

Dungeon S 581

Chapter 581 Necrotic Damage

"DON'T COME ANY CLOSER!" The gold haired Fire Shaman cried out in agony, stopping Bu Dong in his tracks. "Figure a way out to at least kill the first form without me!" Jasmin pleaded as her tears rolled down profusely due to the pain, and she could feel that her life was at an end.

"What are you talking about?! I am going to pull you out!" Bu Dong shouted as he initiated his intermediate sword art, Blazing Edge of the Angry Ape, hoping to hurt Evil Santa bad enough to let Jasmin go.

"It's too late..." Jasmin said as she lifted her free hand and aimed her rental pistol at Bu Dong. "By the powers of Tiw, grant this weary warrior the strength to fight a battle worthy of your praise. Armour of Tiw!" She used up her final instant spell as she fired her pistol, imbued with the magic of a Fire Shaman

The bullet flew towards Bu Dong and it transformed into a metaphysical armour that imbued the Angry Ape cultivator with magical signs. Those magical body signs floating slightly above his body was the Level 2 Fire Armour of Tiw.

As it was only a level 2 version of the spell, the armour materialised looked something similar to a piece of thin shirt floating over his body. However, the essence of it remained which boosted Bu Dong's defences as well as his ability to resist the cold even better, especially thanks to Katerina's earlier support.

At that moment, Bu Dong noticed that Jasmin's eyes turning bloodshot with blood coming out of her mouth. He did not know what was going on, but for the other fire Shamans, the effects were as plain as day.

From the kind of damage Jasmin suffered, they understood it had to be necrotic in nature. This evil energy was primarily used by the School of Necromancy or powers wielded by Undead Monsters or Demons.

The spectators were also at a loss at what was happening. Mr Patsu, the inhouse penguin announcer, explained to them that Evil Santa was using Dead Touch, a necrotic based spell that could rot the body.

Based on previous interactions, some of the cultivators discerned that it was acid attack since it was similar in appearance. The projectile blast that Evil Santa shot at the cultivators was able to corrode the weapons or shields they were holding and sometimes burned through their skin.

They never knew that it was necrotic damage.

Understanding her own predicament, Jasmin brought the pistol to her head. Her own insides were eating her, slowly corrupting her into a piece of mindless flesh and there was no way to defeat it other than accepting the fate. If they had a Water Shaman or perhaps a Druid they could have averted the situation, but right now all they had were a bunch of warrior-ish shamans that had skills to fight but none to heal.

"Not so fast..." A voice said as another charred hand pierced through the metal shutters and grabbed Jasmin by the waist. "Naughty children...will be put to sleep by me."

The voice alone was enough to shudder the entire group of spectators watching it. The whole situation seemed less like a Christmas dungeon and more as if it was a horror movie. Jasmin panicked even more, and instead of killing herself, she kept pistol whipping the enormous hand that was grabbing her entire waist.

After which, the Fire Shaman attempted to let loose some bullets into the hand itself. It bled, but it did not have any other noticeable effect in releasing her. It was not until the pistol clip was empty that she immediately dropped it and tried to hit it with the dagger she hung it over her shoulder.

But at that point, her movements were already sluggish, and she knew her time was up.

Bu Dong hesitated for a while as Jasmin emptied her pistol, but when he saw that it was of no use, the Angry Ape cultivator immediately lunged into the fray, stabbing the hand that was holding onto Jasmin and he inserted a burst full of chi into Evil Santa.

This time, not only his skin was burnt, but the vessels in his arm ignited into flames, causing it to release his grip. Bu Dong quickly pulled the dropped Jasmin aside, but the emptiness in her eyes indicated that the necrotic damage had already reached her brain and heart.

"Good luck..." Jasmin whispered with her last breath as she tried to pass her knife to Bu Dong before losing all strength. Bu Dong inadvertently grabbed onto the dagger as he saw Evil Santa destroy the rest of the garage shutter and reveal his haggard self.

His face was all charred by the previous fire wall. Yet, he remained standing in it, seemingly without a care for his life. Evil Santa endured the flames while gazing at the culprit who did this. His clothes were also burnt into crisps, exposing the various scarred marks on his body.

"Bu Dong! Move away!" Nia and Shanice shouted as Bu Dong turned and saw that the sleigh that he wished to light up was burning furiously like a sun. After seeing what the Boss Monster did to their friend, they decided not to use it as a source of heat like a campfire.

Instead, they planned to ram the burning sleigh onto the exhausted Evil Santa.

Without any further warning, Nia and Shanice threw their already huge Fireball which they had sustained for a very long time onto the sleigh, giving it the explosive push needed to go back down the slope and towards the garage door.

It zoomed and crashed into the Santa who stood there either unable or unwilling to move out of the way, receiving the full blow of the attack. The sleigh smashed into pieces further burning the Santa but instead of sounds of pain and agony, there was laughter within the smothering mess.

Slowly but surely, a hairy black hoof came out of the burning debris as the fire crackled and the smell of burnt rotten flesh filled the surrounding winter air.

What followed was a black furred body with horns on his forehead that was previously hidden by his hat. The masked HUD interface activated automatically and indicated that the being in front of it was no longer Evil Santa.

A digital noise scabbled before unveiling a new name for his supposedly last form.

Krampus.

Chapter 582 Krampus

"Do we still want to keep fighting?" Katerine asked with a bitter smile when it indicated below the name that this was the 'real form' of Evil Santa, Krampus. No one had ever reached that state until now, and every spectator was on the edge of their seats eager to see what was going to happen next.

Legends and tales of the old mentioned that Krampus punishing those children who had misbehaved and just like the current monster in front of them, it was said to be half goat, half demon. Since there was no such thing as a copyright for a folktale, Jin had used that myth to the fullest. To make it even more realistic, he had actually asked Baphomet to be the one to play the part.

Already possessing a goat demon appearance, all Baphomet needed was some cosmetic inscriptions to alter the way he looked for the first two forms and voila~! He had become the perfect Krampus villain just like Jin had hoped to present in his Evil Santa Boss Raid Instance.

"Should you ever find and capture that old Demon Krampus, please use him instead of me. I do not want to smear his name for my actions aren't exactly quite representative of him." Baphomet requested Jin when accepted the role.

"Well if I ever get the chance, I will do so and take full responsibility for your actions. Besides I don't need you to fully act as Krampus, you just need to appear like him for the last part. There won't be much of a fight because the first two stages are already difficult enough." Jin added when he designed the dungeon.

True to his words, suddenly the cultivators heard a jingling sound in the air and a loud 'Ho Ho Ho' which echoed throughout the skies. The group and Krampus looked up towards a shining bright light, illuminating the moonless cold nights.

Only when the light diminished a bit could they make out the form. It was another sleigh being pulled by...pandas with a red nose accessory and fake horns while the person riding it was not Santa but just Panda Captain Hei in a Santa costume with a large and seemingly heavy red sack behind him. (He still had his usual SWAT vest on his Santa costume, kinda like SWAT Santa version?)

"Ho Ho Ho! Seems like you children have been quite resilient and brave to get Krampus to show his true form. Let me grant you some assistance and reward you with a Christmas present." Captain Hei said as he dropped the sack down, which caused the snow around it to flutter due to the impact.

