

Dungeon S 841

Chapter 841 Dungeon Supplier Enters The Fray

While most would assume that the position of General was being held by the cultivator with the strongest grade, that was not how it worked in most Royal Battalions. After all, being a General in the Royal Battalion required special affiliations and connections to get things done.

That person would have to be a brilliant strategist for his men, one who kept his sound mind during high-pressure moments. While being the strongest within the battalion would definitely be a nice bonus, it was not necessarily needed since the General usually did not go into the frontline to fight.

Yet despite being a General, Hou Fei was in the midst of battle.

He was currently fighting at the front alongside his other officers since they needed every capable man on deck to stop this new Monster Horde wave from passing through the Border Walls. Admittedly, the Royal Snakes and Tigers were able to manage their circumstances far better than their counterpart. Yet, Hou Fei had a gut feeling that they would eventually break down and end up in the same situation as the Horses.

Instead of asking Jin to reinforce the Royal Horses, he had requested the dungeon supplier's presence in their own region. It wasn't that he feared for his own life or that of his soldiers, but the Panda Remnant preferred for one wall to break rather than jeopardise all the walls alongside the Dongguan-Huizhou border. If they managed to keep their portion of walls intact, the military could concentrate on containing the fight only in Dongguan.

Plus, his soldiers were already familiar with Jin and the Royal Tiger General Ya Bai knew of his existence, promising an easier time to cover everything up especially when they knew all about the existence of the portal trucks and how 'special' Jin could potentially be.

Not to mention, the District Guardian of Tiangong was at the borders of Dongguan along with a group of Demon Exorcists and more should already be on their way at the behest of JODE Chancellor Ma Ge. As much as Hou Fei did not want to admit this, Grandma Yuan was far stronger than him not just in terms of Cultivation Grades but also in conducting Demon Warfare.

Being one of the very few veterans still alive after the Second World War, Grandma Yuan had experienced enough to deal with something like the present situation. Else, she would not have remained as the District Guardian, a title that only a few held to this day. (Peace times surely degraded the number of 'war' based cultivators)

"Sorry I am late." Jin apologised when a portal suddenly appeared right in front of Hou Fei as he smashed one of the skulls of a Bone Spirit Boar Demon.

"Finally! I was worried you wouldn't show up!" Hou Fei said as he noticed that Jin was wearing a black hood and a half Panda Mask. "Only you?!" Hou Fei questioned since it appeared as if Jin was not taking the current situation seriously.

"You should know that I'm never alone anymore. Just get your troops to fall back and regroup. I will take it from here. Tell them not to hit anything that has a bluish-black aura. Those are allies." Jin answered as he took out his System Driver.

"Need me to cover you a little? I can make a mini-explosion plus a smokescreen. Not as vibrant as Peppers though." Hou Fei offered as they saw another Bone Spirit Boar Demon charging towards them.

"Please do." Jin accepted as he placed the System Driver on his waist and a belt automatically appeared.

"Get ready" Hou Fei warned as he threw a grenade and a smokescreen grenade simultaneously while putting up a temporary shield barrier for his own master.

"You call that – nevermind." Jin was expecting something more spectacular, thinking that his Panda Remnant was just being 'humble'. Still, that distraction had allowed him to transform into System Rider Panda with the black hood intact. (The extra light from the System Rider did help quite a bit too!)

"It is what it is." Hou Fei dragged his voice, but there was a slight grin that he had successfully bluffed his Master.

The Bone Spirit Boar Demon was unfazed by the explosion though it did slow down enough for the System Rider to grab it by its tusks. Enraged as it was, the Bone Spirit Boar Demon hunkered down ready to give a tremendous shove.

"Oh, you remind me of our very own piglet. He definitely trained me enough for this moment!" Jin said as he reminisced Mr Oink in his first form. After which, the metallic panda steel mask on Jin's helmet opened its lower jaw, and a beam of Panda Yawning was shot out from it, obliterating the Demon.

"User, take note to conserve Maqi even though you have your crystals as a backup. System foresees you having many 'boss' fights soon." The System reminded Jin.

