn long that the queue line was all the way to his original shophouse and beyond.

All of them were dying to try out the new Tiangong Tree Mall which had been aggressively advertised by Kiyu in the past few days too. Neither the System nor his comrades in arms had bothered to inform him about it, as Jin was fighting the (seemingly neverending) battle of creating instances.

"Oh my god." Jin could not believe the sight in front of him as Yun pulled his arm to take Jin back to Earth and they both used their chi to jump and sprint in mid air. The people in waiting were wowing at the sight of the two cultivators literally jumping dozens of meters at once into the air, which was a feat people recognised as a feat of highly cultivated individuals.

As Yun and Jin moved closer to the site of the Opening Ceremony, Yun purposely twirled and pushed Jin forward while inciting her cultivation to appear. Along with Eight Panda Silhouettes, more copies of it playfully surrounded Jin via Yun's cultivation. The Astral Panda Cultivator flew forward with tens of Pandas circling him, eventually gracefully aiding him to land on the stage platform where everyone took pictures and videos of it happening.

The multiple panda silhouettes fused into one towering Panda figure before it gradually disappeared right above Jin. "Good Afternoon, esteemed guests and fellow friends." Jin started as he adjusted the mike on stage.

"Welcome to the new Tiangong Tree Mall."

Chapter 512 Opening Ceremony - Part 2

Jin gave a short opening speech describing how the store owners were resilient despite the despicable attack by the Ruby Rats. He, however, did not openly condemn them but instead used them as the defining example of how this district had overcome adversity and grew to be better through this trial by fire.

However, with the exception of a few select guests, Jin noticed that the majority of the audience was not too interested in this kind of long opening speech, so he decided to cut it short. At the same time, Jin signalled Yun as the moderator to get on with the ceremony.

"Please give a big round of applause for our dear Mayor Cheng Rui and our biggest sponsor, the guest of honour, Mister Xiong Da who has helped to kickstart the opening of the Tiangong Tree Mall to the stage," Yun announced to the audience which perked them up. (Initially, Kiyu was supposed to fulfil this role, but Kraft had suddenly called all the foxes to his side, including Pei. He did place a failsafe within the bracelet instance to make a return if Jin ever needed her urgently.)

The Shenzhen Mayor was the first to go up to the platform, followed by Xiong Da. The two of them came to greet Jin by shaking his hands before he took out a ball like structure. Jin then asked them to

also put their hands on the ball and on the count of three, the trio simultaneously pushed the button together.

A series of confetti poppers went off, and everyone started to clap furiously, seemingly trying to accelerate the ceremony, eager to discover all the wonders of this new district. Yet no one had expected that particular ball like structure to be a button to light up the entire Tree Tiangong Mall with Christmas decoration lights. While the scene could have been more magnificent at night, the lights at the moment were sufficient to attract the media's attention.

Soon, Jin also remotely released the locks from the glass doors and the people in front of those entrances immediately rushed in at the sight of the glass doors opening. If not for the fact that Jin had used reinforced glass, some potential accidents could already have happened.

As the crowd entered, they were immediately amazed by how spacious it looked and at the gorgeous sight of the Panda Tian Gong Statue. As prompted by the Farming Humans that were acting as guides for the opening ceremony, most of the customers had already installed the Pandamonium App. This allowed them to quickly transition into the area and the various store instances.

The System itself had underestimated the size of the initial crowd and had applied a quick fix to the Panda Statues. Without the need to touch them, anyone within a fifteen metre radius could use their phone to teleport into the respective Store Instance.

Everyone rushed frantically to the places they had read up on online or via the brochures handed out to them while waiting for the opening. Kiyu and Kraft had done a fantastic job in the past few days to aggressively advertise on the Tiangong Tree Mall.

Shots of the various instances with Kiyu trying them out first hand in the Mall Preview had piqued many people's interest, and there were promises of wonderful door gifts or at least on the first day with many discounts to be expected.

Ke Loong was also among one of the few honoured guests who participated in the opening ceremony and seeing how the temporary stage area was the only safe area to talk, the few guests who wished to mingle remained in that particular area.

"Boss Jin! Sorry to hear about what has happened to the district. I've been away in Germany to discuss about the production of the portal. I am glad to see what you did to the place." Ke Loong greeted Jin with a hearty handshake. He ensured Jin that the portals were made of the highest quality and not to compromise with the materials since human lives were at stake.

"I see, did you manage to make any improvements with our researchers on deck?" Jin asked even though the System was updating him about the current circumstances of the portal situation.

"Excellent! Even my Chief Engineer Bo Ze was bewildered when they showed him some of the relevant parts. Must say, you are one sneaky Boss. You allowed us to build the entire portal device, but you withheld the most important part for it to work." Ke Loong said, and Jin furrowed his eyebrows as he assumed that all the portal device were made with Earth's material.

"User, System had placed a failsafe part that needs to come from you first in order to regulate the number of portals that could be built. The part had something to do with the Lost Tech found in Goblin World." System revealed to Jin while he was laughing at Ke Loong's replies.

"I thought you said that all the items would be from Earth?"

"That particular Lost Tech is merely a key. There would have been ways to replicate it, but it was cheaper to use the original method. It's needed to kickstart the processor in the portal device once." The System stated.

"According to simulations, the Lost Tech part will disappear upon use, hence making it hard to impossible to replicate it on Earth and abusing it. System understood that User had some concerns previously that he was unwilling to address during the negotiations. This was the last failsafe before they could begin the Portal Revolution in this world." The System for once was concerned for Jin and wanted him to be very sure to go ahead with it.

"Thanks," Jin said to the System with a smile showing on to Ke Loong before he continued.

"Ke Loong, I am sorry to disappoint you, but I fear releasing the portals might be a bit too soon for commercial use." Jin continued, and Ke Loong was confused.

"What do you mean? I have already ordered and produced over a hundred portal devices. Isn't it a bit too late to back out now?" Ke Loong tried to remain calm and wanted to hear the reason Jin gave first before making any assumptions that he was backing out for selfish reasons.

The implications of the portal device would significantly empower the Chinese economy and most importantly, his company.

"No. Please don't misunderstand me. What I meant is that we should regulate the use of the portal. Instead of allowing any Tom, Dick and Harry going to use it as if it was free." Jin replied, and Ke Loong subsequently got what he meant.

"Something like airports security?" Ke Loong asked, and Jin nodded his head.

"While the potential crisis of a security threat will always be looming, we should do things that can reduce such risks. After experiencing it myself, I'd rather not be responsible for someone abusing it and creating another disaster like the Ruby Rat Attack." Jin clarified, as the Mayor of Shenzhen came walking towards him at an inopportune time.

"Greetings, Mr Xie. It seems like your Tree Mall is a hit." Cheng Rui said, and Ke Loong who was contemplating on what Jin said nodded and took his leave for the moment. The Sea Mesh CEO told Jin he would contact him soon to discuss more pertaining to that outstanding issue in front of the Mayor.

"Mayor...Cheng. To grace our humble little district with your presence, I consider it an honour." Jin greeted the other in a courteous way, and the Mayor laughed at Jin's attempt at flattery. Cheng Rui understood that the dungeon supplier was just throwing pleasantries at him for the sake of it, yet he acted the part too.

"The pleasure is all mine. It is unfortunate that the government was not able to help you in time for the unfortunate incident a few days ago." Cheng Rui sent his condolences to Jin. "We will do our best to get

the resurrection procedure up and running for the dead victims as soon as possible. And we were also planning to aid this particular district in terms of the rebuilding. But I believe you already beat us to it."

"What can I say? The support for this place was overwhelming. Although I'd like to add that additional fundings would be appreciated. You know... assuring the maintenance of the aesthetics won't come cheap, especially if one considers how costly the purchase alone was...." Jin would definitely not turn down extra money should the government grant him some.

"While that is true, the public funding is not that great as well. Seeing as it has already been rebuilt, support in allocating our budget for reconstruction may be a bit hard, but we cannot leave such selfless devotion unrewarded. If the crowd remains plentiful, I will try to bring it up at our next meeting." Cheng Rui was pushing the responsibility back to the young chap right in front of him. If Jin was able to build this much, he definitely had the money to support the upkeep of this particular place.