"Naughty children it's time for you to be put to rest!" Krampus couldn't care less about Captain Hei and decided to go take care of the nearest living cultivator who was Bu Dong with his chains and bundle of birch sticks.

"Fine by me! I am dying to take revenge as well!" Bu Dong thought as he rushed forth and activated his Blazing Edge yet again as well as invoking all the inscriptions in his sword. It was time to show off the true capabilities of a rich man's son.

The sword burnt brightly with his chi but it was soon enhanced with an explosive effect that was slightly delayed whenever Bu Dong clashed his sword with Krampus' birch stick bundle. It caused the sticks to disintegrate into various pieces, but Krampus was not done yet. With the splinters of the branches, he proceeded to pierce Bu Dong.

Thankfully, the Armour of Tiw cast by Jasmin took effect, absorbing one of the hits, before dissipating into nothingness. But that was enough for Bu Dong to throw in another slash that bit into Krampus flesh.

It was the Biting Edge Inscription, one of the newer inscriptions which Octofussy had created. The slash caused small little bugs to crawl into the wound, biting and gnawing at the surrounding area for 3 seconds before disappearing. The bugs were an illusionary effect, but the damage done by the inscription was real.

While Bu Dong was keeping Krampus busy, Katerine and the other two fire shamans pulled out the present which Captain Hei was offering.

It turned out to be a Gatling machine gun.

"Here's the manual to the gatling gun, hope you get to fix it before Krampus notices you guys! Other than that, a few chi potions for replenishment as well as a fire crystal to keep all of you warm for the remaining part of the fight!"

Captain Hei stepped onto his sleigh and charged towards Krampus as a final gift for the cultivators. Instinctively, Bu Dong moved away, and Krampus received the full blown attack, knocking him back into the garage before flying off vertically into the skies and disappear.

"Keep him busy! We have to prepare the weapon to kill him!" Nia informed him as the girls were trying their best to affix the gatling gun together, supporting it to mount correctly. To their amazement, it was not just some minigun as the manual stated that the bullets were imbued with holy energy, designed to take down demons like Krampus.

A heavy rain of bullets should definitely do the trick.

Krampus roared, causing the entire house above him to vibrate and after which he charged forward through all the debris. Bu Dong could see the large blackish body frame coming towards him, but then with the commotion at the top of the slope, the boy knew he had to do something to stop Krampus from destroying the weapon which could defeat him.

Hence, Bu Dong stood his ground.

"Secret Technique. Angry Ape Pronounces its Superiority!!!" Bu Dong shouted as he pulled out the dagger that Jasmin gave him and the sword that was still burning brightly. By hook or by crook, he had to buy as much time as possible to stop Krampus from charging, even it meant that he had to pay with his life.

The Angry Ape silhouettes above him roared in unison as if to commend his spirit of bravery when he clashed straight on with Krampus. Even when the sword and dagger pierced into the Christmas Demon, Bu Dong could feel his elbows giving way like they were going to break under the intense pressure it was receiving.

If not for the deep layer of snow he entrenched himself in, Bu Dong probably would have lost his footing sooner letting Krampus proceed forward. All he could do now was grit his teeth enduring the pain and hope for the best.

In the meantime, Krampus did not waste a moment and had already used Death Touch on Bu Dong, causing his arms to turn blue and black. The effects seemed more severe and faster than on Jasmin.

It appeared that his true form had caused his skills to grow more rampant and deadly. Aside from the corruption, the Christmas Demon had subconsciously commanded his chain to wrap around Bu Dong strangling his neck while trying to break his stance.

Yet Bu Dong was not giving up.

"Naughty child, just go to sleep!" Krampus stared maliciously at Bu Dong.

"Go to sleep yourself, motherfucka." Katerine unlocked the safety, and the rotating barrel was aimed towards Krampus.

Chapter 583 Aftermath of Evil Santa - Part 1

While she initially felt reluctant about it, Katerine understood that this was just a dungeon (even if it felt way too realistic) which was why she pressed the trigger button on the gun as a hail of bullets showered Krampus and Bu Dong. Bu Dong agreed to her decision as that was the most optimal choice that Katerine could have taken. If she had hesitated any longer all his painstakingly effort of pinning Krampus down would have been wasted.

Trying to rescue Bu Dong would have jeopardized the whole dungeon run.

Thus, the Angry Ape cultivator basked in the glory of the holy rain as he received a close up view of Krampus being torn to shreds before being teleported into the Luxury Recovery Instance.

Everyone who was viewing it from the shop instance was quiet for a while before celebrating the first clear of this Boss Raid Instance. Bu Dong's name was once more placed on the Wall of Honour and everyone cheered for the surviving members when they returned back to the shop instance.

Thanks to the first clear, Katerine and her gang earned an astonishing 500 Raid Points which was sufficient to buy a multitude of things. One of the most desired items were naturally the limited edition plushies. Including a cute Krampus plushie which had been added the moment someone cleared the Boss Raid instance. (Jin wanted to find out how many would want to buy the villains for themselves or just for collection purposes.)

Yue Han and Xing Li went forth to welcome Katerina back to China and personally congratulate the girls. They hadn't expected the arrival nor her awesome performance with Bu Dong. "He's a great leader, it's only thank to him that it was possible to win." Katerine said as they decided to wait for Bu Dong and Jasmin's return. They planned to check out the redemption store as a group before deciding on the rewards.

In the meantime cultivators were already rushing into the general store as well as the weapons and armours department to buy fire related items in order to defeat Evil Santa Boss Instance. Yun who was on the scene and iterated that there are a number of ways to defeat Evil Santa to calm the crowd, and Bu Dong was just lucky to show them one of the ways. She also warned them that Krampus might adapt to this method over time.

Ironically her statement actually intensified the buying frenzy and Yun merely shrugged her shoulders. "No reason not to accept the extra cash. Jin needs it anyways." Yun mumbled as she vaguely looked over Jin's business and personal account both of which were barely in the red in the past few days. She hadn't expected the instance to be this expensive... unless he was planning on releasing another dungeon instance, using this as a filler.

Even the Venus Four felt pumped up when they watched Bu Dong manage to defeat the Boss Raid Instance especially with only five people. They were under the impression that Boss Jin had been throwing out difficult dungeons in recent days especially after the Deep One Dungeon Instance to earn more money but it turned out this was quite beatable after all.

"Guess, we just need to crack our brains more and less brawn." Yue Wen, the Healing Maiden cultivator joked and the others chuckled.

"More brawn can't hurt either. Let's go to the store and get some fire inscriptions before they are sold out." Jing Ru added and asked if Yue Han wanted to follow along.

"Nah, we had our fill of fun for dungeons today, maybe tomorrow!" Yue Han answered flustered unlike his usual self. After his sister's intense staring Xing Li blushing came forward to tell them the truth.

"Yue Han managed to get reservations for Christmas Dinner. So, we might be trying tomorrow instead with Kong Xian!" Xing Li said as they waved goodbye to the Venus Four.

"I erm...I guess I'll play some Supa Robot Warz, I got the Christmas Edition robot parts through my subscription. I think I'll also try again h Se Lang tomorrow or the day after. Please guide me if you girls are there." Deng Long said and waved them goodbye.