"I thought those Banned Emperor chums were in Dongguan?" After which, Jin took out a Black Sludge Crystal and placed it at the right side of his waist before activating it with his Maqi. Sure enough, a few of the Demons who had been charging forward suddenly changed direction and headed towards him instead.

"The System believes a group of at least 20 are controlling these Demons. Else they should not be able to coordinate such a wide-scale attack." The System informed him as it regulated the System User's Maqi output via the System Rider suit by using the crystals to conserve enough energy while ensuring it still works.

"Glad to see I do not have to pour that much into it to ensure it keeps working," Jin said as he nodded to Hou Fei as if he was ready to proceed.

"Nice. Let's do this then. Time is sorta of the essence." Hou Fei replied as he cleared his throat and shot a red flare upwards, indicating a retreat.

"Fall back and regroup!"

"Don't drop this. It's an identifier." Hou Fei said as he placed his hand on Jin's shoulder and attached the badge which the Royal Tiger General, San Ya Bai had given him. "Also, please don't die, Master. I don't want to have to answer to Ming for having his grandson go before me."

"Same goes to you. I would not know how to explain it to Grandpa if you died under my watch." Jin replied as his hand started to glow with Maqi.

"You, what?" Hou Fei was a bit confused about Jin's reply, but he had already moved deeper into the jungle.

"Zeru, Milk. Ready?" Jin asked as he slammed his hand into a Bone Spirit Snake Demon and performed a Lazy Panda Swipe.

"Ya bet!" Milk answered as she appeared out of the portal with the very same cape that Jin was wearing, causing her to glow with a bluish-black aura.

"Same with me." Zeru emerged out of the portal next and did a sweeping slash, killing anything that tried to creep up on them.

"Good. Now go find those Banned Emperor bastards and stop the source of this. I will lure out the rest." Jin ordered, and the two bellators nodded their heads and left a trail of carnage on their way to fulfil their objective.

As for Jin...

Chapter 842 Demon Trapper

"You think you can win against me when it comes to monster summoning? How about I show you that you aren't as special as you might think." Jin monologued to himself while he grinned and raised both of his arms. (Maybe he thinks that the Banned Emperor Assassins could be eavesdropping him from a distance, hehe!)

A dozen portals instantly appeared next to him, in the shape of a circle. Like a sundial gnomon, the 12 portals surrounded Jin as if he was the centre of a clock. Out of those portals came the Valgs. Those horrendous outer world monsters that had once been controlled by Maeve, the daughter of Winter Court Queen.

Similar to Milk and Zeru, the Valgs that appeared also featured a bluish-black aura around them. That aura was actually a part anonymity inscription charm infused with by the powers of the Black Sludge Crystals. The high concentration of that aura should hopefully result in the Demons coming towards them instead of fighting the Royal Soldiers.

The System theorised that there was no way the Banned Emperor assassins could actually control this many Demons in the same way it did for the monsters. Instead it believed that they had opened a netherworld gate or maybe a direct connection to the Hell Plane which Moloch and Baal had come from, allowing these Bone Spirit Demons to appear in masses in Jin's world.

That would certainly explain why the System had been unable to capture any of those Bone Spirit Demons. After all, if they left their realm without permission and their actual essence continued to reside in the astral planes they were not really there for it to capture them. Jin did not really get the System's explanation for this complex situation until the System used the analogy of someone killing Jin Number Two.

"How would I know what happens if he dies? I have never been through that before." Jin answered as he started to power the gates with Black Sludge Crystals, the latest kind which was transparent clear instead of the old muddy ones after he had reached Grade 8 Peak.

"Nothing would happen to the User, since Jin Number Two is merely a form of energy created from your astral energies. The System might be able to catch ethereal beings such as ghosts and such but not beings whose essence core lies outside the present realm of existence."

"But surely Newton's law of every action having a reaction still applies?"

"The animal which got infused will no doubt end up stronger afterwards and perhaps even turn more intelligent. That is the System's analysis report according to the few that have been captured. More studies need to be conducted to confirm whether that is always the case or the captured individuals are outliers. System asks User to provide a larger sample size."

