

Dungeon S 811

Chapter 811 Breakfast With The Snakes - Part 4

"Any worst-case scenarios in mind? What if those Bone Spirit Monkey Demons were just the goons?" Jin asked, and the military officers shook their head simultaneously and deemed it impossible.

"If that were true, then we would have a large-scale catastrophe on our hands. There's no way those were goons. We had eliminated their nest before, and they are neither that intelligent nor strong." Boon Tiong replied.

"Well, I am just presenting the options from the perspective of an outsider and a person who makes dungeons for a living. What if the nests were diversions? Those Bone Spirit Monkey Demons were apparently at least smart enough to ambush our group when they were resting. Subsequently, they separated the demon exorcists and entrapped them so they could remove each of them individually." The rest became quiet for a while instead of being dismissive of the facts.

"And there are apparently other Bone Spirit Demons waiting to finish the job based on Su Zhen's report, right? Isn't this your standard divide and conquer rather than a monster horde rushing aimlessly?" Jin questioned, and the rest stopped eating their food for a moment.

"Boon Tiong, any correlations with the recent emergence of Monster Hordes in other cities that have nearly been pulverised?" Hou Fei said in a rather authoritative tone.

"There were some comments from various science commissions that it might not be a common natural occurrence. Though they did not specify anything about Bone Spirit Demons. Those monsters were still part of their surrounding habitat." Boon Tiong quickly checked his phone for the required information.

"Are you implying that this could, in fact, be international terrorism disguised as a natural disaster?" Chen Lai suddenly brought that topic up.

"Perhaps. I will have to check with the Clan Head to see if there are any possible causations and relations. If Jin did not point this out, I might have overlooked such a possibility." Hou Fei admitted as his head suddenly got heavier.

"I think we might need to prepare more than we thought if those accursed speculations out Jin's mouth turn out to be true." Hou Fei said with a cruel smile and the others chuckled for a moment.

"Hey! I did not jinx anything! I merely pointed out what seemed obvious to me. Usually, elite troops during peace times ultimately always get their ass kicked in because they've grown too used to the 'threats and warnings' around them. I also didn't think that you would not take me seriously enough to warrant such a heavy atmosphere right now. Hopefully, this would be just baseless conjecture." Jin tried to defend himself.

"Haha, it is not your fault, Jin. Though I must say, having a backup plan will indeed prove to be useful." Chen Lai agreed, and the others began to slowly look at Jin.

"What?" Jin could literally feel a cold chill running down his spine. The suspicions of them wanting a favour from him was extremely obvious.

"Guys, do not bother the Boss this time around. I promise him at least that much." Hou Fei quickly intervened, yet the officers were already giving conflicting expressions on their faces.

"But we all saw him battle. Both Boss Jin's colleagues and their fighting abilities had repeatedly shown that they are capable individuals who could make a huge difference in our fights. Plus, this Pandapolis... Especially when he said that his dungeon instances are an extension of the real world. This means that if we include him in our worst-case scenario, it will help to mitigate a lot of losses." Chen Lai spoke out bluntly for the officers.

"I support Chen Lai. Though renting this place is a horrible idea in terms of budget, we cannot deny that it might save a ton of people. And since we have the portal devices to send them here. The Tigers can be roped into the plan as well." Kan Jian suggested.

"And you are assuming Dongguan area won't get hit as badly with the Royal Horse Shits and the Demon Exorcists aiding them? Then what if the monster horde spilt into Huizhou or even worse, Shenzhen?" Boon Tiong added fuel to the burning fire of pessimism.

"We can only do that much. Stretching our forces thin would not do any good." Hou Fei replied. "At the very most, we can relay this information to the Tigers and get them to at least set up temporary roadblocks."

"You sure? The last time I heard from them, they wanted as much normalcy as possible with the upcoming new year preparations." Boon Tiong reiterated the need to be somewhat discreet.

"Fuck discretion. If the Demon Exorcists have trouble handling them as per the report and the constant requests from the Border Guards to get rid of the threat are not getting anywhere, it is an issue that the government should be getting even more battalions to come in. If there is no proper, timely evacuation, we won't have people to celebrate Chinese New Year." Kan Jian proposed.

"Sigh. The government is certain to side with the Tigers on this. Every industry is currently ramping production, working 24 hours overtime before the pending holidays. That is why they wish to clear it a few weeks before the official holiday in case there's a mess up. We will then have some leeway to clean the situation. Also, the partial reason why we are there to help even though it is no longer our jurisdiction." Hou Fei shook his head in dismay.

"This is not going well as we thought it would be." Kan Jian reinforced when the conversation turned grimmer.

"Too many factors to consider and absurd limitations." Chen Lai sighed as he emptied his cup and accidentally slammed it too loud.

"There is only this much I can do as a Dungeon Supplier. If you need my services in times of need, I might consider helping. But if you ask me to fight, I am sorry, I refuse!" Jin apologised, but suddenly Hou Fei unknowingly realised a loophole in Jin's commitment.

"You know...even if you do not fight with us as a Dungeon Supplier, you are technically a Demon Exorcist... So they might have to send you to Dongguan." Hou Fei leaned forward as he said it. As much as he wanted to keep his promise to Jin, this was the only way he could think of to benefit his battalion, fulfilling his duty to the people and helping Jin out further.

Also, the moment when Hou Fei said the word Demon Exorcist, the eyes of the military officers lit up. They knew where their General was heading and as cunning as it sounded, it could actually be a win-win situation for both parties.

"We are willing to officially recruit you and can set up a new contract with us. We will then use your Pandapolis as a refugee camp if the need arises. Either way, you won't need to fulfil your duty as a Demon Exorcist since you will be working for us on this particular mission. I can even put a word to Su Zhen's mother to exempt you from working at Dongguan." Hou Fei suggested, and Jin realised how shrewd his Panda Remnant was.

It was too lucrative of an offer to refuse.

Chapter 812 Breakfast With The Snakes - Final

"Hou Fei, can I have a private talk with you?" Jin asked as if he was considering the lucrative proposal that Hou Fei had thought out of the blue.

"It's fine, we're already done with our food and had planned to leave anyway. There are some post-battle debriefings we need to do with our respective platoons." Kan Jian said, and the rest nodded their heads, giving their General and the Dungeon Supplier some time to sort things out.

"Thanks, guys." Hou Fei said as he waved goodbye to his men and asked Jin if he could light another cigarette.

"You know, even if you are a high-grade cultivator, it doesn't mean you should smoke that much. You haven't forgotten that Grandpa Ming died from cancer, have you? ...Speaking of, I do not remember seeing you at his funeral." Jin suddenly realised.

Aside from a few of his past neighbours and friends from other provinces, Jin did not recall seeing Hou Fei at the funeral procession.

"I was in an overseas conference...discussing on- Never mind. Not something you should worry about. Still, that doesn't mean it came as a surprise. Before his passing, Ming called and told me that his time was soon to be up. That he was going to leave soon without giving you any notice and asked me to look after you when possible. We had a great dinner talking all about the old times we ever had." Hou Fei somehow stopped abruptly and took a deep breath from his lit cigarette.

"In any case, why would you like to talk to me in person? Not because of this issue, right?" Hou Fei asked, and Jin shook his head even though he had a number of questions pertaining to Ming and especially in regards to Grandma Yuan.

It's just that he did not know where to start.

"When I asked about the worst-case scenario, your expression turned for the worse and eventually got so serious. I doubt that you had some sudden epiphany that led the whole conversation this way." Jin questioned, and Hou Fei returned a puzzled look.