"Then I suppose I will not expect any support from you," Jin stated bluntly as he thanked his time from coming and moved along. Cheng Rui was shocked that Jin would just walk away from him. Did he not realise what power he held as the mayor of Shenzhen?

"Maybe I should teach that little ignorant kid a lesson..." Cheng Rui was starting to get a bit furious at such disrespect, which he hadn't encountered for ages. Just as he wanted to say something, he suddenly heard someone shouting Jin's name. At a closer look, the person who was waving at him had multiple guards surrounding him.

"Ahh! Jin! Congratulations!" The Royal Tiger Zodiac Head, Hu Yuan Ba was holding onto a mega hamper. Jin was making large strides towards him with the guards making way for him to pass through.

"Mr Hu! Thank you for coming to my mall's opening ceremony! I have to admit, we have not expected your presence. Otherwise, we would have prepared the necessary accommodations for someone of your standing!" Jin said in delight which he graciously received the hamper and Yuan Ba gave him a hug befitting of an Honorary Tiger Clan member.

"Hahaha! Nonsense, that won't be necessary! Just call me Yuan Ba! Or maybe Dad would be good in the near future!" Yuan Ba half joked as he placed his hand on Jin's shoulders and gazed at the colossal tree that was right in front of him while Yang Ling who was right beside him playful punched her father for saying the last line.

"Damn this little kid sure surprises me at every corner. Good work recovering this place!"

"I figure your Triad Head had briefed you what had happened?" Jin asked, and the two Royal Zodiac members nodded their head. "At least allow me to properly thank you for coming to my aid when I least expected it. Without that, things might have turned out for the worse." Jin took a step back and bowed sincerely.

"No worries! After what you did for me, or should I say us, it was the least I could do." Yuan Ba gleefully replied until Mayor Cheng Rui decided to greet the Head of the Royal Zodiac Tiger Clan. The guards, however, did not even move an inch away, barring the mayor from entering.

"Ah, Dad. That is the mayor of Shenzhen." Yang Ling pointed out to him, and Yuan Ba nodded his head slowly in acknowledgement.

"I am not interested in greeting anybody else for today." Yuan Ba announced loudly, and the guards in their black suits immediately asked the Mayor to back away.

"Then how come that kid is able to talk to him?" Mayor Cheng Rui defied and questioned the guards.

"Because he is one of us." The Head Guard answered in his stead in the most professional manner and told Mayor Cheng Rui to back off or face the consequences. Only then did the Shenzhen mayor realised he might have made a grave mistake for ignoring Jin a few moments ago.

No one had informed him that this little kid who was capable of reviving a shopping district a few days after its destruction was also friends with one of the twelve Royal Zodiac Clan's Head and treated like they had familial relations too.

"I see...I'm sorry to have interrupted the Tiger Lord." Mayor Cheng Rui nodded his head in embarrassment, and he quickly took off. He was pondering whether to swallow his pride and offer some grants to Jin to mend their relationship, only to encounter another respectful figure.

The guards who saw her nodded their heads in acknowledgement and immediately allowed her to enter.

"Looks like this little tiger is still fit as a fiddle after that particular incident." Grandma Yuan greeted him, and though Yuan Ba held his head high in the face of anyone else, he quickly lowered his at the sight of her. He even clasped his hands together and greeted Grandma Yuan formally. Yang Ling did much the same, but as she was still in a wheelchair (for appearance sake to potential enemies in a huge crowd), she limited it to a small bow.

Jin was a little perplexed at the current scene, and Grandma Yuan smirked at him. "What are you so surprised about, you little brat? At my age, I have known most of the heads from the time they were still in their diapers!" Grandma Yuan emphasised the last part leading to a slight blush on Jin's face as she told them all to be at ease.

Only after a few exchanges did Jin realised that Yuan Ba had formerly been a student of Grandma Yuan's as well. Not as a direct disciple but a mere student of her class.

"I did not know that Grandma was that famous." Jin blurted at, and a wooden stick knocked on his head before Grandma Yuan used some chi to take it back.

"Jin, I don't suppose you can bring Yang Ling around? I have a few things to discuss with Grandmaster Yuan." Yuan Ba suggested, and Jin nodded as he pushed Yang Ling forward.

"So is that considered an approval from your dad to bring you out for another date?" Jin teased Yang Ling, and her face turned red almost immediately. She knew that he was joking but could not help feeling something for him. (This time Kraft was innocent.)

"Don't be such a tease, my Dad knows what kind of man I like. You have a long way to go." Yang Ling stuck her tongue out as comfortably allowed Jin to slowly push her into the new Tiangong Tree Mall. (There were guards to aid with the movement of their VIP too but in a less forceful manner.)

Chapter 513 Extra: Weslie's Revival

Gold was right beside Weslie when she woke up. The female scholar was amazed by the sterile, comfortable setting she found herself in compared to the slightly dark, cold and dull walls she had been trapped in for the past months. Gold grabbed onto her hand so tightly that she nearly feared her arm was going to fall off from all the numbness.

"What is this place?" Weslie asked as she enjoyed the beautiful seaside scenery outside the window with the winds from the ocean blowing into the room. (Were this not an instance, Jin would have trouble maintaining the building)

"Just as I told you, the power of our new Master is unbelievable. Think of it as a part of a small world in and of itself. One he created thanks to his powers." Gold chuckled and began to tell her more about what life was like under the System, their new Master Jin and brought her up to date.

With Gold rambling like a grandfather, the Panda Nurses interrupted them once or twice to provide some food for the Scholar of the West. After the first bite, Weslie couldn't believe it. No matter what, each bite was nothing short of it being delicious. Seeing how preoccupied Weslie was eating, Gold stopped with his tales and partook the meal together with her.

It had been a long time since Weslie felt this way and appreciated every single waking moment with Gold. His details in the stories were equally juicy and sometimes very animated since Gold utilised some magic to show some of his past memories that he had gone through. This lasted until after the sun had set when one more Panda Nurse came in to check on Weslie, asking if they needed anything.

"So...whew. That's that." Gold said as he took a glass of water for himself by the table.

"That's all? I am disappointed." Weslie replied with a jab in her response and Gold nearly fell for it.

"Hmm...I might have one more surprise story to tell for the ages to come." Gold revealed mysteriously as he asked her to close her eyes. At that moment, he used the storage ring, which Jin gifted him and pulled out a mirror he got from the previous Panda Nurses when Weslie was too busy with the food.

"Okay, you can open them now but do it slowly."

Weslie listened and opened her eyes gradually, only to see a familiar looking reflection of in front of her. She was stunned. Astonished by the current look on her face. She tried to touch the face, only for the mirror image to replicate her action before she put her hand on her own cheek. She knew that beauty wouldn't last and Gold had claimed he was willing to accept her for who she was, regardless of her looks, yet Weslie was unable to comprehend the image that was portrayed in the mirror.

Her face was completely back to normal, there was no protrusion of the muscle nor bones or any scars or blemishes as well.

"I...this... I erm..." Weslie was at a loss of words as she covered her mouth and tears began to fall. "Is this really me? I am a normal person...?" She asked as she too could not feel the link of the necromancy magic tied to her repeated resurrection.

"Told ya it was a good story." Gold winked at her, and she responded with a quick hug.

"Thank you...Thank you...for returning me to normal." Weslie whispered as she quietly sobbed on his shoulders. Gold instinctively wanted to say it was not entirely his effort, but even a romance idiot should know that it was best to keep quiet for now.

When Weslie had calmed down, Gold opened the door for her, and it was as if she stepped into another world. 'Welcome Scholar of the West!' A large banner was set up on the ceiling and poppers were used alongside a unison of shouting coming from the various mansion floors.

Apparently, the System had temporarily linked a ward of the Luxury Recovery Instance with Gold's home instance, so the moment they stepped out, they would be in Gold's mansion.

The numerous werejackals and a number of the Dark Templars including the newly joined ones who had 'survived' the trial of death and fiery destruction welcomed the newest addition from the Farming World into Gold's mansion.