As for the infused monsters or animals, the System knew how rich and lush the forests could be but the number of monsters rushing to destroy the border walls definitely outnumbered their current population which led the System believe that a separate dimensional gate similar to a long term portal got used.

And beyond that portal lay thousands of clone animals which were probably genetically modified with enhanced cultivation in them. Because those were the type of animals the System had been catching.

What's more, there were also species that were not native to the Dongguan Huizhou natural environment such as the Bone Spirit Elephant Demon that Jin had to fight as it jumped over the portal and dived towards him.

"On the plus side, these animals could potentially be used for the Cultivation Zoo that User plans to create alongside with the incoming delivery. Intern Claire has promised that the animals that Grandma Yuan imported should be arriving after the Chinese New Year holidays."

"Heh, that is assuming we can survive until New Year!" Jin said as he slammed the Elephant Demon down after performing a Panda Tumbling technique and following that up with Lazy Swipe into the portal.

Meanwhile, the Valgs were dragging the various Bone Spirit Demons into the portals. The System did assist a little by enabling some sort of vacuum which sort of pulled the Demons into the portal as soon as they entered into close vicinity.

But most of the time, the Valgs were working hand in hand to bring down larger creatures before they had the chance to retaliate. Some of the Demons were way too dangerous and needed to be taken down as soon as possible.

Nevertheless, the tactic which Lynn had thought up was quite useful despite it not going as planned. By putting Jin in the middle to attract the Demons, some were mindless enough to get sucked into the portals while the rest tried to jump or circumvent them to get to Jin.

Yet, even those Demons with limited intelligence were in for a surprise as the portals worked on both sides, allowing Jin to throw and kick those Demons into the portals.

Thus, it was basically a large catching net with Jin akin to being the Demon trapper by throwing all the Demons he could find into the portals.

The System also theorised that was the most efficient way to stop the Demons since the Bone Spirits would dissipate once they went through the portal mainly because they could not live or maintain their form and shape when they entered the System's domain. But the System could not confirm all these until Jin started the 'operation'.

"Heh! So this is actually easier than I thou-" Before Jin could complete his sentence, he felt an abrupt knock on his head.

"Baka! Look at that!" Peppers appeared right beside him after hitting him with her staff and told her master to look up.

"You must be kidding me!" Jin uttered as he did not notice what Peppers was pointed at, with how focused he had been capturing the Bone Spirits.

"And why are you here?!"

"Because Ayse already installed the necessary shield generators, so she told me my work was done. Besides, I was not happy that I had to dial down my explosion on the crashed castle tower. Now, since I held back earlier, it's time to finally unleash-"

"Jin, are you seeing what I am seeing?" Hou Fei interrupted Peppers's speech as he contacted his master via the System Channel.

"If you are referring to that giant thing, then yeah, but it seems like there are some people attacking it right now," Jin answered as he adjusted his zoom function and saw two cultivators doing their best to damage the Colossal Bone Spirit Demon Aberration.

He did not know whether they were brave or pure foolish as the Bone Spirit Aberration attempted to sweep them away with the use of its gigantic tentacle looking hands. If he were to make a comparison, the Aberration was as large as the Giant Chickens he had fought in the Giant World.

But to see something of that size in his own world was simply jaw-dropping because this could possibly be the first colossal monster the world had seen in decades.

"This cannot be..." Moloch, who happened to watch at the sidelines, recognised the monster. "That is a manifestation of Loopa Ooofpa! The Unceasing Hunger!" Moloch claimed as he called Baal to verify.

"That is, without a doubt... Loopa Ooofpa. How did it get summoned in Jin's world?" Baal wondered since the Unceasing Hunger was a menace not to be trifled with.

"Who cares how it got here? It will cease to exist to satiate my own hunger for explosions!!" Peppers announced as she prepared her magic chant.

Chapter 843 Hand Tentacles

"Actually, I remember seeing that ugly smut during the Second World War, and that one had been artificially created. Not sure about this one. Could be the same." Kraft chimed as he had his own means to watch the broadcast the System was streaming. One hand on the trigger of his gun and the other holding his phone.