"Aren't you the one who gave me the System report? I thought that was what you were hinting at when we all thought it would not be a big deal. You know the one where the System reported that it had captured the monkey but not the Bone Spirit Demon infused with it?" Hou Fei answered, and Jin gave a blank look at that point of time.

"Ah. That I did not know it was an issue for contention. I thought the System could not capture it in time or something."

"Nonsense. System's capturing rates had always been 100%. If System is unable to fully control or convert someone or something, it will store the monsters just like was done for Diabolos, King Hamu and Fae Princess Maeve."

"Says the one who could not catch the Demon Rats... Hahaha- Wait a minute, why didn't you list King Baal?" Jin was curious what happened to him.

"He has come to his senses, and the information flow between the System and him caused Baal to acknowledge that he had really been blinded by the lies Kiva had fed him over the years. However, he does not wish to be disturbed as of right now and had asked for some solitary time out." The System reported, and Jin was surprised. He thought that King Baal would be stored the same way as the other villains they had met.

"System likes to iterate once more, Demon Rats are not the same living entity." The System emphasised that the monkey had signs of being possessed and its DNA strain slightly altered after infusion. However, there was nothing that would impede the livelihood of the said monkeys.

"So, there you go. I thought you were hinting to me, which brought me to believe this was not just a monster horde. It could be international terrorism in the works. Or well, domestic terrorism... Either way, if the System was unable to capture it, means that the Bone Spirit Demon was not exactly a demon but possibly an enchantment of some sort." Hou Fei deduced.

"Sorry, that's out of my hands for now. I am not going to interfere with what you guys are fighting but saving people would be a different issue. I initially thought the Demon Exorcists will get some pretty nifty demon monsters, but I guess it was a waste of effort." Jin shrugged his shoulders.

"Nah. At least the System's report and Su Zhen's report helped a lot in our preparations though we have less than a week or so..."

"Yeah, it sure helped a lot when I asked you specifically to NOT spread the message to other people. And of all people, Su Zhen's mother! The COO of the JODE organisation!"

"It's my responsibility. You cannot override the fact that protecting this nation is my duty and calling. Aside from serving you that is. Heh!" Hou Fei argued as he flicked the ashes of his cigarette into the ashtray and coughed a bit.

"So, what is the bright idea you have in mind, General." Jin asked since he honestly did not want to be sent to Dongguan.

"Since Pandapolis has yet to be announced, we can use the hotels and those classy yet empty condominiums your minions have built as a place for any refugees if things really go south. Heh, no pun

intended. I have yet to properly check the infrastructure in Huizhou, but I believe the city doesn't have any proper bunkers against this kind of natural disaster." Hou Fei explained.

"And if those Bone Spirit 'Demons' ever overflow into the dungeon instances, your monsters can be the guards to protect the people. This will give me peace of mind when we fight."

"You are already expecting that things will go bad very quickly?"

"The private contractors, who we had hired, were previously Special State Agents. Usually, they would have accomplished the job almost immediately. But to think that there was no news except for occasional reports worries me. At first, I thought that it was because they got the whole mountains to track and stuff, but this additional report has confirmed otherwise."

"You know, I thought you guys should already have scouted with air surveillance or something," Jin asked as if he was stating an obvious fact.

"Hah! As if we did not think of that. Our support drones reported no further movement of any sorts after our elimination of their nests. Even with infrared, we were not able to spot anything. Otherwise, we would not have needed eyes on the ground to check this discrepancy. The funny thing is we had been receiving reports that the Borders Guards were still getting hit despite the contractors' reports that the coast was clear." Hou Fei told him, and suddenly it started to make no sense to him when he pieced all the information together.

"I am not on the scene, but I can already smell something fishy," Jin said and Hou Fei snorted.

"So, this is really not a monster horde but indeed an attack on our sovereignty..." Hou Fei whispered to himself.

"In any case, are you willing to accept my proposal? I promise the Tigers and Snakes will pay you handsomely."

"Like I said, I'm not going to do any fighting for you. As for saving people? Sure. However, you gotta protect the trucks and portal devices within it! There is only so much I can do if the portal devices get damaged...or stolen." Jin mumbled the last part before ignoring it for a moment and shook hands with Hou Fei.

For once, fate had allowed him to take the backseat... (For now?)

Chapter 813 A Glimpse of the Church

"If things really go south, we need a contingency plan to keep our business up while keeping our promise to Hou Fei," Jin said out loud to the System as he returned to the Dungeon Maker.

"What happened to the 'we are going to ignore the pleas of the people who decided to abuse you for their own benefit' kind of deal?" Kraft had coincidentally returned to the Dungeon Maker to pick up some stuff.

"What are you doing here? I thought Pei said that you foxes needed to stay together?" Jin asked, and Kraft gave a short grin.

"Just changing the video cams' memory sticks for Kiyu. Since she wanted to shop and take more videos around." Kraft answered as he switched the memory sticks in front of Jin's interface while casually opening one of them.

Suddenly a bodycam like a video was streaming right in front of Jin. "What's this?" Jin asked as he had never seen such a white pristine-looking hallway before.

"We planted a mini camera on one of the Church of the Afterlife agents. Seeing that their Dungeon World is focused on magic rather than technology, we are able to do this without them detecting any magical signal."

"I am more surprised you can get a stream out of this. We have no satellite or communication towers to even transmit this data."

"Damn it, you got me. And here I thought I could bluff you on this." Kraft snickered, and Jin looked at the crafty fox who would never commit such a basic mistake. In other words, he 'accidentally' revealed it just so could boast about doing something stupid but effective...

"You followed them, didn't you?"

"More like, Kiyu transformed into a piece of dull decorative accessory that was camouflaged with the rest of their odd white suits and they carried her inside. Just something we used to do way back in the old days of infiltration. Perks of being an oldie. Heheh."

"... Unbelievable." Jin shook his head. He had already guessed that Kraft wouldn't just let the Church of Afterlife agents get back to where they came from without stalking them from a distance. The sound was slightly muffled, but the picture was crystal clear.

"So how are you switching memory cards for Kiyu?"

"You know, make 'em invisible and use chi to manipulate the object towards the accessory for Kiyu to switch it on the fly. Nothing too complicated."

"Shouldn't they have magic detectors all around the place?"

"Unlike your Maqi, which had a trace of magic in it, my chi is rather peaceful and has a tranquil kind of aura. People won't suspect much." Kraft was incredibly proud to say it.

"More like hiding behind the pillars, being a wallflower and striking them with overwhelmingly murderous intent when time presents the opportunity to do so."

"Meh, same thing." Kraft shook off Jin's analogy as he switched the files on the Dungeon Maker interface and Jin saw the conversation of the agents reporting to their superior.

"Yes, this is indeed the crown. The readings matched with what our mages had discovered. Have you managed to salvage any of the broken Dungeon Cores inside it?" The superior asked, and the agent shook his head.

"Sir, we checked with our labs, and the mages confirmed that while there are remnants of the cores, the most important component we were looking for has been destroyed or is now missing. They concluded that Hell's Plane could have been too much and burnt the cores within the crown."

"Damn it. Fine, I will report to the council that we acted too late. In any case, continue to monitor the Pandapolis and Demon Metropolis. I do not know where that Bull Toy Moloch was able to find those humans, but they pose a possible threat." The superior said, and before he left with the remnants of the crown, he gave one last additional order.

"When their city is officially open, send in undercover agents to make sure that they blend in well and learn their state of technology. I will prepare the budget to provide a merchant cover in case they restrict travel. We hardly got any coverage with all the magical interference from the battle, and we need to gather more information on them."

"Sir, are we going there to steal information or get them to be our partner?"

"Agent 5843, that is not for me to understand. Just get your job done."