"I want to get the Christmas Panda Plushie for myself and the toy model for Se Lang." Jia Ying said and Shi Hui nodded her head agreeing to stay.

"Very well, then it's just the four of us. If the five of them could do it, I don't see why the four of us who are seasoned Pandawans cannot!" Yue Wen smiled and they quickly proceeded towards the weapon store.

Bu Dong and Jasmin eventually returned to the shop instance and Katerine immediately hugged Jasmin. "So sorry about what happened to you!"

"Hahah! It's alright! It's alright! You cleared the thing, right? As long as my sacrifice helped you guys, it's all good. Sooo what shall we do with all those points we earned?" Jasmin asked.

Meanwhile Bu Dong gave Katerina a blank stare. "What about me? In my case you were the direct cause of my death?!"

"I am more concerned about my close friend than you." Katerine replied as she pulled out her tongue making her friends giggle. Bu Dong's mood seemed to sour a bit after such an answer yet he was suddenly hugged by all of them.

"We couldn't have done it without you!" Nia told him before letting go.

"Thank you for leading us in this battle. It was terrifying and at the same time exhilarating" Shanice added.

"Even though we were just doing preparations and you did most of the work, it kind of already shaved our life expectancy by half." Jasmin agreed with her friends.

Suddenly Boss Jin appeared out of nowhere and started coughing.

"Erm. Congrats for managing to get the first clear. Sorry I could not get here any sooner. I was stuck with other things." Boss Jin said towards Bu Dong who he clearly knew and shook hands with Katerine and the other three girls.

"Boss, your dungeons are as fantastic as ever. Although it is a pity that I have to pay in Euros, the experience was worth it." Katerine said with an agenda in her eyes.

"Unfortunately, that is how we plan to roll out our dungeons overseas in the future. If you like it, come back often and support my work. I can safely claim that I believe what I offer is worth every cent and superior to those places which charge you 40-50 Euros." Jin stood his ground on the matter at hand.

"You are honestly planning to share your dungeons overseas as well?!" Katerine asked with bright wide eyes and it made the rest look at him with anticipation.

"Yeah. Though I don't know when it will be in the future. I would need to have the capital to expand first." Jin answered as he shrugged his shoulders a little.

"Please come to Germany first! If you need money to expand, I am willing to ask my parents!" Katerine offered and Jin hardly suppressed his laughter.

"That is... very nice of you. But I don't think you par-" Katerine, seemingly used to such a reaction, grabbed the name card of her parents and handed it to Jin. The dungeon supplier found the name of the company rather familiar and asked the System to check.

"Is god playing a fool with me? Or does he truly want to help me?" Jin thought as he was notified that the company was exactly the one which Ke Loong had subcontracted the building of the portals to.

InfiniteTechnik.

Chapter 584 Aftermath of Evil Santa - Final

"...I will carefully consider it." Jin smiled at the foreign girl and thanked her for her patronage. The other three Fire Shamans also gave their praise to Jin, especially Jasmin who suffered the most in the fight as she hadn't been prepared for it being so intensely real.

"If I didn't know that it was just a dungeon instance, it might seriously have given me PTSD," Jasmin mentioned in a casual way, but Jin knew that the System had been ensuring that such symptoms were being sniffed out from their memories.

Apparently, Pei and the System (with a little tinkering from Kraft) had come out with a sort of spell that would purposely manipulate the memories of the user.

Because the experience the customers received was undoubtedly real, it was necessary for there to be such a filter to prevent the customers from developing possible symptoms of PTSD, anxiety or other traumas from merely playing dungeons.

The way the spell worked was by changing the way the memory was being perceived. Instead of fear, the System would replace the memory to be invoked by adrenaline, especially when both emotions were two sides of the same coin. By tweaking the body's response from flight to fight, they would wish to relive those memories again instead of being afraid of them.

Through such memory replacement process, the System made the customers hunger for more fight. All of this had the positive side effect that it innately increased their desire to play more of Jin's dungeons.

That was one of the reasons why it was much easier for Jin to retain customers as compared to his competitor. The pricing restructures, the content of the dungeons, this passive brainwashing, attractive prizes and the inclusion of many other support services. It all adds up to increase the probability of his customers returning after trying it out.

It was never just one particular factor, and he had to constantly review his methods until he made a name for himself. The route to becoming the Number One Dungeon Supplier was not laid with flowers on the side of the road.

Yet, this particular tweaking of the memory was a double edged sword.

When Jin was informed by Pei and the System about it, he was horrified and worried that it might create a compulsive addiction. He didn't want to be the cause behind his customers turning into adrenaline junkies who could potentially lead to deviancy if not managed correctly.

Worst case, what if he was responsible for acts like murdering people just to get that kick of adrenaline back when fighting monsters would no longer be sufficient to satiate the feeling of victory in the long run.

His concerns were valid, especially with his dungeons now much more affordable, which would lead to cultivators experiencing them more frequently. In view of this potential setback, Pei collaborated with the System and Devilman to slowly tweaked the most intense moments in the cultivator's memories instead of the entire memory itself.

Kraft had jokingly dubbed it the "Enforced Nostalgia Filter" as the rest of the memory was left untouched.

Yet this process eventually placed a strain to the processing speed due to the amount of analysis that the System required to do to pick the most intense moments but Jin made it a point to emphasise to the System that it was a priority to manage their customers properly.

That was why most if not all customers had to visit the Luxury Recovery Instance regardless of victory. (For those who were defeated, they would definitely be in there to recover.)

Remember how Jin created rewards for those victory achievements or the statistics of one would perform? It was all projected in a room in the Luxury Recovery Instance, and the cultivators had to stay there for at least a minute (or until the System was done secretly tweaking the necessary memories) before they were allowed to leave.

Most cultivators thought it was just a new store feature to show the highlights of the battle and allow them to show off with a bit of boasting about how well each of them did. But they never knew it was a room to make sure that they would not turn out to be potential murderers (at the very least, lower that particular probability)

For now, the brainwashing was simple, and with the lack of Psychics, it gave the System a consistent load of data to improve its methods and create a process even more efficient than ever. Even Yang Ling, who was a decent mental arts magician was subjected to it, and Pei personally made a presence to ensure the memory could be swap without her noticing it.

It only further gave the System the confidence to do this process with ease. And because of the data it collected, the System also noted that it did not have to do this on a regular basis as the body eventually climatized to the way of battling.

Given the feedback, it was sufficient to do the filter process for the first dew runs when the cultivator was still fresh and new to the whole realistic dungeoneering procedure.

After that, the System only had to monitor the cultivator's vitals and tweak accordingly. Else, it would not touch the memories unless necessary because it also knew that excessive tinkering would definitely have its consequences.

For example, the Halloween dungeon instance was meant to incite fear instead adrenaline so the System left those cultivators' memories alone only making sure it would not leave a drastic memory of trauma.

With thousands of cultivators coming in and out for dungeons, even the System could learn, adapt and differentiate when it required the filter procedure.

"Well, I am glad that you've enjoyed my dungeon. If you are itching for one more, please don't let me stop you!" Jin answered gleefully with a plastic smile for the moment when he heard PTSD, though the group did not notice at all since they were all excited to enter the redemption store to check out what kind of rewards they could get.