They celebrated because Weslie had been one of the more popular and well received scholars among the current four in the Compass Tower. Thus, everyone was excited to see that the Scholar of the West not only survived but was now on the side of 'good' too.

Gold had prepped them in advance via the System channel to ensure the surprise welcome would go off without a hitch. He even allowed the werejackals to open the wine stashes, they had previously plundered and ask the penguins to cook up some good food all under his System's account. However, everyone knew how difficult it was to earn System points and because it was a joyous occasion, every single Werejackal, including the new ones chimed in some form or another. Be it points or effort to set up the whole welcoming party.

Meomi and the goblins even came back from their assault missions to partake in the party while sharing the information they had from all the scouting of caves and raiding of towns. Ke Mi was invited to showcase some of her musical talents which surprisingly took place in the form of DJing.

Many were amazed and bewildered by Ke Mi's beauty and skill with her in traditional Chinese clothes while wearing her headphones as she rocked the house with some catchy music from Earth and a few songs of her own creation.

The Great White snake no doubt played a big part by aiding Ke Mi to move around the various DJ machines as they partied all night long. Weslie took some time to warm up, but after seeing how the werejackals did it, she began to loosen herself up though never once did she leave Gold's side. (Or was Gold the clingy one?)

It was a crazy night filled with booze, music and decent company until everyone dropped dead tired. In the meantime, the all seeing System also had made sure to dilute the temporal manipulation of the home instance so the entire group would have sufficient time to rest and ensuring that their plants especially the delicate ones would not be affected by their party.

Come morning, the bellators and Yun visited their home instance along with a few helpers. Milk and the Panda Nurses aided each and every drunken werejackal back to their rooms while ensuring they were not overly intoxicated.

Yun got a few Deep Ones with her and began cleaning the place up. In the meantime, Zeru and a few sober Werejackals who had refused to drink too much had begun to pack the remaining food items that were not eaten into various packages as they would be sent over to the Ording Sanctuary for the Mousefolks.

Zeru figured the leftover food was too good to be thrown away and considering it was still edible, it should not be wasted into the Lost Tech Recycler and be given to the Mousefolk instead. Besides, the weremice deserved some reward for practising every day and night while preparing for the inevitable fight against the Demon Rats.

As they were nimble enough and great with ranged weapons, Zeru had taught them not only the proper way to use swords but introduced them to guns. That is right, Zeru may have come from a different time period, but he studied various different weapons, including the newer ranged one.

While he might only know the basic Weapon Arts for guns, Zeru had a strong foundation in it for he had to learn how guns worked to counter them properly. To be ignorant of other weapons other than the one he was holding was a folly of his old master and the demise of the original Lotus Clan.

Thus, the Mousefolk became competent in both guns and swords, making them versatile warriors and their reward for their hard work was the constant upgrading of their sanctuary even though it was a temporary one. They had better beds, easier access to water and improved sanitation as well as a constant supply of food from the System.

Somehow, Zeru had placed a lot of effort on the Mousefolk as if he saw something in them, but whatever it was, the System lets Zeru do as he pleased as long as he answered Jin's command.

Chapter 514 Extra: Weslie's New Job

After recovering from the party, Gold and Weslie headed to the Research Instance where Ayse and the other fellow Humanoid researchers were doing work. Gold introduced Weslie as the inventor of the Steam Technology which made Ayse incredibly furious at the sound of that.

"YOU KNOW HOW DIFFICULT IT WAS TO SORT YOUR STUFF!!" Ayse voice boomed, but Weslie stood her ground without wavering. That was when she calmly asked the Head Researcher to show her the inventory. Even the Scholar of the West was baffled by the number of parts salvaged by the System.

But with a quick glance, Weslie understood how Ayse sorted them and realised what she had done was too inefficiently. "I see where the problem is. You are sorting base of similar designs, but that is not the underlying concept of Steam Tech. It will give you a headache considering how much the System had accumulated. So instead of that, sort via this particular serial number instead." Weslie said and explained that while the serial number and the designs of the Steam Tech differ, the materials used as well as the engine used were the same.

"In that case, System is able to sort the various Steam Tech Parts for the Research Team without too much of a hassle as compared to the previous iteration of sorting." The System replied and lifted the entire warehouse worth of Steam Tech. Suddenly, everything disappeared in a blink of an eye and appeared again within a moment's notice.

Now, the Steam Tech parts were placed according to their serial numbers as suggested by the inventor and Weslie showed them how the various editions of the Steam Tech items were improved. Some of the Humanoid Researchers were interested in combining the Steam Tech and the Lost Tech together so they could use it for Jin's new Mecha if it were possible for the Mecha World.

Surely, if Jin would to accidentally 'kidnap' someone from the Mecha World, they could utilise the Mecha World's knowledge as well and further enhance the machines. But for now, it was meant to improve the engines of Sandroku Golems or for future designs.

In the meantime, Ayse had a few questions for the Weslie since ever since she had begun tinkering with the Steam Tech. But the first and more pertaining question was that one Steam Tech Part that the Goblins had found.

The bug looking Steam Tech.

Weslie took a long time to inspect it and then recalled making this particular steam tech part. "Isn't this from one of the specialists? One of you managed to defeat a specialist?" The Scholar of the West was in awe that this new Master she was serving had minions powerful enough to rival one of the elites that the North and South Scholars had to offer.

"Indeed, not just one, but two of them." Ayse smiled as she brought out the Steam Tech items that were related to those two Elite Demon Rats.

"I see...I did some individual tweaking for them, but I produced it under a spell so I could not remember much. I can try to reverse engineer this particular Steam Tech to the best of my ability." Weslie said, and Gold felt suspicious about what she just said.

"You were under a spell?" he asked with some concern.

"Yea, there was a period where I refused to do under their bidding, seeing how they had so much firepower in their hands already. North and South used more of their necromancy magic to control my emotions and body, demanding me to fulfil their orders." Weslie said, and at that moment, Ayse was curious.

"I wonder...why do you two speak as if they were still revered as the Scholar of the North and South? Can't you just say their names." Ayse asked as she walked them out of the warehouse and back into the main lab.

"For me, it simply infuriates me to use their names. That's all." Gold said, and Weslie nodded her head in agreement. "If you wish to know. Nathan Welihelm for the North or as I called him Whinyhelm. Douglas Olgret for the South. Did not expect Douglas to collude with Whinyhelm. I thought he had more backbone than North." Gold felt as if he had said some taboo words and refused to speak more about them.

Ayse somehow understood what they were going through and kept quiet until they reach the front of a locked room within the main lab.

"I had placed whatever Gold taken from the basement of the factory to this room. While we initially wanted you to continue spying for us against Nath- The North and South Scholars, we figured it would be useless since Gold literally TOOK everything from the basement before returning back to the System." Ayse complained while eyeing at the guilty werejackal.

"Ehhhh, when Kraft and the System said to take her stuff, I did assume everything I deemed valuable and throw them in the storage ring..." Gold replied while scratching his head.

"Besides, when Kraft killed both the demons, they should have known that you would have defected or at least not survive since the link to keep you alive was destroyed."

"Sorry Ayse, he can be quite dumb for a scholar at times. I do not mind either way. At the very least, I can work the stuff I want in peace." Weslie replied with a relieved smile.

"Just not this piece of junk..." She said as she held the bug looking Steam Tech. The Scholar of the West did at least promise that she would look into it and reverse engineer if possible.

"What are you previously interested in? You seem well versed in mechatronics, and so I assumed you would want to work more with it." Ayse asked which Gold sniggled and shook his head.

"She liked to rear animals. The Western Region of the Farming World is famous for its quality of erm...animal meat." Gold said and as if the System were eavesdropping from plain sight, spoke out of hand.

"System wished to fund Scholar of the West her research should she able to increase the yield and quality of the animal products." The System said which frightened Weslie as it came out of nowhere.

"User or in your case, Master had created a sector solely for animal rearing. Should Scholar of the West able to increase the rearing capabilities of the Agriculture Sector, it would be greatly appreciated. Rewards shall be given out appropriately as well." The System added, and Weslie agreed to it without any hesitation.

"Then I shall hurry the reverse engineering of this Steam Tech." The new girl in the block replied while turning back to Ayse and told her that if she needed any help with the Steam Tech, just holler for her.