"Sir, yes sir." Agent 5843 nodded his head and got out of the office.

"Kiyu will still be hanging around for a while to see if this guy has any more secrets we can hold on to. As for me, I shall do some scouting. Oh and their base..or should I say Dungeon Core is basically like the Vatican City."

"Beautifully holy?"

"Exclusive dominion with full ownership to the Church of the Afterlife and no one but them. No Demons, no monsters, no poor adventurers, not even middle class peeps." Kraft revealed, and Jin stared blankly at him.

"Anyways, Rex will have full ownership of Demon Metropolis in another 10 hours or so. Do remember to check back with Moloch on how to deal with those agents when we are done." Kraft said as he waved goodbye to Jin and disappeared without a trace nor System portal.

"Even if we place that issue at the backburner, I honestly do not feel like making anything after hearing about that conspiracy Hou Fei had," Jin complained out loud to the System.

"Then like the situation in Pandapolis, System suggests making contingency plans to aid Panda Remnant Hou Fei. Besides, he has already given an advance to the System in case we required some more cash to prepare for the place of refuge." The System stated.

"How many empty undersea domes do we still have left?" Jin questioned, and the System indicated that there were at least two of them that was entirely empty. The other two were partially built for a massive shopping centre and a racing grand prix stadium.

"More entertainment venues can be inserted within the racing grand prix, and it could potentially fit the Cyberpunk setting of a racetrack." The System replied, and Jin queried how much was built.

"Hmm, If it is only the foundation, can we change it to buildings temporarily?" Jin asked once more.

"The current occupation of hotels and condominiums will hold approximately 100,000 people."

"Then, we need more. Roughly enough space to hold an additional million." Jin stated without any crack on his facial expression as he typed the number on the interface.

"System is unable to compile. System is unable to comprehend."

"What's so hard to understand? We need space for over 1 million people. We still have a few floating islands, too right? Build as many fabricated buildings as we can. As fast as we can." Jin explained and then the System stopped responding for a moment.

"System. I am not joking. If the unnatural monster hordes were any indication about what ravaged the overseas cities, we would likely face the same. There is no way the citizens will be left unharmed."

Instead of arguing with Jin, the System used a slightly more efficient technique and called real people out to talk it out with the now 'cracked under pressure' master before using any System based techniques to reform him.

Chapter 814 Counter Proposal

"YOU DID WHAT?!" Qiu Yue tried to pull her cheeks in case she was in a dream. The System had called Grandma Yuan, Claire, Yun, Lynn and Qiu Yue into the conference room instance whereas the System had forcefully thrown Jin into the fray.

When the Dungeon Supplier told them about Hou Fei's issue and his proposal to hold one million over people. Even the experienced Demon Exorcist Instructor could not believe that Jin made such an outrageous proposal towards the System.

"No wonder the System wanted us to check if you caught some insanity fever after your fight." Claire scoffed at the idea too.

"I am not being unrealistic! The total population of Dongguan and Huizhou is roughly 12 million. I am only asking for the funds to accommodate one million people worth of space. Besides, if we want to run the Pandapolis with full efficiency, we need that many people anyway, right? The monsters under my care cannot do all the jobs. There is definitely a limit to how many monsters the System can hold despite the increased processing capabilities."

"I understand you have far-reaching goals, but this is simply ludicrous. Jin, we do not have the potential to feed 1 million people! Even if we were able to, the capacity to do so in the long run is not viable. When we built this city, we looked to cater to approximately 200 000 citizens, customers or tourists and perhaps move our way up from that SLOWLY. One million is five times that number. Our sanitation, our

infrastructure, our utilities... nothing is prepared for that!" Qiu Yue argued with reason but her head was already filled with the word impossible.

"This child needs a good wake up slap on the head." Yun did not hesitate to go towards Jin but a word from Grandma Yuan and strangely, she obeyed and stopped.

"Son, are you doubting the capabilities of our soldiers or of our demon exorcists?" Grandma Yuan asked, and Jin kept his mouth shut. He knew whatever he said, be it yes or no, would be countered almost immediately.

"No reply? Then listen to me carefully. First of all, calm yourself down. You have just been through a major battle from what I've heard, and you should take some time to rest, not jump straight into the next battle without thinking it over." Grandma Yuan said as she gently banged her stick on the ground to keep his attention.

"As a war veteran myself, I can only give you one piece of advice. Do what you can. Prepare the infrastructures as much as you deem possible, but do not overstretch yourself. You are no god. No one is expecting you to be one. You are just a person who so happens to have a special ability and can use such power for them. I am glad you are willing to help other people, but there is only this much you can do." Yuan sighed as she took a glass of water to drink and continued.

"You also have to remember that people will eventually envy you for that power and seek that power that you hold for themselves. It is partially why the System does not wish to make any noise. Don't forget what you are about to do isn't a small commitment. Basically, you agree to house them for as long as it takes. Are you sure you can handle that for that many?" Yuan commented as she saw the troubled look on Jin.

"I..." Jin laid back on his chair and took a deep breath. There were words within him wanting to argue back, but Grandma Yuan was right on the money. There was only so much he could realistically do.

His food storage could only last that long.

His space was limited.

How long before the government stepped in to aid the troubled citizens? What if the Monster Horde were indeed the same as the ones as seen all over the world recently? That could possibly mean that exterminating them would be a hassle since they would be secretly hiding in those cities.

And what if the situation was beyond their means? Would they have to kick out the refugees? Then he wouldn't be a hero but become the bad guy in this scenario. When Jin was considering all these, Lynn came towards him and placed a warm towel over his face she took out from her storage ring.

"Grandma Yuan is right, calm down," Lynn spoke in a relaxing tone. She too had seen the numbers on the screen projected by the System to justify that its User had gone crazy.

Despite the many outrageously impossible plans, both User and System had always overcome them barely up till now, yet this time the System was claiming it was too much of an obstacle.

"Say, after the fight with King Baal the System has increased its processing capabilities, right?" Lynn asked, and Jin took the face towel down to look at her.

"What are you implying, Lynn?" Qiu Yue gave Lynn the chance to voice out since she was usually the most reasonable person out of the three of them.

"I know you would like to sit this one out, but how about we prepare a counter offence?" Lynn questioned, and the rest were drawing blanks from her question.

"...What do you mean?" Jin probed for more information.

"According to all the information we've gathered... we are assuming that the Monster Horde might be under control, possession, or something of that level? What we are doing right now is relying on the Royal Battalions to do a sweep through the forested mountains and still catch all of them and maybe whoever is behind them. Either way, their last defensive line would be the Border Guards with the wall fortifications, correct?" Lynn started to sum up everything, and everyone slowly nodded their heads.

"So if the problem comes about when the Monster Horde reaches the wall, why don't we teleport in the midst of the Monster Horde and disrupt them so they would not overflow the wall when that happens? Maybe we can find the perpetrators of the act as well. Sure, we will still take Hou Fei's job to take people in for emergency evacuation but at least that way, even if we fail, they'll only have to remove the people from those districts around the border wall and not the entirety of Huizhou or Dongguan." Lynn explained.

"I was partially reminded of Jin's previous plan. He once planned to use a lure to get the Demon Rats sucked into a dungeon instance so that they couldn't escape. After which, we had planned to utilise the Demon Rats as the product for the joint training exercise between the Tigers and Snakes." Lynn revealed and that caused Qiu Yue and Yun to whisper among each other while Grandma Yuan and Claire were absolutely clueless.

"Here I thought we would not need to be too involved in this other than rescuing people." Jin thought to himself and sighed. Nevertheless, he had to agree that Lynn's solution would potentially enable them to either prevent the situation or limit the damages.