"Boss, thank you for the dungeon. It was hard, but it was damn enjoyable!" Bu Dong thanked Jin for creating the dimensional instance.

"When you have good company, anything is fun. I will review the customer's comments and make sure I have something that can cater to every grade of cultivator some way or another. " Jin said and at the same time hinted to Bu Dong that he might have a Mecha Raid soon.

"Is it something to do with Supa Robot Warz? Or are you genuinely making a Mecha Instance?" Bu Dong asked with delight.

"Maybe something of both? I was thinking of allowing people who play the mini game a lot to have dibs on the new Mecha Instance... Maybe a little more advantage than the rest" Jin answered, and Bu Dong eyes were glittering.

"You better make your words count! Because I am going to grind more with Deng Long and we get that first clear right off the bat!" Bu Dong said as he thanked Boss Jin once again and went into the Redemption store.

"Sure." Jin grinned as he waved goodbye to Bu Dong and then looked at the time on his watch. Just when he thought he experienced a time crunch making the Tree Mall, the Feast he was making pushed it to another level.

Chapter 585 Extra: Bai's Store Management

Within the next hour, another group of cultivators managed to defeat the Evil Santa Boss by emulating what Bu Dong and the Fire Shamans had done. They lured the Christmas Demon out of the house where they were waiting for him fully equipped with fire enhanced weapons as well as new ice resistance clothes.

To everyone's surprise, Captain Hei/SWAT Santa would always arrive on the last form to assist them, which was a big help. (The weapons differed from time to time, ranging from a Holy Sword to a Holy Grenade and even a Holy Bazooka.)

With this new development, the store co owner of the Armoury Department, Bai Xin had been waiting for this opportunity. Boss Jin had informed her beforehand that it was just a matter of time until the First Clear was achieved and advised her to moderately increase the price of the clothes due to shortage. It was to facilitate the supply and demand, and the trick was doing exceptionally well.

However, it was not all a cash grab. Bai Xin would intentionally release more stocks every time a new 'shipment' arrived with the first ten sets of ice resistant clothing at a major discount before resuming the current price.

Many struggled when seeing the increased prices, but since the articles of winter clothing were rather comfy, and their designs were very trendy, people had trouble resisting. Many were forced to reach a compromise between their wallet and guilty conscious. (Bai Xin could see the inner struggle in most of the customers' eyes.)

And yes, sets. From winter jackets to socks and shoes, she offered everything needed to take a stroll in the freezing tundra. (It's really an overstatement, but that's how advertising works.)

Bai Xin did not lie when she said the stocks came in waves because they were needed to be customised by her. She had collaborated with Octofussy to create a combination of inscriptions that could be sold as a set. (Thus, having a set bonus and it was the first time Octofussy thought of that.)

The General Store Instance Keeper concentrated on making the inscription by using the many tentacles on his head to inscribe each of them whereas she sewed in those inscriptions with her Weaving Spider cultivation, enhancing the set a little more.

It was hard work, but the money for the customisation was great, and the demand for it was increasing. (Good thing the System was able to buy a ton from other worlds at a very, VERY cheap price to meet with the demands.) The sales were so overwhelming that more and more Cosplay Minotaurs had decided to help with the selling and packing.

Others continued with their fashion show and presented the various available sets. It enabled the crowd to know what kind of designs were ready to be purchased, and most importantly, the fashion show entices them even further.

In the meantime, her twin brother Bai Wan and his weapon store department were not having it any easier. Yet, despite his busyness, he still assisted his sister by helping her restock when he went to stock up his own items.

Apart from Vulcan being rather busy with enhancing the cultivator's weapons with fire, the main income from the store stemmed from magical scrolls.

Those were selling like hotcakes after the revelation that the element of fire was rather vital for this dungeon instance. But unlike the armour, the scrolls were consumables, and Bai Wan was not allowed to further increase the prices of those already expensive scrolls.

After all, the scrolls became pricier the higher the scroll level was with. And each cultivator was restricted by the System to buy scrolls only up to their respective grade. Initially, the cultivators thought that Boss Jin was merely levelling the playing field until one of the ignorant cultivators had used a scroll two levels above his grade. (He got another cultivator to buy it for him.)

That cultivator managed to cast the spell, but he later suffered a bout of magical feedback, leaving him unconscious. This had to do with how scrolls work. It already had magic stored within that piece of paper, so a small amount of chi/mana was needed as the trigger. Aside from that, a stable connection to the mind was also required to signify the will to cast the spell.

Else, any chi or magic aura would be sufficient to make every scroll to explode on contact. When the mind connection was established with the scroll, magical energies stored within the scroll could then be released out as a spell.

In addition, all scrolls had a sort of magical feedback since magical energies in the scrolls need to be more than what the 'mana cost' of the spell could potentially be to keep the scroll stable. That was why the remaining mana would either be released into the surrounding environment and to the mind considering the cultivator had a stable connection with it.

As long as one used scrolls corresponding to their grade, the body was able to adapt to the overflowing mana and dissipate it into the surrounding environment. However, using higher level scrolls would result in an excess flow of mana into the brain, causing possible mana poisoning. What the cultivator had done was no better than a Western Mage casting above his level.

Thus, ever since that incident, Boss Jin became stricter with the selling of scrolls and wrote a disclaimer that cultivators using scrolls above their Grade would not be the store's responsibility. Any cultivator failing a dungeon due to misuse would be charged for their stay in the Luxury Recovery Instance. (The price was luxurious too.)

It just so happened that Bai Wan had long since been interested in magical scrolls before joining up with Jin. Part of him wanted to help their struggling weapons shop, but a much bigger part was due to how lucrative selling them seemed to be.

Unfortunately, there was no one around to teach him this knowledge until they got this particularly new landlord.

That was also how the (not so) friendly magician in the neighbourhood got introduced to him by Boss Jin. Peppers 'unwillingly' taught Bai Wan the basics and even gave him a cultivation manual suitable for him to create such scrolls. (Ming's hoard of cultivation manuals came in handy!)

Deciphering Spider Cultivation.

It allowed Bai Wan to convert chi into magic and later code it down onto paper. Before this particular cultivation, he had only studied the general form of Spider cultivation since he did not wish to take up his family's Weaving Spider Cultivation like his twin sister.

But ever since Bai Wan took up this Deciphering Spider Cultivation seriously, he had been creating level 1 scrolls in his spare time. Those scrolls were all later vetted by the System via a machine brought to him by Peppers to test the validity of the scrolls.

The System compared the near perfect product from Peppers and listed various points of improvement for each scroll, telling Bai Wan how much each of those scrolls should potentially cost in comparison.

That allowed him to improve further while selling those imperfect scrolls at a discount with a disclaimer that it was his products. Cheapskate cultivators sometimes preferred his version, but those who had money would still buy Pepper's version.

Bai Wan could only hope that one day, he would reach the standard of Peppers.

Chapter 586 Moloch's Pride

"You got Boss's message?" An orc engineer working on the maintenance of the Sandroku Golem looked at the time. There were only 15 minutes left until Christmas.

"Yeah. I think everyone got the message. The peeps at Section A spread the news like wildfire." The Goblin assistant took off his working gloves before wiping off his sweat.