"Oh man, Jin's stunned body expression is as good as his stunned face." Kraft grinned as he took a phone screenshot of the stream while shooting a rat's face off. The bullets from his signature gun No Mercy did not stop there and continued to pierce some other rats' armours before they came back and joined the other bullets which were hovering around Kraft.

The crafty fox used his chi to manipulate the shot bullets, and he turned it into some 'protective' offensive barrier with the projectiles circling around him while he watched the following broadcast.

"What do you mean artificially created?!" Jin asked as he continued to grapple the Bone Spirit Infused Demons with Bam and Boo, now transformed into enormous power gauntlets. He needed the extra pow so they would punch the Demons into the portals as the System Rider protected the oblivious chanter standing right in the middle of his net.

However, he did not quite expect Bam and Boo's transformation. Instead of awesome looking mechanical power gauntlets like Itori's, his gloves actually appeared... as a pair of panda faces! The one on his right had the appearance of an angry (yet cute?!) panda face while the other had a cheeky (and also cute!) panda face.

Unfortunately, he had no time to comment as the Bone Spirit Infused Demons were actually coming too close for comfort to maim Pepper. Yet, there was one that slipped past him, and all Jin could do was warn Peppers to dodge.

With a smirk, Peppers stared at the Bone Spirit Crocodile Demon and pointed at it before releasing a blast of telekinetic power which caused the crocodile to flinch for a moment. Yet the flinching was only the first part of the spell as the crocodile turned its back towards his 'comrades' and shot out a breath of flame.

"Huh?! How come the flame had traces of Pepper's magic?" Jin was amazed by Peppers' control of magic, and the System explained that Peppers had used a series of quick cast spells to manipulate the monster to turn it into an extension of her.

"So, she does actually know spells other than – Woah!" The possessed crocodile swiped its tail in Jin's direction, but the dungeon supplier's senses were quick enough to dodge the backstabbing.

"I thought you said she could control it?" Jin questioned the System as he evaded and headed to punch another Demon into the net.

"Doesn't mean I will tolerate being insulted. My title as a Sage isn't just for show! Of course, I know spells other than explosions!" Peppers had already finished her spell incantation, and the staff was holding a charge of Explosion, waiting to be released at a moment's notice. ❖❖ Could you tell those two cultivators or soldiers to get out of the way? I won't take responsibility if they end up in the blast's radius."

"You just don't want them to take your kill, right? Maybe it's best we withhold your – Wait, are those hand tentacles coming towards us?!" Jin saw that four large hands moving towards them, ignoring the onslaught of attacks by the other two cultivators.

"Well, Loopa Ooofpa's title is the Unceasing Hunger for a good reason. He always craves more power and Peppers vast amount of mana makes her a very juicy target, especially now that she has all that energy accumulated." Moloch replied through the System Channel.

"Ah, found it. I was already worried I lost that photo, as it was taken decades ago." Kraft suddenly and finally answered Jin's question by letting the System upload the picture on a screen of the System Rider Suit. "See! Taking random pictures is a good habit, after all!" (Kids, please don't emulate Kraft!)

◆◆◆Now is not the time!" Jin said as he concentrated his Maqi into his Bam and Boo panda faces.

"Since they are faces, they should at least be able to do 'that', right?" Jin thought to himself as he could not think of any other methods to prevent Peppers from wasting her explosion magic charge on these hand tentacles. (What's more, he would be blown back, and the net he created would be useless with all the Bone Spirit Demons scattered throughout the forest once more.)

"Double Panda Yawning!" Jin shouted as he aimed his two gauntlets at them and the panda mouths immediately opened, allowing Jin to shoot two beams of chi towards the nearest hand tentacles that were approaching them. It obliterated the end of the first tentacle causing it to retract, but there were now two hand tentacles which approached him like a pincer claw.

Thus, he divided the power of the two beams separately in order to counter them, but he did not notice the third hand tentacle that was hiding within the forest bushes attempting to strike him head-on.