It would be great if they could supplement the defending soldiers without being seen. This was also the first time Lynn had actively decided to take reins and control the operation. (Just shows how serious she was in wanting to fight side by side with Jin.)

"A counter attack against the monster is considered as a way to rescue people too. System can generate an EMP charge blackout disguised as the enemy's attack to reduce chances of detection if User wishes to keep the whole situation at a low profile. However, the probability to appear as the perpetrator with User and his monsters would be a cause of concern too." The System spoke only to Jin as it would decrease the chances of its existence being discovered, yet simultaneously it pointed out the dangers of proceeding with this plan.

"Do we have any lures for the demons?" Jin finally caved in and asked the System openly.

"With User's unique aura, it should be enough as a lure to get the Monster Horde to chase after you instead."

"What if I use the Black Sludge Crystals to amplify my aura? Do you think it will work even better? We can use that to attract the demons into the System portal and trapping them in a dungeon instance." Jin asked, and the System replied with a resounding yes.

"But are you sure you are okay with this? You previously said you do not want to get involved with these. Now you are actively putting two feet into the deep waters." Qiu Yue wished to confirm his intentions.

"I feel too restless when I know that the lucrative business will disappear ...and people cannot celebrate Chinese New Year in peace."

"Heh, that kid." Grandma Yuan was reminded of a certain someone who, when he was younger, also could never admit of just wanting to help everyone.

Chapter 815 New Task for Jin

"Alright, it seems that's settled then. Claire, I heard from the System that you've been scouted as a possibly Sub System User. Take this period as an extension of the internship. Organise Jin's finances, get the exact amount we need and while you are at it, use the practice you've accumulated and earn some extra money for the relief fund." Grandma Yuan commanded.

Then she looked at Qiu Yue.

"Start building the prefabricated buildings for evacuees to stay for the moment. Try to make as many as possible just to be safe while ensuring the basic standards of living is met. As for Lynn. You are the one who proposed this counter-attack plan, so I expect you to follow through it with the rest of the group. Do not forget your responsibilities too, for you are now going to be responsible for the stomachs of over 200,000 people."

"And as for you, Jin, Yun will bring you somewhere you are needed right now. I will go to the Dungeon Maker and talk to the System in regards to that variant Bone Spirit Demon." Grandma Yuan commanded, and the rest acknowledged their jobs.

"Where do I need to go? Training?" Jin asked as Yun opened the portal without making any noise.

"Just enter, and you will understand. Don't even think about leaving until you are through with the whole situation! Else, I will forcefully teleport you back." Yun 'threatened' with a jaunty smile on her face as she nodded into the direction of the portal.

"AH! Master is here!!!" Wyrstriker shouted, and everyone suddenly looked upwards, which shocked Jin who had just come through the portal. He realised that he was in the Adventurer's Guild Tavern and all the bigshot monster had come together to celebrate here. From the three goblins testing their ability to gorge ale against General Nubwort to Ke Mi at the side drinking her favourite cherry peach juice alongside Sandy.

The entire atmosphere was the complete opposite from the conversation he had all morning that made him forget that their major defence had actually succeeded after months of planning. Everyone was partying crazily since they achieved the impossible.

"Master! Sorry, we did not invite you! The System told us you were sleeping when we wanted to send the invitation. That was why we went ahead with the victory party." Zhi Nu apologised on the monster's behalf.

Ayse had taken the initiative to create the party since she was starving for good food and decided to splurge the System points she had accumulated so far. (Not to mention she had a windfall for eliminating Kiva.) The one and only General Nubwort who had been at the sidelines 'quietly' commanding and coordinating troop efforts had also decided to chip into the System Points which he got for the orcs who had worked hard.

When asked whether this was the only group of monsters celebrating, Zhi Nu told Jin that the Adventurer's Guild Tavern was only one of the places. "The stadium that we've used for the Christmas party is currently being utilised as a mess hall for the rest of the army. Knowing the Orcs, they are probably drinking their butts off. Some of the penguins had offered their time to make food for us and seeing that we took the initiative to create this party on our own, the System decided to bestow us some free System points to spend."

"System believes that User's minions have done a tremendous job and acknowledges that they indeed deserved such a reward." The System spoke out to Jin since it probably felt that he was about to question why the stingy System had decided to give out System points for free.

"You guys really did work hard for it, and I agree that you should have a party befitting of your achievements. Do not let me be the sour one here." Jin thought that he was merely getting the way of their parties being the only uninvited guest around. Then he remembered that Yun forced him here, so he was thinking of passing the time by travelling around the new Adventurer's Town to check out the infrastructure.

"What are you talking about, Master? You were vital in getting the boss down! You should not talk as if you were not part of it all! Come join us. Try this out. This drink is a Goblin speciality!" Flame Ripper drunkenly joined them as he slammed a cup of drink in front of him.

"Heh, Master. No need to even try that watered down piss. Take a gulp of this Orc Ale, instead! Even our King used to drink this on a regular basis!" Nubwort interrupted and that caused the two monsters to quarrel between each other.

To Jin's surprise, a soothing instrumental was heard which caused both Flame Ripper and Nubwort to slowly fall to the ground asleep before the situation escalated further. "Is that how this place has not been trashed yet?" Jin asked Ke Mi as she giggled while waving back at her master.

"Zhi Nu has long since introduced a tavern refurbishing fund paid by the adventurers' tips in case they destroy the whole place. But as for today's party, we have Ke Mi around because the manager cannot have our own goons destroy the place repeatedly." Niu Lang, the cowherd boy explained to Jin while offering him a glass of iced ginger ale with a pinch of lemon.

"Are you still keeping score?" Sandy asked Zhi Nu which she nodded her head while carrying the two sleeping monsters away from the scene.

"14 to 9. I am still in the lead betting that General Nubwort will wake up first to drink even more." Zhi Nu smiled towards Sandy while Ayse from afar shouted for more ale.

"Zhi Nu! Faster, we need more ale! Else, Weslie's going to leave again!" Ayse demanded as she was basically pinning Weslie down to make her drink and divert more secrets about Gold.

"Then let her leave! She just recovered from her wounds. YOU just recovered from your wounds. What is your problem?" Zhi Nu shouted back but still sent an ale down the tavern using her thread magic to carry a pair of ale to Ayse's table. She knew the Orc would say that the ale was her magical healing potion.

Jin could literally see that there was chaos among the monsters, but nevertheless, they were having fun chatting and enjoying the company of each other. He also saw a difference when compared to the Christmas party. The party was milder in terms of their attitude partially because there had still been a strict hierarchy at each table while this was pure chaos and fun which made Jin recall how his high school classes had also been divided into a variety of groups.

"Hmm, I can't help but feel a little distanced since I am their master and not their equal. Still, this did bring up an incredible insight and-" Jin was suddenly pushed to the centre of the crowd by Zhi Nu.

"Master! What are you doing? Stop thinking so much, and go have fun! They want you to teach them some more ridiculous party games like at Christmas!" Zhi Nu prompted him as she noticed how Jin had been standing still and looking around the tavern.

He sighed but seeing as the atmosphere had suddenly turned still, with all eyes on him, he decided to entertain them. "There's a game I learnt back in school. Its called Beer Pong...well you can call it Ale Pong." Jin started to explain, but in the end, got pushed to demonstrate instead.

"Mission Complete, Yun!" Zhi Nu giggled seeing how Jin slowly integrated himself into the party.

"Thanks, Zhi Nu." Yun replied as she continued to serve the customers in the shop instance diligently.

Chapter 816 As The Heavens Mandate

Since Jin had interpreted his 'mission' was to ensure that everyone was dead drunk before he was allowed to return back to the Dungeon Maker, he made the best out of his time there. For the next couple of hours, he forgot about the upcoming problems of his world and enjoyed the party hard.