Suddenly Moloch appeared to make a last minute check with the System Tablet on the Sandroku Golem. "Looks like this one's ready to go."

He checked off the maintenance of this particular Sandroku Golem.

"But that can wait until after the meeting." Moloch smiled as he thanked the orcs and goblins in the area.

"Get a quick shower and wear your best...erm cleanest outfit for the meeting. I heard it's quite an important one." Moloch told them as he sent the last unit working off to their bunks. The rest of the monsters had already returned to their instance. This was the first time he heard silence in the Dungeon City Fortress.

He walked out to the edge of the floating land platform, to take in the scene of the nearly completed city. Lights from construction cranes as well as warning lights were the only things shining from the bottom of Pand-Atlantis.

Moloch could not be prouder of their accomplishment. In fact, in his entire life, this was the first time he felt such pride and joy to see this particular city being built. Within a short time, the monsters along with the System meticulously brought this idea into fruition.

Of course, Jin had a hand in this since he was the one who had supplied all the necessary manpower, resources. To be honest, Moloch had never expected his master to be able to fulfil the promise in such a grand manner.

He'd long since thought that Jin would just create a half assed city for Moloch to control and that the Demon Lord would be the one to address any problems as they came up.

But no.

Despite his crazy ideas, the implementation of the city's foundation was extremely sound. Jin purposely included sanitation and used proper city planning to incorporate the power supplies and even allow for future development. Without a doubt, Qiu Yue had been vital in the whole process too, as she modified the blueprints to suit the developmental needs while ensuring the highest quality.

Her strict and stringent quality checks influenced Moloch to be observant and catch any possible defects as soon as possible. Any workers responsible for any deviation of the plan would not be reprimanded and instead given a full break. (She refrained from calling it suspension from work.)

Yet, it was indeed suspension. Instead of telling the affected parties about the fault that they had done, the upper management purposely let them rest for three days before showing them the truth of what they had done to receive this treatment. After which, the goblins affected were given a lump of gold and asked to return home while the Orcs were given further breaks.

But somehow, it had an opposite effect on them. It was mainly because they had been working so hard that the workers found the break extremely unusual. And when they learnt what they had done, the goblins and orcs would wish to atone for their mistakes instead of leaving after all the work they had done. They pleaded and even begged to let them get back to their work.

The reverse psychology was heavily implied here, letting them feel a full load of guilt before Qiu Yue and Moloch allowed them to fix the problem they had done. Surprisingly, they became even more efficient and more careful.

Was it because of possible returns that the goblins had stayed rather than to accept that lump sum of gold? Was it because the idea of not doing any work made the Orcs feel useless? Or was it because they

had pride and passion in their work that they eventually felt responsible? Qiu Yue only smiled at Moloch when he asked these questions.

"For a Demon Lord, you seem to have a bit more to learn on how to manage your minions." The Red Panda Cultivator replied before they returned to their work.

Regardless, because of that incident, Moloch began to observe them more closely and started to learn that those Goblins and Orcs had their own quirks and bonded with them even more. Even those from Goblin World had discovered that the Minotaurs were not just a bunch of cows who just wanted to stop the infighting between the Goblins and Orcs.

The Minotaurs eventually realised that some fighting was necessary to clear misunderstandings along with lots of explanation and sometimes even joined in with the fights to release their stress along with the Orcs and Goblins.

It was a rough start for the first month or so but soon, their teamwork became the best Moloch had seen. Everyone was doing their work systematically to the point they invented new ways to clear the construction process more efficiently.

"I guess within a week we can start pouring water into Pand-Altantis...ah. I have to consult with Master Jin where to get such a massive amount of water. Or maybe I should ask Sir Derpy since he came from the Fishing World." Moloch smiled to himself as he added that one last objective before turning his tablet off.

"System, bring me to the meeting," Moloch said, and he was immediately teleported into the Town Hall meeting place where everyone was gathering behind a large towering digital wall of screen.

It was obviously set up by the System with the following message:

"Welcome to the first Christmas Grand Feast! The event will launch in 4 minutes and 48 seconds!" A few Pandas with a Santa hat were used as part of the advertisement, but other than that, there was no other information.

"So it's a buffet?" Moloch wondered out loud before he noticed that it wasn't just the monsters from the Dungeon City Fortress who were called in. Nearly everyone was already present in the area, and they were all talking with each other as they waited for this feast event.

Last to arrive were the bellators.

Three minutes before the unravelling of the event, Kiyu was projected on top of the screen. The natural crowd puller began to explain how Christmas worked in Jin's world. (Now Kiyu understood why Jin asked her to explain how Christmas came about.)

"Does that mean we were supposed to prepare gifts for our friends?" Niu Lang asked in a naïve manner. "I have no presents with me. The message only told me to come to the meeting."

"Nah, I think it's just a food buffet, I really hope that it will be Chef Lynn's cooking!" Brown said as his mouth started to water.

"You think Ms Lynn has the time to cook for thousands of minions? Her penguins would work themselves to death!" One of the Deep One Mages interjected.

"Wait, speaking of penguins, where are the penguins?" Half Ghoul Lord Derek asked, and the people started to notice that the penguins were nowhere to be seen.

"Maybe the peggies are helping with arranging the foodstuff? They should be the best ones for that job." Dread Reaver commented, and the people in the surrounding concurred with that explanation.

The casual yet lively bantering went on until the last ten seconds where the screen changed to numbers. With Kiyu beginning a countdown, the monsters all became animated and started to chant along.

"You ready?" Lynn asked as she adjusted Jin's fake beard.

"He looks as corny as ever. Probably need a big round stomach to complete the look." Qiu Yue laughed as she took her phone out to take a picture of the empty side of the Town Hall Instance.

"Hey, let's take a picture together to commemorate our efforts. This preparation was no joke at all. And here I thought the hardest event I ever planned would have been for a company dinner. This feast literally brings it to another level." Qiu Yue complained while the other two smiled at her. They knew how hard she worked, arranging the required resources for the feast.

Thus, the three System Users took a group 'we-fie' on stage with the massive table preparations behind them before they heard the crowd shouting the countdown together. The System who was in the loop then asked if Jin was ready.

"Even if I'm not, time doesn't wait for anyone. So, let's get the Surprise Christmas Feast started!" Jin answered with a smile as he quickly hid behind the stage.

All that's left to do was to hope that his feelings of appreciation would be felt by minions and bellators.

Chapter 587 Grand Feast Seating

When the countdown reached zero, the digital screen slowly moved upwards, and they saw rows of tables prepared for each and every one of them. The already vast Town Hall council meeting place had been stretched to become the largest instance the System had ever utilised for this particular event without reaching its limit.

Nevertheless, the System required the Mechanical Brain as an upgrade since Operation 'Pied Piper' would most likely encompass tens if not hundreds of thousands of Demon Rats. With Jin's increasing customer base and more and more elaborate instances, especially the recent Tree Mall Instance, it started to tax his 'almighty' inheritance. That was why it needed Jin to help it by improving itself and its processing speed to handle such workload.

When Jin asked, the System admitted that while it was necessary for them to steal the Mechanical Brain, there were indeed alternate ways to reach the same goal. Until now, it had already managed by frequently reviewing its processes and purchase the necessary parts to upgrade the System's processing ability, albeit it was at a speed that the System found it too...time consuming.