The System then quietly asked Weslie if she was able to continue engineer the Steam Tech for other purposes, it would increase the rewards for her as well, though it was not a priority. Weslie said that she would not rule it out entirely and get back to the System in the near future once she had familiarise herself with the new environment.

As she bid Gold goodbye to perform her research, Ayse pulled him to the side. "So, any progress? You guys did wake up in the same bed, right? Or that was what I heard from Milk."

"Nothing happened!... yet." Gold said in a shy tone. Ayse smirked and used her elbow to hit his arm.

"Heh. That's a decent enough response from you. Looking forward to seeing progress in the future. I heard that Kraft have some psychedelic drugs that might induce an increase in hormonal response. Love

Potion if you are not as dumb as Weslie says. You can ask for it from him if you want to ...you know speed things up." Ayse said with a wink before leaving him.

"I would love to... -WAIT! I AM NOT DUMB!" Gold shouted before looking far into the glass door where Weslie was wearing a new lab coat and noticed that he was staring at her. She pouted and demanded him to shoo off which he shyly waved and walked away. (Oh that jackal did blush a little too.)

"But first, let's end this terrible Demon Rat occupation and make sure no one else will suffer like we did." Gold said to himself as he returned back to his mansion to coordinate the next stage of operations.

Chapter 515 Extra: Hamatarou's Tour

"So this is your world?" Hamatarou had completed the contract with Qiu Yue and looked around the Dungeon City Fortress. He saw sentient creatures that were out of his knowledge and with odd looking shape of their faces, Hamatarou could only swear that he saw such creatures in his books of myths and lore.

"Nope, this is another world which we had the opportunity to own the land in." Qiu Yue said as she toured the area with him, allowing him to observe their work while at the same time checking on the progress of the construction of the Pand-Atlantis City. Separately, Lynn had returned to the penguin village via the System's teleport with the Chieftain and Elders together.

The entire village previously signed a pact with the Sub System, so there were no issues of the Chieftain and Council of Elders to utilise the teleport ability of the System via Lynn. (After all, there were still some restrictions imposed on the penguins as compared to Jin's minions like Gold who had full teleportation access.)

Even though they were under the control of the Sub System, it respected the wish of the penguin's collective to stay in the Giant World and continue with their lives until further notice from the Sub System.

Another reason was that the powers Lynn were initially granted by the Sub System were not strong enough to execute and move the penguins to another instance. At that point of time, the System was still wary of the new Sub System User and did much to control the amount of abilities Lynn can possess.

But with the revelation of the System's true identity as well as Jin's growing power both in his purchasing capability and strength, the Sub System offered Lynn to give the penguins a place in the Sanctum of Worlds if needed.

The Penguin 'Queen' now had the ability to create a simplified home instance for her minions and was in the process of doing so. However, any additional modifications required her to complete more Sub System's quests to gain resources for her and the System to utilise.

Qiu Yue, on the other hand, did not have any minions under her except for the minotaurs, who volunteered to be temporarily under her supervision. While she could technically influence empires at the touch of a button, the Red Panda Cultivator was in the same predicament as Lynn when she first

started or maybe worse. The Empire Building Sub System did not give her much reign in their issues unless Jin allowed it.

While it looked as if she had the full complete control of the Dungeon City Fortress, there were many components or issues that were not under her purview. Many a time Qiu Yue had to ask Jin for permission to build if she believed that the new facility she thought it was useful, or she had to give her personal opinion on various issues and convince Jin to allow her to act in a certain way. It was initially frustrating to both Jin and Qiu Yue, but the Boss did console her that it would get better.

In retrospect, the Sub System gave Lynn more control over her issues than Qiu Yue when they first started out.

If the Cooking Sub System could not trust Lynn, the Empire Building Sub System treated Qiu Yue like an enemy until proven otherwise. For example, the construction of the Pand-Altantis City was based on the precise calculation of the Sub System, and when Qiu Yue questioned a specific design of the building plan despite it being perfect in theory, the Sub System was unwilling to listen until she explained it through countless simulations.

But slowly, the Empire Building Sub System learnt that Qiu Yue was becoming a valuable asset and decided to loosen its stance when it comes to certain construction procedures.

As Qiu Yue went down the makeshift construction escalator with Hamatarou, the Exiled Prince saw the construction of many high rise buildings within a vast dome shaped shelters.

From afar, the constructions were buzzing with activities, and every worker did not have the time to stay and chat. Thus, Qiu Yue explained why they would want to build a sea city, mainly indicating that it was out of the way from the invaders.

Hamatarou could only sigh that their technology was ten if not hundred times more advanced than what he had in his old world, especially after seeing that long slender carriage which he saw Lynn and the penguins were using. (He was in love with the combat bikes too.)

"If my subjects were to be here, will they be guaranteed a place called home here?" Hamatarou asked, and Qiu Yue shook her head.

"If they were hardworking enough under the eyes of an all seeing entity and earn enough points, they could score a house here. Else, they would be working and living under my Boss instead." Qiu Yue replied as she greeted a few of the workers in their Sandroku Golems

The new Sandroku Golems that they witnessed were revised several times. Now it was capable of working long hours in extensively strenuous construction procedures just as drilling for the building's foundation.

The golems were a wonderous miracle by the two races which accelerated the construction of the Pand-Altantis by a few folds, way ahead than their supposed deadline set by the System.

It was all for the sake of completing before the shield barrier of the Dungeon Core disappears, commencing the start of trade and immigration of both monsters and humans from the Dungeon World.

Additionally, the Empire Building Sub System also indicated that the Orcs had completed Industrial Sector Two of the Floating Platform City and initiated the building of a platform sector that was solely for military sorties, both offensive and defensive in nature.

And that particular sector was designed by the Visiting Defence Advisor and fellow Panda Clan Remnant, Hou Fei. He knew what facilities were needed and gave the schematics required to Qiu Yue for the Empire Building Sub System to take charge.

Other than that, Hamatarou was impressed by the scale and magnitude of the place before Qiu Yue teleported him to the Sanctum of Worlds and showed him the various home instances. The first place she showed was the Guest Home Instances which acted like hotels rooms and revealed to him how spacious most of them were. (The rooms were roughly about 100 square metres in size.)

Of course, there was some bias towards Minion Leaders. For example, Nubwort, the Black Disaster and Zieg, the Dark Templar Commander were given a larger apartment compared to the rest of their companions. The System rewarded them due to their additional responsibilities to control their fellow rank and files and deserved a bigger apartment to show that they were of a higher position so as to command respect.

At this point, Hamatarou was seriously contemplating to gather his surviving villages and bring them out of harm's way before the Salamanders could crush all of them.

"Why don't you talk to my Boss? Maybe he might be able to send out a punitive force and defeat the Salamanders once and for all. Before you know it, they would be your colleagues in the future." Qiu Yue said as she subsequently brought him into WunderPanda Theme Park where people started to think Hamatarou was some costume mascot.

"If that was a joke, it left a poor taste for me." The chubby, oversized hamster turned into a regular one which landed on top of Qiu Yue in order to avoid the numerous visitors staring and wanting to hug him for some reason which he felt rather uncomfortable in doing so.

Yet, he agreed to have talks with this Boss of hers, but she told him that he had to wait for at least a few days since Jin was busy doing his projects up.

"Very well, I shall wait. In the meantime, I will do some scouting of the castle and see if I can grasp the situation that the Salamanders are in which made them this aggressive." Hamatarou said before smelling a scent of carrot cake which caused him to salivate almost immediately.

"...After you bring me to eat this delicious smelling scent."

"What am I to you? Your subject?" Qiu Yue picked him up and squeezed his cheeks a little. The hamster, in return, gave an adorable looking face which inadvertently caused her to do what he asked for.

Chapter 516 Extra: Demon Rat Training Facility

The welcoming party for the Scholar of the West was what Meomi needed after the gruesome exploration she did in the past few days.

Along with Nightingale and the ace team from the Southern Stars Organisation, they had found a series of underground training facilities and the memory of those facilities were deeply imprinted into her mind that she would rather keep herself drunk to erase those memories off.