As promised, He taught them a couple of drinking games and even accompanied General Nubwort who had returned within half an hour to continue drinking for another round. At one point he also sang some Karaoke accompanied by Ke Mi and all the monsters cheered. (Luckily a certain someone wasn't there to film him.)

When the sun came up again, Zhi Nu and the System teleported all of them back to their own home instances. Niu Lang cleaned the whole place up, and Jin had stayed behind to perform some improvements on the adventurer's tavern.

He spent some dungeon dollars in the System's black market and added a few more decoration points to it as well as seemingly cheap destructibles for the adventurers to break during a brawl. Of course, this allowed Zhi Nu to charge them even more if they inevitably destroyed them.

"Thanks, Master for staying back with us. It's a pity you do not get drunk easily because of your cultivation, but I hope you still had fun with us! And at the very least, we can sleep a bit longer since you helped us to clean the place up" Niu Lang said with a wink and Zhi Nu beat his shoulder for playing naughty in front of their Master.

"Hahaha, no worries. You two have an enjoyable night." Jin teased back as the couple disappeared and Jin continued to refurbish the place with the help of the System. While it might not be like his shop where he has total absolute authority, this land was still under the control of the System, thus giving Jin the right to buy and change things in whatever way he liked.

Of course, it would be best to consult the real boss of the tavern, but Zhi Nu allowed Jin to go wild. "The things you place will only be temporary anyway. This is partly why I like this adventurer's tavern. I can renovate it almost every week, and I am sure the adventurers who return enjoy seeing it change every time."

Zhi Nu told him about the time when Wyrstriker and Dread Reaper got into a drunk fight because Wyrstriker had refused to get evolved to the next level with the System's help despite his brother in arms telling him that he was more than qualified.

Throughout the renovation process, he felt at peace as his brain was focused on finding the ideal place to place that flower pot. It was something that came naturally when he was deep in his thoughts, and perhaps that was why Yun had insisted on him joining the party as he failed to achieve such clarity especially with those current troubles he had in his mind.

Suddenly a thought struck him.

"Say, System. How do you control the land around here? I mean we did buy this piece of land and placed it under your control, and the same goes for our shop, too. But it's a sort of lease so does that mean the infinite control within that small space is limited to that time period as well?" Jin asked as he sat on a newly bought table.

"The System needs to have an agreement with the land itself. The lease isn't so much with any form of government that User interacted with. It has more to do with the compromise between the System and the spirit of the land, not to mention the acceptance usually varies from world to world." The System described but noticing how Jin's face was incredibly deadpan, it proceeded to explain further.

"For example, the spirit of the land in User's World currently prefers wheat and wine for some reason the System is unable to comprehend. Upon placing it on a custom made Altar which only the System is able to create, the tributes are offered in exchange for the land's agreement." The System revealed.

"Thus, the System would use part of the money earned and purchase large quantities of wheat and high quality to appease the dominant spirit of the land. That way, the land is satisfied and allows the System to control it. If the System controls the land without appeasing the spirit of the land beforehand, it will punish us with significant backlash at every action of the System. There is no better way to describe this pact with the land."

"I assume the Dungeon World prefers souls?" Jin asked as he wished to know more about this new aspect which the System didn't share about.

"Negative. The Dungeon Core already had absolute control over the land. All the System had to do was to assume control of the core to manipulate the land as required."

"Then, for example, if I wished to conquer the Dark Elves' forest with the land's blessing, can you assume control over it once you have done the transaction?" Jin was curious about the extent of this ability and offered the System a scenario to learn more about it.

"Yes and No. The System can affect the forest with its powers, but the effects are only temporary and not permanent depending on the transaction. This is because the System is merely the tenant, and the spirit of land is the landlord, so it can recover without the System's help. However, that also means the landlord might increase the tribute if too much damage was done."

"Then why are you not using it to help me during my fights outside the shop? I mean you could have done something during my fight against the Rat Triad Boss."

"It will mainly bring suspicions to User if used excessively. Also, it relies on System's processing capabilities even though we have the land's agreement to operate."

"It sounds like the ground is one selfish living entity."

"That is not entirely wrong. Manipulation of the land takes up significant resources and processing capabilities. Which is why the System prefers to limit the control over the land for surveillance purposes. Without any floating magic eyes for better observation angles, the System could still identify and trace targets. Which is why some portals could be created instantly without coordinates and were based on previously seen areas."

"Assuming you regain 100% processing capability and sufficient resources, can you change this adventurer's town into a second Pandapolis?" Jin asked, and recalled how the System had been able to create a Dungeon Cave out of the middle of nowhere.

Subsequently, the System told him that the Goblin World's land preferred gold in its purest form and all the System needed was to melt the gold coins and offer monthly tribute. That was why it was a no brainer for the System to push the dungeon supplier to invest in the Goblin World since it was cheap enough to do so. (In terms of dungeon dollars exchange to goblin gold coins.) While the New Adventurer Town was still somewhat a deficit in his books because of the ongoing construction work, the System believed that given enough time it would be a budding town full of profit.

"And to answer your question in landscaping the town instantly into a city... Yes, but that would also permanently consume System's processing capability, and System would be left with a minimal set amount of processing capability to serve the User. The creation of the Dungeon Cave only took 0.0055%

of the System's processing capabilities and can be replenished with sufficient upgrades via the Black Market." The System reported, and Jin realised he never knew how to use the System properly.

"So, anything and everything is possible through you so long you have ammunition to do stuff?"

"As the Heavens mandate." The System stated.

"Well, at least I know that you can restore your processing capabilities even though it's currently tough for you to do so," Jin said as he recalled having his Dungeon Supplier Level upgraded to the fifth rank.

"Speaking of which, what perks do I gain as a Level 5 Dungeon Supplier aside from this duty free tax I got from purchasing items in the System's Market ...and the Black Market?" Jin remembered that at Dungeon Supplier Level 4, he got to enjoy a duty free tax on the items that he bought via the System regardless of the marketplaces.

"As for Level 5, your commission from sales increased to 50% although, upon User learning that the System requires a lot of resources to maintain the land, the System encouraged the User to readjust his commission sales, so the System is able to keep better control over the variety of property the User has in his possession. However, the User can withdraw funds for personal use for free from the System if needed. Of course, to a certain limit."

"Ah, alright. Just keep it as it used to be for now then. I do not need the money that badly for myself since you provide me with practically everything anyway. The improvement of our business is more important." Jin said as he performed the finishing touch of the tavern.

"Well, it was fun while it lasted and at least this party and renovation calmed me down a little. I can now focus a little better." He commented as the dungeon supplier was ready to work on his business again instead of worrying too much about the upcoming Monster Horde.

For the growth of his business was equally vital in ensuring that he and the community were strong enough to fend off such hordes. If not for the upcoming one, then certainly future ones!

Chapter 817 Extra: Pandawans' Dinner

"Ahhh what a bummer." Yue Han yawned a little after ordering food at the Restaurant Train instance.

"Here I thought we could finally see Boss Jin's true fighting skills. He is avoiding us as usual and his schemes are getting more cunning with each passing day."

"Hahaha! Don't be that upset. That's our boss and why we like and hate him that much at the same time. At the very least the dungeon raid was mega awesome, and at the rate we are going, I might probably need the adrenaline rush for exams in the future. And don't forget all the juicy rewards!" Bu Dong tried to encourage his best friend as he looked at his own Pandawan Shirt once more and felt a little proud of this achievement.

Despite the muddy fights at the defensive platform, he had been able to enjoy a good shower at the Luxury Recovery Instance.