Yet, the fastest and least tedious way to get an instant upgrade would no doubt be the Mechanical Brain. Given the political situation in the Mecha World, which they while not directly responsible, had at least accelerated their world's predicament.

The System also stated that it was also an excellent opportunity to commit the crime and blame it on somebody else. The System had strongly (and repeatedly) advised to Jin take action, specifically because the dungeon supplier was short on time (once again) to get it done before the upcoming Chinese New Year.

However, there would be time to worry about this tomorrow, today was all about the workers in the Dungeon City Fortress who deserve a well needed break.

The minions were surprised by the multiple rows of tables, all prepared neatly with the necessary cutleries. There were even accommodations to the 'tables' depending on the monster's way of eating. For example, at the side of the Town Hall instance (or open fields) there were labels of various monster names such as Shadow Dagen (aka Mr. Derpy), Keyrin and even Spiky to indicate that their seats were there.

With the giant monsters at the side, the System had prepared feasts of similar sizes to fit their proportions. (On hindsight, Jin was very thankful that the Giant World existed, so he did not have to purchase thousands of chickens just to accommodate Mr Derpy or even Spiky.)

The Water Snake Demon and Fire Lion Demon whose names he did not catch from Weslie was placed on placards on the side of the fields, and the four demons were reunited like this for the first time in decades. (They all truly had a decent time catching up with each other.)

Jin was surprised that the System's omni-lingualism enabled every monster to talk to each other until he learnt that it made everyone learn a common language. Chinese. "I guess that actually made things much simpler..." Jin humbled himself as he peeked through the curtains behind the stage and watched his monsters talk in their own social groups, seemingly a bit unsure where to sit.

At the same time, Qiu Yue and Lynn appeared on stage, hosting as Emcees for the night.

They were dressed in Santa costumes too but with the modern (cutesy) look. A erm...Red Santa red shirt and short skirt for Qiu Yue and a Santa long dress for Lynn.

"Alright, please get seated so we can start our programme. I know the allure of food right in front of the stage and at the back is tempting but please hold on to your stomachs a bit longer." Qiu Yue announced, and the minions fastened their pace a little.

"It's free seating so you may sit wherever you want except for those names on the placards at the side of the field. Peggies, please take a seat for now." Lynn added and the Peggies who were manning the food booths at the front of the stage listened to their Queen.

"What about us, we no VIPs?" Kraft shouted loudly, and Qiu Yue apologised and reiterated that it was free seating. The Original Bellator frowned wondering with whom to sit down. Suddenly Kiyu was calling him over from afar, and he saw the Foxes reserved a seat for him together with the Dark Elves.

Even Pei for this rare occasion was sitting with them. Kraft half smiled and walked towards them not mentioning the fact, that she had chosen the place farthest away from his own.

Milk chose to sit alongside the Panda Nurses that were off duty, while Peppers went towards Ayse and her researchers. Zeru's company consisted of the Mousefolks surrounding him. They were equally shocked to see a myriad of monsters bonding together. Meomi calmed them down and told them they were now all part of this big family.

Amura Rei, the newest of members, was even more shocked by the turn of events and Yun beckoned him to seat with Ayse and the other researchers to get acquainted. The Goblins and Orcs, on the other hand, did not sit with their races and instead had instinctively split up into the units or sections they were assigned to. Joining them were the Minotaurs who were assigned to their sections.

Moloch was in a bit of an odd position. He was the one to overlook the whole project, so he technically did not belong in any one section, but ironically he was also the most sought from both races to sit beside them. Eventually, he took comfort with Jespa and Hespeta who were with a section of Orc and Goblin engineers that handled the leading Mecha Developments.

Even the Merchants and Adventurer Guild from the Dungeon Cave Town had taken a day off or left it to their Goblin World assistants to handle the workload as they joined this compulsory Feast.

As for the Farming World counterparts, the Dark Templars sat along with the Werejackals with the exception of Lord Wolte who surprisingly was allowed to be stationed at the end of the long table. Apparently, he had the ability to revert back to his slug form and thus he was allowed to eat near his comrades and sat down next to Baphomet. (Mr Oink was given similar treatment at the Goblin/Orc Table.)

Separately, the Deep Ones did not abandon their lord. Initially, all of them sat closest to the Demon Beasts so that Mr Derpy would not be so lonely, but soon they watched their formidable Lord was able to make new friends with the Demon Beasts. Derpy got so engaged in the conversation that some of the Deep Ones joined the other monsters at the regular tables.

In the meantime, Shu's placard was on the other end of the field which he did abide by. It was a funny sight to behold to see Shu walk around with its roots up and later entrench himself at the side. Naturally, Ke Mi, her Great White Snake and the ants sat closest to them. Sitting beside them were Niu Lang, Zhi Nu and Que Er along with Sandy. The Boar Knights and Pyro Jack also joined in at the side. (Along with the Gingerbread Knights and the inhabitants from Giant World like Hamatarou.)

Yun was the only one in an exclusive VIP table that was meant for the unique NPCs like Vulcan and Octofussy. It also included the System Users. Qiu Yue, Lynn and Jin but many of them noticed that Jin was not at the table with Yun.

Once the Emcees were notified that everyone had taken their seats, they officially started the Christmas Grand Feast Event.

Chapter 588 Door Gifts

"First of all, it is our pleasure to welcome you all to the very first Christmas Feast! We apologise for the vague meeting details even though we've deemed it important. Boss Jin had to keep it under wraps so it would be a major surprise for everyone!" Qiu Yue announced.

"There will be a few activities for your amusements which will also allow some of you to earn extra System points for free! Think of them as mini games for this particular event." Lynn explained with a professional voice despite Qiu Yue being able to see her colleague shivering from her waist down. When the minions heard extra System Points, it started to make the minions chat loudly.

"But the Bellators are not allowed to join!" Qiu Yue added, and the loudest boo surprisingly came from Peppers and subsequently Kiyu. Pei had to pull her back to her seat in order not to make too much of a ruckus. "Just joking. Don't worry, we aren't excluding you guys. Instead, the bellators will compete equally and we will all be able to watch them on the screen to make sure it is somewhat fair."

"Could it be a massive duel?" Tsu asked, and Kai smirked at that opinion.

"If there is one, I would love to compete against you once more," Kai replied, and Tsu's eyes turned to ones filled with senseless anticipation.

"However, before you start with the feast, Jin here has some things to tell you." Lynn pointed to the side as they let the panda cultivator take the stage wearing a fake beard and dragging a large haversack behind him.

"Thank you, Qiu Yue and Lynn. I wanted to surprise everyone, but I realised I could not have done it without their help. So please give them a round of applause!" Jin said at the podium, and a loud series of applause soon followed throughout the open fields.

"Just like the two Sub System Users, I could have never reached where I am now without all of you here. So, this particular Grand Feast has been prepared for all of you as a token of my appreciation towards each and every one of you. The three of us took great pains to make this all possible, so after this speech, please eat to your heart content!" Jin continued, and the monsters roared into another series of applause.

"The food was painstakingly prepared by Lynn and her penguins who just until a moment ago were still cooking extra in case the current food that we have prepared would not be enough. So you guys better eat until you drop or I will never forgive all of you for wasting the penguin's work!" Jin 'threatened' loudly and cheers erupted for the penguins from the other minions.