Initially, the scouting team thought they were merely warehouses or storage facilities since the various scouts observed the amount of inventory the Demon Rats brought in were numerous. Meomi thought that it was sufficient info until Nightingale stopped the werecat in her tracks to return back.

"Why stop here when we have the ability to sneak in?" Nightingale grinned as she said that.

"You are kidding me, right? As a werecat, I probably have better stealth than you and I have seen how guarded the place is. If not for the mission, I would have gone ape shit against them right at this moment." Meomi said, and Nightingale giggled without a sound.

"Looks like you did change a little." Nightingale shook her head and showed the way the Southern Stars Organisation did their missions. Without revealing much, her ex maid told Meomi to follow her until they were at least 25 metres away from the four guards in front of the cave.

They were actively guarding the cave with a Brute Demon Rat guard in the midst of their group. (If the scouting team had not known any better, it was the same kind of guards with the power suit that was doing patrols where they kept Weslie.)

With a whisper to the little magpie sitting on her shoulder, the information was passed to Nightingale's team members too. The magpie somehow knew that secrecy and silence were utmost important, and thus it sent information via its long range chi transmission technique which initially surprised the members of the Southern Star Organisation.

But after the second usage, they were used to it, which made Meomi impressed with their adaptability to the situation.

"Go." Their Team Leader said, and Nightingale immediately threw a dart simultaneously with the rest of the team. The Demon Rats who were hit by the darts did not notice it immediately and continue to talk loudly among themselves in order to stay awake. Unfortunately for them, the effect was instantaneous as the rats felt drowsy and immediately fell to the ground asleep.

"Nightingale, you and Meomi go in check and be out in ten. No more, no less." The Team Leader said as he and the other members appeared and took the darts out from the rats before disappearing into the shadows of the forest that was surrounding the cave.

"Understood," Nightingale said as she dashed in immediately, followed by Meomi who did not hesitate a single bit at all. However, as they went further in, Meomi took the lead since she thought possessing dark vision would be safer for the group.

Yet, there were instances where Nightingale was able to spot some concealed traps which Meomi nearly stepped on to. Even though the scout assassin was only following Meomi based on her other senses aside from sight, Nightingale's past scouting experiences came in handy too. Some of the trap activations were things like a fake pillar or faintly scented location.

After one or two of those close calls, Meomi decided to be more vigilant as they walked further in and found that there were even more patrols of Demon Rats.

The duo decided not to do anything too drastic if possible, and hide until there was an opportunity for them to past through the guards. It did not take long, and eventually, they caught a glimpse of a spacious cavern where they had been hearing constant yelling and screaming.

Upon closer and careful inspection, they found that young Demon Rats were practising vigorously on their basics in handling a weapon. All of them were given various weapons and grouped as such to perform their training.

"At least a hundred in this cavern," Nightingale noted as the magpie appeared from within her bosoms and started to relay whatever it saw to their Team Leader. While observing from afar, Meomi also noticed that they were using slaves or prisoners as training materials too.

She saw how the prisoner was being tied up as target practice for the Demon Rats to practice their archery. And they were not a single bit merciful at all as Meomi could see the prisoners were stark naked and bleeding from all the arrow piercing.

However, she held her anger as Meomi knew that any drastic action would jeopardise Nightingale's safety.

"You damned rats...I will get you all. I will flush you all down to hell." Meomi whispered with her fists trembling, but Nightingale tapped on her shoulders, indicating her to move back to the surface.

As if it was mere coincidence, one of the prisoners shouted for help extremely loudly when they were leaving, and it grabbed the duo's attention. He was being stabbed continuously to the gut by a spear rat trainee who was testing his strength.

Meomi could not contain her fury anymore, which Nightingale quickly responded upon sensing her wrath that the scout assassin hugged her close to the chest as she whispered to calm her down.

"Meomi. Not now, please."

"Not now. Then when?" Meomi grabbed tightly on Nightingale as she turned her body abruptly while holding on to the Sniper Whip. With a silent click, a bullet came out of the rifle without any sound and flew towards one of the stalactites from afar.

The Sniper Whip had a modified silencer that was equipped with an anti acoustic inscription, perfect for a quiet shot and thankfully, the sound of the bullet hitting the stalactite was muffled by the Demon Rat's shouting.

One might think that the bullet would not do much, but what if it was a bullet packed with explosives? Because of the anti acoustic inscription that was installed into the gun's silencer module, the explosive was considerably quiet, but it nearly lost the inscription's power the further it went.

Still, that minor explosion alone was enough to break the stalactite, and it fell down to the human slave that was screaming for mercy as well as the Spear Rat Trainee who was having fun poking him.

When Nightingale turned to see it happening, the end result of Meomi's action made the Demon Rats stopped their training to aid the victim. At that moment, Nightingale quickly grabbed Meomi and ran as fast as possible back to the cave entrance. Regrettably, the guards that were patrolling within the tunnels heard the commotion too, and made their way to the cavern, causing the duo's escape to be a lot trickier. Yet it was nothing too difficult for the scout assassin.

Eventually, they got out safely, and the Team Leader had already prepared their horses in advance for a quick getaway. Nightingale was not entirely pleased with Meomi's act, but knowing her for a long time, her attitude to obtain justice for her people did not change at all. It was frustrating that it nearly cost the secrecy of the mission but figured since they did not get caught, it was better to just let the matter rest.

Despite that lucky break, Meomi was nowhere in the mood to let go until Gold specifically ordered her to come back and have a drink. He too had received images from Que Er's magpie with regards to Meomi's exploits and decided to use the party as an excuse to get her to relax her nerves.

It was a temporary solution, but something that worked effectively, allowing Meomi to rest sufficiently to be ready for part two of Gold's operations.

Chapter 517 Forest of Marve

The Dungeon Cave was getting more and more popular by the day. Since its inception, the number of adventurers had risen sharply, and it was just a matter of time until the 1000th card was printed. The overall progress was within the System's expectations. (But well above Jin's!)

Most of the adventurers were able to reach the Praying Mantis on the fifth floor, but beating it still proved a challenge without the necessary teamwork which many were still improvising on.

Starting with the sixth floor, the difficulty had ramped up by a notch, most notably in the form of more complex traps like falling nets and poison darts. The floor featured Boar Knights, who usually went around in groups of 3-5 decimating unprepared or weakened groups who had fallen victim to the various contraptions. (Jin was starting to think that he should formally recruit these Boar Knights for the extra manpower.)

Even on the seventh floor, it took the leading adventurers more than a week until they eventually managed to defeat the newly introduced Boar Knights riding 6-Legged Boars on the seventh floor. Considering that the dungeon's layout was different every time they entered, some swore that those monsters had some sort of a 6th sense. The Boar Knights seemed to know exactly where the adventurers were given the times they had been stampeded to death despite a wide corridor.

Soon, most of them believed that their fighting was noisy, especially their armour and that was precisely why the merchants had begun selling a type of magic scroll that reduced the sound of their armour. Some even bought a unique item from the merchants called 'fireworks' where it was used as a distraction against the boar knights.

Yet, seeing how those fireworks were actually kind of pretty, many also bought it to play with it although the merchant did warn them to be careful with it since it is highly volatile. Should any fire incidents were because of them, the adventurer guild might revoke their license.

In part of that, Zhi Nu began to inform the System to prepare fire extinguishers and placed them in various buildings in case of fire. In the meantime, the System also ensured that the buildings in the Dungeon City Fortress complied with fire safety standards. (Because despite Qiu Yue's insistence on fire safety compliance, the System was strapped on cash and had quietly skipped that step until now.)

Eventually, the leading adventurers were barely able to complete their achievement, and the Adventurer Guild made a notification via their boards.

Apparently, someone had discovered a sort of herbal plant that emitted a scent which the Boar Knights couldn't stand as part of the distraction tactic. It not only distract them but weakened them significantly. The most crucial detail was that the herbal plant was dropped as part of the loot by the elemental Undeads, or they could be sparsely found within the third and fourth floor.

Thus, it didn't take long for gathering quests to be issued out and the merchants to start selling special bottles containing the concocted solution.

As long as one would smear their weapons with it, they were guaranteed to have an easier time contending against the monsters. All of this was, in fact, a clever plot arranged by Zhi Nu who headed the Adventurer Guild.