The feeling of gushing hot water running down his entire body after a battle was extremely satisfying and the soap was surprisingly soft and comfy. Not too feminine either which made Bu Dong secretly hope Jin could sell that in the future. The other Pandawans had also rested up in the Luxury Recovery Instance before meeting up for a celebration dinner.

The Shopkeepers, on the other hand, had decided to stay at the Luxury Recovery Instance for some rest before they proceeded back to prepare to open their shops for the next day.

"By the way, Xiong Da, are you planning to buy the Gentlebear tickets from the shopkeepers?" Luo Bo asked as they occupied a private room of the Restaurant Train Instance courtesy of Xiong Da's generosity. Since Jin had paid him back with free credits to spend after his generous donation, he saw no reason not to treat his comrades.

"Hmmm, not really. Remember how we gathered a bunch of keys from the various dungeon instances and raids? I'm pretty sure the ticket would serve its purpose only with the keys, and they might disappear after using them once. No point collecting more tickets when we have to farm all the various keys once more." Xiong Da said.

"This is definitely an evil plot to make us go through all the past dungeons again to get those keys!" Yue Wen complained as she opened her storage ring and took out all the keys while they were waiting for their orders to get served.

"Oh, so we are comparing keys to see which ones we are missing?" Jing Ru asked while she was cleaning her rifle waiting for time to pass and her friend nodded.

"We've been a little busy with our part-time job to get some money so we might have missed some keys. Here I thought Xiong Da should have the full compilation of keys." Yue Wen deduced.

"Hahah. If the rumours are true, we could possibly earn a lot of money from converting the medals we might get in the Gentlebear instance into real money. Though I do not see how this would be profitable for us. Could be just a cashback scheme to retain even more customers." Shi Hui said as she walked around the private room and checked out the decoration pieces and the interior design.

"Can you imagine if there was a true blue way to earn a decent salary just from fighting? I would quit school and do just that in a heartbeat." Bu Dong stated nonchalantly, and Se Lang shook his head.

"If the real world was that forgiving, I would not have worked so hard." The wolf claimed as he leaned back and checked his message logs for any shift openings for the subsequent days.

"Blame yourself for having two girls to manage. I, on the other hand, can spend my extra money after my personal expenses on Supa Robot Wars." Deng Long teased his buddy and even smacked his friend's back (totally not super jelly).

"Actually, we could do that if Boss Jin sponsored us to become a guild." Shi Zuo pointed out as he too spread his keys out on the table to compare.

"Guild? Don't you mean clan? I thought we were all already in some sort of clan based on the roots of our families?" Kong Xian interjected as he munched on the complimentary peanuts that had been served on the table to keep his mouth busy.

"Nah. Some major Dungeon Suppliers have their own guilds which they use to fight in competitions."

"Ah, those interstate or even international Dungeon Sparring Competitions?" Bu Dong asked as he had watched some of those before. He might have been a local bigshot in terms of conquering dungeon supplier stores, but he would not even dare to think of competing in those when he was merely a Grade 2 back then.

"Oh! Oh! That reminds me, I've heard that this year's National Dungeon Symposium would be held in Shenzhen. Isn't that the place where a variety of dungeon suppliers come together to exhibit their dungeons for people to try out." Ruo Ying recalled seeing an advertisement on it.

"Yes, that Symposium determines which dungeon supplier would have the honours of getting their store to compete in the interstate Dungeon Sparring Competition." Shi Zuo added, and Bin Yong looked at them. "If Boss has the intention of joining, we can actually ask if we Pandawans could form his guild."

"But I remember there are a lot of high-grade cultivators joining it. Do we even have a chance?" Bu Dong asked as he recalled how spectacular some of the matches are.

"There are some mid-grade level competitions as well if I am not wrong." Ruo Ying wasn't quite sure, so she grabbed her cellphone and tried to look it up on the web.

"Haha, that sounds fun, but that would consume a lot of time from us. Doing full-time plus a competitive guild already sounds exhausting. I do not know if Bin Yong and my schedule could even fit something like that it. We already have a hard time trying to meet deadlines so we can play at this place." Jia Le shared their troubles, and Bin Yong nodded in agreement.

"Well, the improvement of cultivation did help us become more productive at work, so they gave us more leeway as long as we complete the work." Bin Yong shared since he and his dungeoneering colleagues had been working approximately 21-23 hours a day during a crunch when the rest could only manage 14 to 16 hours at most.

The improvement in cultivation clearly showed that they have acquired better concentration and lesser fatigue accumulation which started to make some of their own colleagues envious. (but most importantly, clocking overtime hours meant additional pay.)

"Well, we can ask Jin about it. Though I can already picture him claiming that 'it's too soon to be in the National Dungeon Symposium!'. " Xiong Da mimicked Jin's voice, and the others all laughed. "Then after a while, he should change his mind and train us worse than commandos to reach the top."

"If you are aiming for something, might as well aim for the top." Ruo Ying chuckled, and the whole group could imagine Boss Jin saying such things.

"His earnestness would betray him." Bin Yong shook his head.

"More like his innate greed. He could actually be a tsundere towards business." Luo Bo added, and the Pandawans couldn't agree more.

Chapter 818 Exploiting the Intern

For the next few days, Jin stuck himself within the Dungeon Maker and was working on multiple projects, yet he made sure to take the time for their daily dinners. As directed by Grandma Yuan, Lynn had further fleshed out the counter attack proposal for Jin to look over while Qiu Yue had begun constructing prefabricated buildings in the open spaces of Pandapolis.

Meanwhile, Claire had finally looked over Jin's accounts with the help of the Sub System and realised that his money and spending was all over the place. Thankfully, the System had all the records of expenses, and all she had to do was to organise them properly and accurately.

With the aid of the Sub System which Claire had been loaned once more, she was able to create a database. But this time, she ensured that even without her help, the System would be able to track the data in a streamlined fashion and could show it to Jin and his Sub System User so they might immediately notice any discrepancies.

"System feels the organisation of expenses is useless. As long as there are records of the expenses, the System will know how much User is earning." The System stated to Claire as she had received an office in the Pandapolis Business Sector to do her job.

"Whatever. It might not matter to you, but we humans just cannot process data like that. Also, I have been wondering. Am I the only one here in this Business Sector?" Claire asked, and the System acknowledged her by showing a celebration emote on her screen.

"..."

"You are the first to use the Business Sector. It will eventually be used to house the banking, logistics and other administrative purposes. User and Sub System User Qiu Yue planned to make an internal stock market for the Pandarens to play with. But right now, it is closed because there are no tenants." The System explained.

"No, I wanted to what those digital poppers were for?" Claire asked as she adjusted her spectacles.

"System has given Sub System Intern Claire the honours of being the first person in operation in this desolated business sector." System answered, and Claire felt pressing her head on the table. She did not expect the System to be this cold in its jokes.

"Argghh. System, if this is your sense of humour, please keep it to yourself. It is very dry."

"Or so they say in a cold setting." The System stated, and Claire ignored it to her best of the ability although it seemed to be getting on her nerves.

"Anyways, I realised what you were up to when you gave me the app to practice. Thank you for pointing me in the right direction."

"Glad to be of assistance. System also determined that Intern Claire had improved by 12.7% when she subtly purchased potential stocks that would greatly assist the relief fund."

"We just need to wait a day or two before we sell them. They are volatile enough to flip while earning enough profit." Claire was happy with the purchase as the Sub System provided her sufficient information and analysis on those particular units.

"Since you have finished the work, System recommends creating accounts for the New Adventurer's Town and the Demon Metropolis. The New Adventurer's Town needs a new bank that will moderate the gold coming in from the three major cities."