"It's Lynn's cooking! The peggies too! No wonder the food smells so good! Master, please hurry and let us eat now!" One of the Orcs shouted out loud, and the rest resonated with him. Usually, such actions would displease Black Disaster Nubwort but seeing how Jin did not take any offence at that, relaxed his stance just for this event. He knew that even at times, he needed to have some fun.

"Ah..fun, been a long time since I could even think of that." Nubwort curled his lips and realised how fortunate it was to be in Jin's care. Not only was he allowed to help build up a city from scratch, but the Goblin Raid Instance was also a great way to fight with some worthy opponents even though most of the time they were not his match.

"Sure sure, I shall hurry it up, but I assure you what I say next will bring more pleasure to all of you as a whole compared to the amazing food right in front of you guys. Besides, they will all still be piping hot with the System's powers so bear with me for another few minutes!" Jin laughed as he too got excited by the news he had been withholding for a long time.

"But first, I would like to welcome a few new...additions into our ranks." Jin started and coinciding with him the System dimmed the lights and shone a spotlight on their newest members. The first being welcomed was the new Mousefolks who were under Qiu Yue's contract and werejackals like Silver. Subsequently, Jin touched on the Dark Templars, Hamatarou, Weslie, her Demons, the Farming Humans and even Rei.

"I am sorry that I could not be there to get acquainted with all of you yet and even missed the chance to introduce myself as I had been really busy with my other work. But rest assured you guys are not forgotten at all. As ironic and iconic, a warm welcome to this extended family of yours." Jin said, and the clapping was less fevering, probably as a sign of respect.

"Lastly, you all have just heard from Kiyu about the origins of Christmas. So I am hoping to establish this tradition, in hopes that you guys will also do the same with your comrades in the future. Today let me start by declaring that I have prepared presents for almost everyone...if not all of you guys! I hope they will be to your liking." Jin smiled as he placed his haversack down.

"Robot Crawlers, I might need your help on this if you could come on stage for me," Jin asked as he dragged the enormous haversack towards the centre and the Robot Crawlers that were coming out from the Robotic Arachnid obeyed Jin's orders. The Titan Knight, who was at the other side of the field with Shu and the Arachnid, used his Colossus Sword like a sky bridge for the Robot Crawlers to scurry towards the stage and not disrupt the crowd too much.

It was the welcome door gift for each and every minion to date, including Rei.

"This was made by Qiu Yue in secret. Let me tell you that she grumbled how difficult it was to create them all without any of you catching wind of it and make sure they were all up to quality." The Robot Crawlers indiscriminately picked the door gift and went frenzy with the delivery methods. (Meanwhile, Qiu Yue threw her mike at Jin like slapstick comedy before a robot crawler picked it up and returned it to her.)

When they received the welcome gift, they noticed it was a 54mm miniature model (up to 20cm depending on their respective size) with them posing to do what they had been doing. The Engineering Section, for example, had customised miniatures that if placed down properly, it would create one perfect picture of their typical workday.

The same was true for every group.

Sandy thought that she did not have any friends since no one originated from her World. But little did she know that her model was actually a part with the Orcs and Goblins from the materials department. Her help was essential and efficient in making high strength concrete that could reach up to 80,000 psi (550 MPa) at a fairly cheap cost.

From the age of sticks and stones, the orcs and goblins never knew that they could see something this amazing for construction. Even for Jin and Qiu Yue, they nearly fainted that it was even possible to

create such a super strength material. The latter even joked she should sell it to the government and they could guarantee that the word invulnerable is indeed possible.

Everyone was satisfied with the door gift, and they figured they could keep it as a memorial. Yet, this was not the end of the Christmas giving session.

Jin had more surprises for them and the next was certain to change the way they lived.

Chapter 589 Promises Fulfilled

"Many of you might be aware that I vouched and made certain promises in the past months or so. Yet there was no news of those promises being fulfilled due to my busy schedule. So, for this particular Christmas Grand Feast, I hope that I have managed to make it worth your wait." Jin announced as he looked at the side and nodded his head.

Qiu Yue got his cue, and via the System's tablet, a projectile screen appeared with the image of an island. The minions did not understand what promise this could refer to until Jin further explained it. "This Island Instance is going to be your new home, my comrades."

He added that he had created multiple Island Instances to house the minions still waiting for an official home instance and wished to replace the currently occupied home instances. The dungeon supplier then used his phone to click to the next slide.

The following image showed an island with a huge stadium. Surrounding the stadium were not steps and seats, but market stalls in the first few layers and further rings showed housing of some sort. With the exception of the East having a large mansion, the rest were buildings of various ascending height.

All of the houses supported a view of the extended stadium field without obstruction. This meant that the grass field was the pivotal landmark for this architectural framework.

"I specifically built the currently shown Island Instance for the Orcs since my interaction with them taught me that they love festivals and get together for a good fight. This stadium will not only be a place to rest and relax but a place where the Orcs are free to settle their differences with everyone as the witness." Jin spoke and indicated that for simplicity sake, it would be named Orc Island Instance. (They were free to come up with their own name as long as they agreed.)

A period of silence was suddenly replaced with intense cheering from the Orcs filling the place.

Nubwort smirked at his delighted Orcs, who received the acknowledgement of their master for all the work they had done. For keeping his honour with the Orcs, it made the Black Disaster regard Jin in a different light and respected him slightly more.

"Let me emphasise that this Island is solely for the Orcs, the other races will receive their own Islands which would be catered to their needs. There is no need to worry about space. Remember this is a dimensional instance that you will be living in. It can expand endlessly as much as I can allow it to." Jin had a giant smile on his Santa face after seeing the Orc's reaction and subsequently showed another Island.

The next one featured mushroom huts in a terrace farming kind of style. "There will be basements for this so do not see that this particular design as small. I have also included weather modules into these instances, so those mushroom huts are designed to weather through this." Jin made a small pun which made the goblins giggle a little. (Yes this particular island full of mushroom huts was for them.) He added that the three Goblin Generals' sons would be joining them too, which perked the Goblins up a lot.

Afterwards, the dungeon supplier presented a picture of a deserted theme park. Everyone instantly recognised that it was the home instance of the zombies. He zoomed out a bit, revealing that the theme park was only a small part of this Zombie Island, and they could discern that there was an abandoned town around it.

"Master, What is the reason for putting everyone in islands?" Ayse shouted and also shamelessly asked if the researchers had their own Island Instance.

"Like I said, everyone, including current owners, has it. So, yes Ayse you and your researchers will have one too. The islands are to prepare for something even more exciting in the future." Jin answered as he opened his phone and scrolled down to choose a particular picture. The System then presented it to the entire horde of his.

It was an overview of the structure of the various islands which made it look like some sort of treasure map.

"This will be my next grand dungeon scheme which includes all of you inside." Jin declared and revealed that this was the Sanctum of Worlds' Open Dungeon Instance concept. He could see that almost every minion had their jaws drop and Jin enjoyed this sight.