With the Weaver Girl taking care of the Dungeon Cave, Kraft was free to fully concentrate on his newly promoted role as Underground Crime Boss (or Bandit Lord as Jin referred to him).

He had initially been busy turning the Orcs with underworld experiences into full-fledged gang members ready to his bidding, most importantly teaching them about proper information gathering. To ensure this, he had made them open the favourite pastime establishment of any adventuring group.

'The Fox Den' tavern became the surface Headquarters of their gang and the proving grounds for his impromptu 'followers'. After a few days, Kraft received the first reports of what they had uncovered. Amongst many unnecessary wife tales, there were some promising pieces of information.

Rumours had it that there was an elfish settlement deep in the Forest of Marve. Though it was further below the border town of Gob Gob Bu, it was still within the Goblin Northern Region, yet no one really dared to trespass into that region.

Hearsays mentioned that King Sol had charted up a restrictive zone within the Forest of Marve and proclaimed that anyone who dared enter within that particular forest would be responsible for their own safety.

However, there were no goblins stupid enough to live anywhere near that particular area much less within the proximity radius of the forest.

The Forest of Marve exuded an aura outside the comfort zone of the quite resilient goblins who had survived even the harshest of tortures.

Some gossips mentioned that the pillaging Orcs not too long ago had lost a team of highly skilled raiders attempting to shorten their distance by going through it. Regretting their actions all other teams had taken a much longer route to attack the other goblin villages

Naturally, this had piped Kraft's interest, and his new gang could use such a fearsome reputation. Hence he had summoned his foxes for a little excursion.

"Hooooo. No wonder nobody wants to come near the forest at all." Kraft sniggled as he was greeted by dead decomposed bodies, with bones sticking out of whatever dead flesh was left, hanging along the

perimeter of the forest. It was a clear sign that nothing good was beyond this point, and only demise awaited the visitors.

Though Kraft had no doubt he could handle everything by himself this was supposed to be a pleasant little excursion, so it was time to give the foxes an opportunity to exercise themselves once in a while.

"Tsu, Kai," Kraft called out to his two most used companions. The black foxes emerged from the sides of the trees, but instead of their usual fox forms, they were out in the open in humanoid forms.

Tsu and Kai had been the most promising Clan Head candidates of the Wolf Clan, and as they appeared in their humanoid form, the foxes also retained a fair part of their identity. Similar to Kraft, the two Wolves were wearing their traditional Wolf Full Battle Armour in the past.

Cladded with full metal plate cladded with Wolf designs on their spaulders, chest and even their helm with the shape of their past insignia, Kraft laughed at them and told them to change to something simpler.

"No need for full battle mode. They aren't that dangerous. We are here to subjugate not necessarily exterminate... unless they want us to." Kraft waved his hand and chuckled as the duo changed into something more similar to Kraft.

Battle Leather Jackets, with a wolf insignia design at the back of it. Needless to say, a Fox insignia was seen at the Arm Patch of the jacket. Both had their ornate wolf masks (with a little fox spirit at the top) equipped, combat Boots and military grade cargo pants as well as a holster that allowed them to hold their swords, Tsu and Kai knelt right in front of Kraft, awaiting his command.

"Follow me," Kraft ordered as he sauntered into the forest without a single care for the warnings placed at the front. Not even five minutes into the woods, several killing intents flared up as arrows were zooming straight towards the trio. Tsu and Kai defended the unflustered Kraft with ease by slapping the shafts of the arrows away with their palms.

However, there was one arrow that slipped past their defences as it came from behind them from a point which should have been a blind spot of the two guards... yet Kraft stopped it with just two fingers. After which he picked the arrow up and inspected it for a moment before throwing it aside.

"Not your usual arrows and boy it sure stinks! You guys like to put poo on your arrows?" Kraft asked, but the only answer came in the form of a wide magical circle appearing right beneath them. Kraft sighed unwilling to do anything himself. "Kiyu, your debut."

"Aye Sir~!" The royal purple furred fox emerged from within Kraft's long jacket as she turned into her humanoid form. Her own combat leather jacket had the insignia of a butterfly on the back, with the Fox Insignia being on her Arm Patch as well. Dressed in the very same attire as Tsu and Kai with the difference being her tight shorts and lace-up long combat boots reaching up to her knees.

Kiyu unbuckled her weapon from the holster slamming the sword, still in the scabbard, on the ground, breaking the magic spell that was about to be cast. At that moment, the sudden attacks halted, and though still hidden, they could feel numerous pairs of eyes staring them.

They appeared to be waiting for something or someone. Shortly after, a silhouette stepped forward and was still partially hidden within the trees. While it was not intending to fully revealing itself, the humanoid silhouette started to address them.

"No human mage has ever managed to break our spell before. You may have our attention for a minute. Speak." Kraft deduced it had to be an attendant, diplomat or maybe just a person speaking their human tongue.

The fox looked around and waited for the System to analyse the language the elderly silhouette used to order his people to prepare another salvo in case these strangers had malicious intents. As soon as the System confirmed that it had found a language matching the other's party to 96.9% accuracy, the fox asked it to translate.

"Two Words. Be Mine." Kraft demanded with a confident tone as he sent out his crushing chi aura enveloping the entirety of the forest. It was strong enough to visibly affect the leaves on the trees. They trembled under the vibration of the aura Kraft had emitted. His companions meanwhile were unaffected by his chi and actually enjoyed those eyes in the forest diminishing. Some who had hid behind the trees fell to the ground most likely crippled.

"Ahhh... my bad. It's been a long time since I could stretch my chi. I've always been bad at holding bad~. Oh well, we can call over Pei to fix them up later... Nah that takes to long, let's accelerate the process and simply hand them over to the System right now." Kraft rationalised and with a small 'hmmph' sound and a nod, Tsu and Kai began throwing kunais at the unconscious looking elves, causing them to disappear.

The Elderly figure had been luckier than its companions. Still breathing shallow, he went forth to boldly intercept Tsu and Kai simultaneously.

Kraft smiled since the charging elf had revealed he was no ordinary elf.

It was a Drow.

Chapter 518 Dark Elves

Drows were a subset of the small population of elves living in the Goblin World. Dark violet-skinned with beautiful white hair, they were the only elves to worship the Moon. Their Wood Elves brethren honoured the Woods as an entity providing them with shelter and a safe home whereas the Golden Elves devoted themselves to the Sun.

Kraft was elated since he hit the jackpot with them. They would make ideal underground members simply through their reputation alone. Rumours had it that all Drows were 'evil' incarnate of the otherwise highly esteemed elves. He himself was aware that all these were just stereotypes used to scare unruly kids into bed and could empathise with the ostracisation they had to suffer from. Unfortunately, after a lie got repeated long enough, it had a way to become a 'truth' in itself.

"One thing's for sure, they are indeed a hardy bunch of elves." Kraft smiled watching the recovering drow warriors spark into action. Every dark elf still able to move after Kraft's menacing display of aura, gritting their teeth and pushed forward to assist their elder in the hopes of preventing Tsu and Kai from murdering more of their members.

Though he appreciated their valiant efforts, he had other plans for them. Kraft summoned Evon out, interrupting their feeble attempt at resistance. The Frog Clan member specialising in using poisons and drugs remained in his fox form as he jumped high up by stepping onto Kiyu.

He curled his body into a ball, before stretching it to send out a burst of fog throughout his entire body. Like putting a stack of dry ice into a bucket, the greenish fog was visibly oozing out from his entire body, causing the warriors to enter a state of euphoria except for the elder who had engaged its blades with Tsu.

However, the drugged Drows were merely entering the first stage of Evon's mysterious fog attack. Kiyu, although a bit angry at Evon for using her as a stepping stool, assisted him by making use of the drug fog effects.

She initiated one of her sacred butterfly cultivation dances, the many techniques she learnt in her clan before she disappeared to assist the incriminated Panda Clan. After getting an estimation on her opponents' level of strength, Kiyu proceeded to dance in her combat jacket.