"If I am not mistaken, their currency is rather standard, right?"

"Affirmative. Despite their differences, the three races are using the same kind of currency. While the gold coins have a variety of imprints depending on the cities they were made from, the coin makes no discrimination when it is being used."

"So, are we making our very own coin? Or continue as per standard as the major trading town for the New Adventurer's Town?" Claire asked.

"System recommends the following suit, but their financing system is primitive. System's opinion is to start introducing loans, interest rates, as well as insurance to the public to increase our profitability. Eventually, when the town grows sufficiently large, System would be bold enough to recommend User for the town's bank to issue our very own currency."

"But we do not have a banker's knowledge or the agreements the insurance agents made. It's best if we consult oh- wait... Okay. Now I understand why it is called the Sub System." As soon as Claire was pointing out the flaw in this plan, screens popped in front of her showcasing the protocols and even rules for the banking system as well as insurance agents operating all over the world. The various models of operation were clearly there for Claire to choose and research them.

"Also, if Intern Claire is interested, System would like to recommend expanding the current delivery company that User has created."

"Ah! The Pandafull Delivery? I've ordered from there, and gosh it was good and fast." Claire had only praise for it. The System shared the details of how pathetic the delivery system was in the current Goblin World.

"I see...if we were to make Pandafull a complete logistic company and use it in other worlds, we might be able to make a lot more from it."

"Not only that, but the Dungeon World delivery system is nearly as desolate as the Goblin World when it comes to logistics."

"Wait a minute. Isn't this far outside the scope of an accountant? Why are you suddenly giving me this many jobs to do? Aren't I just an intern for the Financing Sub System?"

"System has discovered that Intern Claire had a flair in understanding terms the User had trouble recongising. Also, your organisation skills are superb, and System wishes to utilise (=exploit) more of it whenever possible. In return, System will give an admirable testimony for User to consider hiring her."

"Tsk, you are using me so blatantly and do not even bother hiding it! Are you just basing it on the fact that I can reorganise Jin's accounts nicely? Because of that, you want me to set up a variety of side businesses? And those businesses are substantial businesses which need constant monitoring after their creation."

"With Intern Claire's talent and the Financing Sub System capabilities, System believes that the tasks could ultimately be automated once the foundations are created. There are also a lot of monsters that can take on those jobs if needed."

"Speaking of monsters, what about those demons you defeated from Demon Metropolis? From my understanding, it will be hard to pretend that those demons are gone from the Demon Metropolis forever. Resurrection should still take place. If they don't return, they should discover that you have ways to temper with their resurrection system, making you public enemy number one." Claire displayed her knowledge of the current situation after her few days of internship with the System.

Even when organising the accounts, there were long waiting times that bored Claire. Thus, she had used that amount of time to learn more about Jin and his current predicament to have a better understanding of his shop.

"That itself is a long explanation." The System replied hesitantly, yet Claire shrugged her shoulders as she stood up with a cup of Blue Mountain Coffee (one of the best perks of the job) in one hand.

"I have all day to listen while I wait for the stocks to move." She stressed as the Financial Sub System Intern admired the empty business buildings outside her wide panel window.

Chapter 819 Counter Offence Discussion

"No matter what I try to come up with, the probability of Jin and the others getting seen is just too high." Lynn shared as she chewed on the thick fat yet succulent drumstick.

"It's not your fault, that Pandas aren't exactly known for being stealthy and sticking out." Kraft comforted Lynn as he used his lips to tear the fried chicken skin off the meat and kept it on his plate.

"Since we all seem to be in agreement, why are you all not just letting me or the other foxes come with you guys for the counter offence? I mean we did a great job in the previous ambush, right?"

"That is exactly why! You guys already had the chance to have some fun in the Demon Metropolis. Don't be selfish! Let me go boom boom once in a while! Besides your job wasn't much of a heist, more like you came in guns blazing. You in particular, though I loved the explosions, you caused. A solid 7.5/10, lacked a bit in the colour department... OIIII!!! Who took the last piece?!" Peppers pouted as she noticed there were no more wings on the table.

"You!" Everyone answered in unison. Their eyes practically drew an arrow towards Peppers' hand holding the last eaten piece of chicken wing. They all enjoyed the bliss from the unforgettable taste of Lynn's Barbequed chicken wings, yet after a few pieces, Peppers had fried some to change the flavours up a little. She blushed for a while, not having noticed that during the talk about the videos with Kraft's explosion, she had seemingly eaten it without realising it was the last one.

"Peppers, remember, no Boom Boom this time around! We are trying to limit our presence as well as the damage done to the environment. Else people would come looking for Jin, and even the System can do so much against them." Lynn took the opportunity to stress that point while giving one of her wings as bribery.

"Ehhhh But I can't call myself a competent mage if I don't let things explode." Peppers motivation visibly deflated but not her mouth. "Besides, it would be boring..."

"Shouldn't a competent mage be able to adapt to any kind of circumstance?" Milk questioned her as she held on to a chicken wing she had previously kept hidden in her pile of leftover bones to avoid Peppers from stealing it.

"Outrageous! I had dibs on ALL the wings!" Peppers claimed (she did not) and was about to cast a spell to get it, but Milk snapped up the whole piece of meat right into her mouth. She gleeed with the tip of the wing inside her mouth and Peppers whined with dread, forced to admit defeat.

"See. If you were competent enough with your other magic, you could have taken this already." Milk teased her slowly with her mouth partially chewing the chicken wing.

"Back to topic, in other words, no monsters are coming to aid us?" Qiu Yue clarified as she tore a piece of breast meat and dipped it with salted egg sauce.

"Even with cosmetic inscriptions, chances are too high that something might go wrong and could reveal their true form, so we should avoid using them. Instead, we will be using the Dark Sludge Crystals installed onto a fake Portal Device structure to cover our real System portal. Meanwhile, we got the System's approval to Lynn's proposal to use the bellators in case we are seen by others." Jin said as he poured the mushroom sauce over his barbequed chicken.

"You mean by the private contractors?" Qiu Yue asked, and Lynn nodded her head.

"With Jin's status as a Demon Exorcist Branch Manager, even if it's technically an upcoming one, there is no problem with him having his own bodyguards. If those contractors were to ask us we could avoid any further suspicion that way." Lynn pointed upwards where the System had listed pages with the responsibilities and right of a Demon Exorcist Branch Manager.

"The System has also acquired a security business licence and listed the Bellators as bodyguards... excluding Original Bellator Kraft." The System stated, and everyone could hear Kraft complaining about this injustice despite having his mouth full of meat. Yet he was obviously not bothered by it since he knew how the System acted. They were also all aware that if he wanted to participate, there was not really anything or anyone of them could do against him.

"But will the private contractors actually believe you? I guess the only saving grace will be to have Jin show off his Demon Exorcist badge." Qiu Yue shrugged at such a feeble defence, but it was better than nothing.

"Nah. By then, the soldiers would already have met with the private contractors since they are attacking them at head-on. If the horde starts to move towards the border wall, the chances of the private contractors staying in the forest should be low, especially since they were previous state agents. They probably have to stay to help out with the defences." Jin deduced.

"Heh, you are underestimating them. It is precisely because they are former state agents, that they will be more likely to search for the cause of this and stop it at its roots. With you all as the only humans around, you will undoubtedly get treated as suspects for this case." Kraft gave his opinion as an ex-spy.

"What if they see us fighting against the Monster Horde?" Jin tried to counter, and Kraft shook his head.