"In other words, this will not just be your homes, but something similar to the WunderPanda Theme Park. People will come and see how you guys live and interact with all of you." Jin explained that this was still in its experimental stage as he would not be able to achieve this particular endeavour until he got the Mechanical Brain from the Mecha World.

He then added that even if all of this were not connected right now, all these islands instance could be expanded and built upon with the System points that they had earned. "Items like furniture and accessories for your house can be bought via the System. Stalls are created to introduce economy and allow you monsters the chance to try each other's specialities."

"Then do we need to travel via ships to get to the other island?" Gold questioned, and Jin shook his head.

"I will put a portal which allows you to teleport from one place to another easily. When it goes live for the customers to use, the cultivators will have to choose which race they want to support or ally with. This will also decide which Island they start on, with them receiving a save point to travel back and fro." Jin explained.

"Other than that, they will have to travel via ships and depending on their interaction with you guys, they will be considered your friend or foes," Jin announced and there was much chatter in the group.

"So for example, I may set it up that the Goblins are friends with the Orcs but rivals with the Werejackals for a particular week. When cultivators enter the Goblin's seaport to resupply they will be charged

higher should they be allied to the werejackals while the cultivators who are friends with the Orcs will receive a benefit or even a discount." Jin briefly described and people started to laugh at that particular example.

"Aside from the Home Islands, there will be islands that have secondary dungeons in them or even Boss monsters. That is where Demon Beast like Spiky can reside in, and this will be the ultimate test of teamwork among those in their ships." Jin shared his ambitions for the entire group.

"However, rest assured that the Open Dungeon Instance will not include your real home instances. If any of you do not wish to participate in the Open Dungeon Instance and prefer to rest after a day's worth of work, please do so. But for those who wish to earn extra System points, no one is stopping from participating in these open dungeon instances." Jin kind of implied that hard work would not betray them as they would be rewarded based on meritocracy.

"I will be showing slides of other island home instances as part of the presentation slides, and that's more or less it from me. You've all heard me rambling long enough. Now, please dig into the grand feast that we prepared for all for you!" Jin finished and as soon as he did his minions pounced on the yummy food.

Chapter 590 Home Island Instances

In the subsequent slides, the Island Instances of various minions were shown while the minions enjoyed their food and commented on the pictures. It got extremely lively and even the Sub System Users who had begun taking their supper, hope to eventually question Jin on the feasibility of this whole Open Dungeon concept he had in mind.

At the moment they were discussing how crazy some Island Instances looked like. The Zither Island Instance was where Ke Mi, Shu among with others would be situated. Jin had purposely created sufficient space for the wrym ants to populate under the ground while Shu was located in the middle of a crater of their Home island.

The Ancient Treant was allowed to grow as large as he wished, which he approved a lot. In return, he would provide the base and foundation for Tree Apartments where various houses would 'grow' on the different height of Shu. Ke Mi wanted to take the lowest level as she did not wish to burden her Great White Snake too much.

Yet Sandy, the Sand Witch who would be staying with her told her not to worry that much and insisted that she takes the highest level instead. "I will bring you down if need be," Sandy said and reasoned that her song should be heard from the top of the tree instead of being at the bottom.

"You okay with Ke Mi?" The Zither Mistress, who had learnt to trust Sandy as much as her Great White Snake decided to listen to the Sand Witch instead.

"Of course, if you think I am merely an acquaintance, you are dead wrong. If anything, I am a fan of your songs." Sandy said as she knocked her shoulder with Ke Mi's as if to indicate her friendliness to the Zither Mistress.

However, it would be an understatement to call the Sand Witch just a fan. Sandy was heads over heels with Ke Mi's music.

Whenever she was free from her construction errands or on break, the Sand Witch would visit Ke Mi in the agriculture sector, and they would have an impromptu music performance with many also on break coming over to listen to.

When both were off their work, Sandy visited Ke Mi at home, and she would create Sand clones to play music instruments available to the Zither Mistress.

Furthermore, the other group to stay with them were the Boar Knights as well as Que Er, the Magpie Queens. The Boar Knights did not mind taking the bottom tier of houses since they were rather scared of heights. On the other hand, Que Er had an amicable partnership with Shu, who allowed her to house her magpies. He agreed to it so long as they did not make too much noise early in the morning. Other than that, she was welcome to stay with them as well.

During the feast, Jin came over to her to make sure the Magpie Queen was fine with his choice. When she nodded and told him it was a great idea, he asked her to meet him tomorrow at 11 for a particular errand. She found it weird considering the occasion but shrugged it off and continued enjoying the feast.

Given the large new space, Shu tried to persuade Jin, who was on his way to return to his table. The ancient Treant listed the benefits of getting more insects for the vitality of the earth as well as to keep his Mantis and Wyrms less lonely.

"How about Piggycupines? I have them in a pen right now, and they are the only ones I did not invite because... Well, a number of our comrades are eating them right now." Jin suggested, and Shu pretended to give a horrified face.

"You! Evil! Heh, that was a bad joke. I do not want to go into existential crisis issues, but I do not mind them, I figure their giant poops should be good for my growth." Shu replied with a laugh as he would look forward to watching the Boar Knights trying to tame them as their steeds.

The next Island Instance was none other than the Werejackals' new home instance. Instead of a proper island, theirs was one of the more complex Island Instances which Jin had made. Mainly because of one thing.

Their farms.

They had been experimenting and even had dedicated a lot of their room for the production of Oil plants which the System took great care for. That was why the System was very willing to give a discount to Jin for making their Island Instance, as long as he would design it first. (and with profit in mind)

Thus, their Werejackal Island Instance was literally an ivory tower.

Their island included an inactive volcano and in the middle of the volcano stood a tower where all the expensive agriculture was done. The rest of the farming utilised the plots of land right beside the volcano. Jin tried to mimic the situation where the lands near the volcano were extremely fertile. And because of their large plots of farmland, the Werejackals would be situated at a seaport where most of the housing and stalls would be.

For the other werejackals, they would have to take a transport to their farms or the ivory tower for the farming work. At that point, both Gold and Weslie had already begun discussing what needed to be done and which plot of farmland would be used for which particular sets of crops.

The Dark Templars would be joining them too, and they had their own headquarters to call their own. Jin said that they would have to contribute with the farming efforts since security was currently not an issue. Yet, he did mention that there was no harm creating contingency plans in case the cultivators would wish to 'steal' crops.

The Dark Templars perked up, hearing that they could not only establish a security presence, but there were chances where they could also be hired as mercenaries for the Open Dungeon concept.

In the meantime, Jin also assured the Mousefolks that they too would be given a sanctuary to call home within the Werejackal Island Instance. He even specifically named one of the streets in the seaport after their old town's name, Ording Street.

"However, you'll have to earn your share! In the future, I will purposely place a cave full of minerals for you to guide cultivators who wish to mine as well as some monsters to spice things up, you know? Maybe if I have the time to create them, it will most probably be the Demon Rats, so feel free to fight against them!" Jin explained but all the Mousefolks had heard was one vital phrase.

Full of minerals.

This excited the miners of Ording, and it gave the Mousefolk a bit of anticipation that they could return to their old ways. The dungeon supplier also did not rule out the possibility of them helping with farming instead or even security work, especially when the opportunities were there for them to create since it was their home.

That's right. Jin wanted all of his minions to feel like they belonged.