Switching to her traditional battle dance costume would have been even more effective considering it had ancient inscriptions specifically for her dances, yet she decided it was unnecessary to bring out a relic from ancient times last used when fighting against the servants of the Jade Emperor.

The moment the Butterfly had started her dance, a music rhythm was heard in the minds of the helpless dark elves. With a swirl and twirl, Kiyu brought out a bell tied to a satin cloth and danced gracefully in the midst of the forest. Even those Drows had been wise enough to close their eyes despite their condition, fell prey to the deathly enchanting aura as it got more and more intense the longer she danced and eventually they became fully immersed by it.

When Kiyu sensed the majority of the Drows enthralled by her dance, she gently made the bell go round her own neck. As the satin cloth along with it gracefully touched her nape, every single Dark Elf who got absorbed into her allure got killed instantly seemingly due to a crushed neck. Blood sprayed, scattered throughout the forest grounds and one by one, the Drows dropped towards the ground, only to disappear before ever hitting it.

The elder saw what was happening to his people, allowing Tsu to throw in a punch which he was unable to block. "Do you really think you have time to be distracted? Looks like I've been way too kind to you." Tsu berated the other as he cracked his fingers and leaned his toned body forward.

"Tsu, your hairband came off." Kai pointed out as he took the initiative to hold onto his brother and assisted him with tying up his hair. "There. Much neater." Kai nodded as he gave Tsu a pat on the shoulder.

"Thanks, Kai. It's been ages taking on this form. I'm too used to our fox form." Tsu smiled kindly at Kai before returning to a face the Drow Elder whose face was full of anger and hatred towards these

intruders. Before they could resume their fight, Kraft stepped forward and stopped both siblings from toying further with the elder.

Seeing his people die from unknown, obscure circumstances he had never encountered before in the centuries he had lived, the Drow Elder had tried his best not to inhale too much of the surrounding fog. He had quickly tried to distance himself, and the foxes hadn't hindered him.

The small amount of the drugged fog he had inhaled caused him to feel light headed, and the more he distanced himself, the worse the withdrawal symptoms inside him became. The elder felt the rising need to return into the fog, despite fearing the consequences, all to get rid of the increasing pain.

After a short while, he was already gasping for air and tried to use whatever magical energies he had to suppress the feeling. Nevertheless, he was too weak to do anything, and Kiyu walked towards him with Evon in her arms. (She had pinched the mischievous fox for its earlier action, though)

"Nasty thing that you inhaled, right? By now, you should be craving another dose... Hmm, but it is quickly dissipating into the air. So how about a little trade? We give you some more of that stuff, and you tell us where your village is

"Kiyu is as scary as ever," Tsu mumbled and Kai nodded his head in agreement. Suddenly they both felt a cold chill down their spine and continued to remain silent.

"Why? What do you want?... Who sent you...?" The elder asked with much difficulty barely able to grasp onto his sanity.

"No one really. I just needed some members for a new group I've established. Our goal? Hmmm ...let's not be too greedy for now... let's just say I wish to lead the number one underworld gang in the Orc and Goblin Kingdoms? Humans can come later." Kraft rubbed his chin as he stated his reasons.

"I...don't *Cough cough* I don't understand what you're talking about. *Cough cough* then why kill... us?" The Drow Elder looked up to Kraft as he bid his time trying his best to gather his magical energy for one final counter attack. Unbeknownst to him, the accumulation of magical energy had already been sensed by all the Foxes, though they pretend to not notice anything.

"Weren't you the ones to have attacked us first? To be honest, we don't really need your help that much. I merely was intrigued about the rumours of this place. Don't worry, you soon will be seeing your friends again." Kraft shrugged his shoulders and looked away from the elder, providing him with an opening.

Except there was a catch.

The moment the Original Bellator turned away, tens of Dark Elves appeared out of nowhere, each with a weapon pointed at one of elder's vital spots. Any kind of sudden movement and it would be the end of the Drow Chieftain.

"Sorry, Elder. We cannot refuse their orders." One of the Drow uttered without remorse and the rest resonated along with him.

"...But I saw you guys die! *Cough cough* You disappeared into nothingness." The elder was speechless at what was happening. He thought it had to be the fog that made him hallucinate.

"Too bad for you, it's no illusion." Kiyu stood up and clapped her hands, giving the signal for their new allies to cleanly cut off the elder's head without a hitch.

Suddenly, there was a hollow echo resonating throughout the whole forest. It was as if the Forest of Marve grieved the death of one of her important guardians while alerting the rest about it.

"Too bad for the forest. My hands are feeling rather itchy after all the waiting here and there. A Bandit Lord has got to do some robbing." Kraft stretched his hands as he summoned the Drow Elder back out from nonexistence. The elder was back in prime health, and he felt way better than ever before. He never knew that he could feel this way at all.

"Alright, enough admiring of your own body, you narcissistic elf. I know you have nice white hair and chocolaty black skin. Go! Do your job, old man! Chop Chop!" Kraft commanded the Drow Elder and the resurrected Dark Elves, telling them to invade their very own forest village. They acknowledged with a single nod and started to move in various direction while a Dark Elf guided them straight to the village.

What followed was not a pretty sight at all.

"Good thing Jin's not here to witness all of this. System remember put them all under my account for now. We will transfer them over to Jin at a later point in time." Kraft smirked as he followed behind the crowd of murderous Dark Elves eager to enjoy the following show.

"It's best to get it all over at once as I can practically see our young master screaming his head off for giving me that impromptu title he thought of." Kraft evilly smiled to himself as he gave the order for the Drows to move forth.

"It's unfortunate, but if you desire a 'kind' and powerful ruthless gang, you got to be brutally ruthless at the start."

Chapter 519 Panda Miniature Keychain

The customers fell in love with the new Tiangong Tree Mall the moment they stepped into it. The air in the mall felt fresher and had a mild scent of varying fruits. The System had utilised the essential oils used in the Emerald Mountain Hot Spring Instance and linked it to the air diffusers throughout the Tree Mall.

It lowered the tension of the customers significantly, making them feel relaxed and less likely to rush around from one place to another. Many were amazed by the giant Panda Tian Gong Statue, and after someone had set an example, others proceeded to also pray at the altar for good luck.

True enough, anyone near the Panda Tian Gong Statue felt at peace thanks to Octofussy's amazing job of creating the Legendary Tranquility Inscription. The customers did not hesitate to take a picture and did the same for all other places of the Tree Mall as it had the feel of an amusement park. The food store instances on the first floor were eagerly awaiting the hungry mass of people, and a number of customers rushed through to be amongst the first hundred in queue.

They were flabbergasted by the Pyramid Food Court Instance's sheer flexibility concerning the number of tables and the stores that provided the food. It was slightly more costly than before, but old patrons quickly realised that the food quality had improved by at least a fold.

Many of the stall owners were delighted to have taken up the superior food stock from Jin's 'supplier' and had even placed down another order via the store management icon in their Pandamonium App. Some of their die hard customers loved their food so much that they also took the time to write up a review on the Pandamonium App, hoping to help the owners bump up their so called rankings.

In an hour's time, the food court owners were surprised to experience their stores in the Pyramid getting moved around just as the penguins had promised. The customers in the queue enjoyed this sight of the stores flying in mid air before going to the allocated levels of the pyramid they obtained according to the sales.

Most if not all of the customers uploaded the pictures and videos on to their MeChat and Meibo accounts to show off the incredible shuffling of the pyramid stalls. With all this free advertisement, Jin did not need to worry that the stalls would be suffering losses anytime soon. Even if their food were not the best, the novelty of the instance would bound to make people visit the place.

As for the rankings, the mixed rice store was currently occupying the peak, followed by the noodle store and the vegetarian store. The chefs were undoubtedly nervous by the moving of their stores in mid air, but the assistant penguins assured them that nothing in their stall would be affected. It even suggested to make full use of the time to continue cooking so as to prepare extras for the continuous batches of customers arriving.

The Stall Owners were also glad to learn that they could buy chi potions from the Chinese Medicinal Store Instance via the store management app to aid them against their fatigue or emergency supplies from the Offshore Sea Store Instance like extra tins of cooking oil. The Pandafull Delivery Team had dedicated a guy to run around replenishing the supplies for these food stall owners and making sure that they were fully stock for the Day One craze.