"If you were to chance upon some strange people fighting a Monster Horde in the middle of an attack, would your first thought be, that those are allies? No, the normal case is that you guys lost control over

the monsters and they are about to overpower you as a way to get back against their masters. You will have to find someone incredibly naive if they talk to you instead. Out there in such a situation, it's shoot first, talk later!"

"That is why we are only letting Bellators and Jin fight for this round. As much as I'd like to help out, I feel that I might become a burden even though it would definitely be a good fighting experience." Lynn sighed, and Qiu Yue whined like Peppers.

"Ehhhhh! Doesn't that mean I'll have to stay behind with you, Lynn?" Qiu Yue tried to confirm Lynn's counter attack proposal.

"Yeah, but we have loads of monsters to fight alongside our minions once they enter the portal." Lynn answered.

"Then, I guess I will be in my System Rider form while fighting," Jin said, but Lynn was in a dilemma.

"Do you think that's a good idea? I mean it will protect your identity, but I doubt Demon Exorcists have such flashy outfits."

"Actually they do. Well maybe not as flashy as mine, but I learnt from Su Zhen that higher ranked exorcists do have full defence armour inscription as part of their repertoire. To be honest, I actually only gave them those dual inscription charms thinking it would be cool to look like they control and possess their demons until they told me about it. I had no idea, so I went pretending that it was always part of the plan. Hahaha!"

"Ah, then that means they will believe you further if you claim to be the Branch Manager since only higher-ranked exorcists have such armour." Qiu Yue nodded her head to agree with that idea.

"Actually, I do not think Branch Managers have that...it is an administrative post, not a combat one. Though I doubt anyone will question it if I claim it was a perk or gift from Grandma Yuan or something. Hahaha...Just need to tell her to collaborate with the lie in case anyone does ask."

"Alright, that settles it. Sorry, I am leaving first. Have some errands to do first. Please rest up well and prepare for tomorrow's big day." Zeru excused as he thanked Lynn for the food and left with the aid of the System portal.

Kraft was a bit intrigued as to what kind of plans Zeru would have. He should know about most if not all of the stuff going on, yet nothing came to mind. Then again, seeing as no one seemed to be bothered about it, he shrugged to himself and savoured the best food he had kept for last.

The chicken skin.

Chapter 820 Follow Up Meeting

"You worked throughout the whole night again, didn't you?" Lynn asked with some worry in her tone as she found the lights of the Dungeon Maker were still on after six in the morning.

"Had to make sure the trucks went to the right military and police bases. Besides, I can't really afford to sleep when such a big event is happening in our world for once. Especially seeing as we have been dragged into it... So we're also at least partially responsible for it." Jin argued as he pointed on the

screen while stifling a yawn. There was only one convoy left, reaching Shanghai outskirts where one of the Royal Snake clan's bases was situated.

"That's really far. I had kinda assumed the bases would all be in Shenzhen or at least from Dongguan since they had transferred their belongings from there." Lynn commented as she saw the portal manifest on the dungeon maker's interface and about 85% were already active. "Hmm, I thought they needed aerm, your portal key to activate them?"

"Yeah, they still do. That's why I sent a portion of the Pandafull delivery team alongside the Royal Snakes. Only instead of the 'Farming' Humans, I've sent the Night Foxes in with advanced cosmetic inscriptions for a worst-case scenario of 'someone' trying to steal our technology. So far nothing has happened, and I hope it will stay that way. You know, better safe than sorry." Jin explained the procedure.

"Anyways, they are the ones who activate the portals and return them via the portal coordinates. After which, the rest of the trucks have a two-way function. From their base and to the Huzhou border walls."Jin added.

"So what about the deal with Hou Fei. The one in which they require you to house the evacuated citizens when push comes to shove?" Lynn questioned as she created a chair in the Dungeon Maker and started to sit beside Jin to listen to him talk. The Dungeon Supplier did not suspect anything as he assumed she was doing her job as the person in charge of this counter offence operation and wanted more details.

"Hou Fei told me that they intend to use the portal devices to their bases first since Shenzhen should be relatively safe from the Monster Horde. However, should their military bases near max capacity, they can send an SOS signal via the portal's interface, and that is when they will connect the truck to our area." Jin explained as he showed her images and some simple chart on how the teleporting business would work.

"Ah, so we are actually only being used as the very last resort?" Lynn could easily understand Jin's explanation.

"Yeah, the military still has to use their bases as places of refuge in order to show the public that they are doing their job. Only when they are flooded with people, will they proceed to publicly enlist us as a third party contractor for serving aid." Jin narrated though his facial expression showed that his thoughts were elsewhere.

"However, I feel it's more like Hou Fei wants to boost my earnings by using my Pandapolis as the backup plan. The deal we've struck clearly favours us. In case everything goes well with the Monster Horde, I will only have to return the emergency supplies I had purchased to their bases for future use. Whatever I've built in preparation to house the refugees, I can legally keep them since it's already done and only the leftover budget would be returned to them. Not to mention, I got to retain a commission of 10%, which is already quite a lump sum of money."

"That is assuming everything does go well," Lynn emphasised with a smile, and Jin laughed since he shared her feeling that was not possible at all.

"Yeah, if they really need to start the evacuation but do not use our facilities, those emergency supplies that we've stocked up on would be sent to those bases via the portal trucks. It will give them instant access to medical care and food supplies as needed."

"Not to mention, they can use your store as a gateway to send them to Shenzhen and use the 'hotels and motels' here as temporary accommodation for their evacuations," Lynn commented as that was what her government had previously done during natural disasters.

"Ah, Hou Fei did not tell me about that. So we are in the hotel and motel services now apparently." Jin laughed, and Lynn chuckled along with him.

"By the way, have you checked how far along Qiu Yue is with the temporary lodgings? During our dinners, she only told us that she would get it done." Jin asked Lynn, and she nodded with glee.

"As expected from her and our workers, they've done a fantastic job so far. My peggies have also prepared multiple days worth of rations with the help of the new tribes since the hotels were temporarily brought offline. They might not be as agile as the penguins, but they are able to assist with the preparations."

"Also, the Demons from the Metropolis came at the perfect time. They turned out to be extremely useful in making sure the logistics would be going smoothly since a lot of them have gone through long distance dungeon raids in their world. A number of them are well versed in logistical supplies which sped up a lot of stuff. I let Moloch handle that part since he should know how to handle them. But apparently, he forwarded the job to another guy. According to him, he had pledged loyalty to him and in turn, the System and you." Lynn picked up her phone and showed Jin the picture as she couldn't remember the name.

"Prince Stolas? Ah, I vaguely remember him from the War Room Table discussion. He was apparently the one and only royalty who had managed to survive the entire war without much of a scratch. If I am not wrong, he even tolerated the bewitching spell from Syltra, Ayse's Shaitan." Jin thought back to ensure that his memory served him correctly.

"He is doing a great job so far. He also roped in those Demon Nobles...or is it military commanders? You know, the ones you guys had killed since they were rather apt with administrative issues."

"Good thing they are like the Orcs and are helpful at more than fighting. Having some people who know how to do some administrative work is as important to fighting a war." Jin smiled at Lynn, and she couldn't help but nod along childishly.

"The System believes those Demon Nobles should carry on with said administrative duties especially since their battle capabilities are not as great as they had advertised for the Pandapolis defensive battle."

"Does that include that bat guy, Kiva, too? How is he handling Ayse?" Jin was curious about the fate of the bat/raven head scientist.

"At this point, he is totally smitten by Head Orc Researcher Ayse." The System answered and provided no further details.

"I wonder if that is meant literally?" Lynn commented, and the duo laughed together for a moment before they continued with their discussion for the upcoming evacuation plan. At the very least, Jin did not feel as stressed as before and was thankful that his colleagues had spoken out to provide their help.