On the other hand, the Panda Burger also received its fair share of Wows. From the edible Panda Burger parts to the toys as part of the Merry Panda Meals. Ke Ru, the Store Manager for Panda Burger had shamelessly copied her former Wacdonald's tactics and now used it for her own promotions.

The first batch of 'toys' available were Panda Miniature Keychains. For the first day only, they would be giving them out as a special edition of such keychains. When the store manager asked Jin whether if there will be a rerun of these keychains, he told Ke Ru that it would be impossible to find them anywhere else unless someone decides to replicate it. Still, he said it all depends on customer feedback.

The Day One Panda Miniature Keychains was shaped as a Panda with the Panda Burger uniform trying to fit a giant burger into its mouth by leaning backwards but failing to do so. Its eyes were furiously helpless, making the design an attraction for both adults and kids.

Ke Ru even provided customers who bought the normal Panda Burger set meals the option to buy the keychain which was supposed to be part of the Merry Panda Meal by paying an additional five Yuan. However, as greedy as humans could be, many tried to purchase multiple keychains in one go (most likely hoping to resell them later) which obviously went against the rules set by Ke Ru.

She only allowed one Panda Keychain per person, and because they had to use the Pandamonium App to order, the System pointed out to the cashier if a particular customer had already bought the keychain.

It was to prevent the waste of food just for that small keychain, and allowing other people the chance to get one of these limited items. (Although 'limited' was just a gimmick to Ke Ru since Jin promised a near infinite stock until the Panda Burger closed for the day.)

To be fair, the System had also warned customers who had already redeemed their keychain that queuing up again after placing an order would not result in another piece. But humans were creatures with high adaptability when it came to such situations...only to learn the hard way that it was futile against the almighty (cheapskate) System.

Some customers had extra phones because of their line of work and had installed the Pandamonium twice before realising it did not work since the app was tagged to their ID, which was similar to many of the apps they used.

At least it was worth a try, but not everyone had given up. Many customers begged in their reviews for the Panda Burger instance to allow them to buy at least one more for their next of kin or loved ones to the point that Ke Ru had to forward that message to Jin. (In fact, it was addressed to the System and later to Jin.)

"Wow, I did not expect that. Okay, only for those who have purchased the keychain once, let's allow the customers to get a coupon if they buy another meal. They can redeem that coupon to get it when purchasing a dungeon in Dungeons and Pandas." Jin slyly told the System as he was pushing around Yang Ling to tour the place.

Jin wondered to himself whether he should create a Christmas version for the coming week if Day One really turned out to be a hit for those keychain miniatures. Perhaps he should do it no matter the circumstances. There would bound to be people who love to collect such items.

Oh, the money. The sweet, sweet scent of digital money rolling into his wallet.

Chapter 520 Rolling in the Deep Ones

The store reception for Lai Fu's Offshore Sea Store was exceptionally well received by the older generation. The discounts and offers that he had assigned for the first day made all the aunties and uncles rush in like mad dogs, snatching up almost everything he had on display.

Thankfully, being an experienced storekeeper for many years, he had previously ordered three months worth of stock to satisfy the demand for the frenzy buying. Lai Fu knew that the first day was one of the best times to earn quick cash to recoup the losses since people always wanted new stuff and a store opening usually resulted in the most substantial amount of customers.

Helping them out, Jin had developed a small little USB drive that could be connected to any sort of phone (as part of Lai Fu's request list). Those USB drives would act like temporary storage rings allowing

them to put the items that they wanted to buy into it since most items were enchanted with anti-storage ring to prevent looting and theft from happening.

Either that or they could personally hand carry them on the carts provided. However, the technological advancement in recent years had made online supermarkets extremely popular, and the Offshore Sea Store was no exception in participating them.

With the help of the System, Jin had assisted Lai Fu in creating an online mart on the Pandamonium App as well as applying to the famous supermarket delivery services apps. As Lai Fu previously subscribed to be one of the sellers in those apps as well, the System merely aided him by instantly updating the items that were left in his store to those apps. Else, he had to pay an additional premium subscription fee to do that.

But because of the integration of the online market via Pandamonium App, users could also earn and utilise Panda Medals by doing so. In fact, every purchase in the Tiangong Tree Mall would allow them to earn Panda Medals which could indirectly be used to either obtain items in Jin's store or used as the premium currency for his mini games and dungeons.

During his downtime from the day before, Jin had planned a road map to revamp the usage of Panda Medals. Instead of merely using it as a sort of reward or extra currency, he was thinking of creating discount packages that utilised those medals too. Things such as free food delivery package for 10,000 Bronze Panda Medals or discount voucher package for 8,000 medals.

While he was merely copying ideas that were already on the market, they had proven to be successful, and Jin saw no reason why he could not get a share of the pie as well. Maybe in the future, Jin could liaise with other apps like the taxi and online market delivery to further integrate the Pandamonium App into society. Right now, he was satisfied starting small and just making sure that his Tree Mall was not only an overnight success but a continuous one.

Yet even though there was the online market app choice, most of the older generation prefer to go down to the stores to select their items. As long as it was not a crazy surge of people, the aunts and uncles would love to take their time in choosing their fruits and vegetables, picking the best out of the lot in the store's bin. In addition, the physical stores sometimes provided discounts that were not available on the online apps.

The same was true for Lai Fu's Instance Store. The current Day One discount was the biggest discount he had ever offered. By buying five items, one of the five cheapest items would be discounted at 99% (up to a certain price point of 100 Yuan). Hence, many people took the chance to buy the more expensive stuff all at once, mainly comprising the premium food stock from Jin's Agriculture Sector.

Even Lai Fu was shocked at how fast Jin's food stock vanished, and when he queried some of his long time customers, their reasoning made perfect sense. "There was no scent of pesticide used on these at all! The colour of the vegetables is very prominent too! It has been so many years since I saw this kind of naturally grown fruits and vegetables." the collective opinions of his customers who were equally health conscious in their advanced age answered him. (Things which Lai Fu already know when he personally examined the goods too, but verification from his peers sealed the deal for him even further.)

"Do you know that considering the quality of the products, the price you place on it is freaking cheap? Of course, I will get a bulk of them before it gets all sold out!" His customers said frantically and went to the payment cashiers where a team of Deep Ones were manning the cashier booth.

One scanned the items, the other two packed them up before the customer could choose between delivery to their house or self carry. Most were okay with carrying thanks to the power of the storage ring, but some did choose the delivery option, taking advantage of the Day One discounts to buy for their relatives too.

As Lai Fu began developing a friendly relationship with the Deep Ones, he even requested more of them via the Pandamonium App while they were still free. (He still would be charged according to their numbers starting next month). Sure, he still had some of his old employees, but many quit after the incident, with only a few loyal enough to remain behind.

Thus, Lai Fu ended up deploying them for all kinds of jobs. The owner used them for cashier services restocking the items and currently (maybe most importantly) for crowd control. Lai Fu believed that they were the ideal monster NPCs which were fierce enough to go against the crowd.

There were instances where those greedy uncles and aunties were tempted to take fresh stock from their hands, (mainly because of the discounts Lai Fu had provided) which caused the Deep Ones shouted at them and even scratched them superficially as a warning.

The customers in return demanded for compensation, but before Lai Fu could intervene in any way, the Deep Ones officially issued a duel challenges to settle the store. Should they accept and win the duel, they would get their compensation, fair and square along with an apology.

The ignorant older cultivators thought this was a simple fight and part of Lai Fu's new instance, so they fought against them recklessly. (The only ones who had the last laugh were the cultivators that had experienced Jin's stores and knew what capabilities these fishes had.

...So far, none had won against the mighty Deep Ones and the customers learnt the lesson not to disturb the Deep Ones during their restocking. What followed was an extremely ridiculous sight to behold. Lai Fu had never thought it possible to witness customers standing at the side, mere inches away from a Deep One, patiently waiting for him to finish restocking the items before pouncing on the goods and merchandise.

"Each Yuan for these angry fish is worth it." Lai Fu chuckled to himself as he sat at the side of the recently arrived Discount Pirate Ship and enjoyed some fishing.