"Ah, Damnnit!" Jin cursed as he quickly prepared his very own Panda Yawning beam from his mouth and managed to discharge the beam in time to counter the third one.

"Master! Behind you!" Peppers shouted as she used the crocodile under her command to block the one that was attacking her. Unfortunately, with Jin occupied with all his hands and mouth full, there was no way to counter the one that emerged from the ground right behind him. Not to mention, his Maqi enhanced beams were not strong enough to destroy the hand tentacles when separated. He could only delay the tentacles that much.

Multiple scenarios were flashing within his mind such as transforming Bam and Boo quickly to counter the attack or summoning a few of his monsters to counter the hit. But none of that mattered when he suddenly saw a lady with an umbrella appear right in front of him, dangerously close to the beam he was shooting from his mouth.

She immediately took out an inscription charm and activated it with her chi. Suddenly a Panda silhouette appeared and shot out the very same Panda Yawning beam.

It burnt the overarching hand tentacle right above Jin before the Panda silhouette disappeared. Next, with a quick turn of her umbrella, the three hand tentacles that were plaguing Jin were immediately cut down, causing all of the hands to retract, allowing the System Rider to rescind his beams.

It was only then that he noticed that the Maqi from the inscription was similar to his own. While he had his suspicion that it could be a limited item he sold, the surrounding aura should not be plagued with a dense aura of Maqi.

Especially where the lady had cut the hand tentacles down.

"For you to use the very same chi as this particular inscription charm... Tell me where your Master is!" The lady demanded from afar as if she did not care about what was happening around them, only interested in learning the truth right there right now.

Meanwhile, Jin had no freaking idea what she was talking about.

Chapter 844 Real Awkward Situation

She did not care about the current circumstances around her. Even as the Bone Spirit Demon approached her, there was a sort of barrier to protect her. A dragon silhouette emerged out from thin air and bit the Demons' head off. Jin did not understand a single thing that was happening right in front of him.

What did she mean about having the same chi as the inscription charm?

Was she a customer? Jin clearly recognised the inscription charm as his piece of work. That particular Panda Energy Beam inscription charm had been a limited stock during Christmas Day last year.

And he knew that only the Pandawans and a few other regular customers had purchased it because Jin had personally sold each and every one of them. Overall they had just sold twenty of those after Jin had collaborated with Octofussy who got the idea to try and make inscriptions of Jin's fighting style.

For her to hold possession of one of those charms could only mean someone either gifted it to her or she stole it. It was unlikely that it was the latter when she was this powerful even without the charm's help.

"Well I am done on my side. Since you seemed busy I thought I could alleviate your load while I tell you about artificial Loopa Ooofpa." Kraft suddenly appeared, making the matters even more complicated.

Ryuli immediately exuded her chi into the atmosphere, shocking everyone, including the System on scene. They all recognised that the aura had the very same trace of chi signature Jin possessed and Kraft quickly turned his head.

"She's really that KID, isn't she?! And here I thought my satellite search was wrong or something." Kraft asked, and Jin equally dumbfounded. "I must say, you either turned into a master in lying that I did not notice or someone altered your memories about her. Because she is clearly not a little child. Last I remember, a child is at least this short and not that powerful when it comes to chi manipulation, well unless the kid is some prodigal kid genius that would eventually terrorise the world."

"Not helping!" Jin said as he saw Ryuli visibly get even more irritated. The long-coated gentlemen with a fox half mask who had appeared out of nowhere was talking about a kid, which only confirmed that the masked suit with a black hood knew something about her.

"You are obviously using the Panda Arts, according to the ridiculous suit you are wearing or holding. Just tell me who your master is, and we can continue to defeat this monster! Is that such a difficult question to answer?" Ryuli shouted irritated as she had been spending years trying to find the person who both blessed and cursed her with this particular power.

"That, my lady is actually a very complicated question to answer." Kraft bowed with some manners, but Ryuli felt insulted instead.

"Woah woah woah, what is with all this ruckus?" A familiar voice was heard coming out from the side of the forest and noticed that Ryuli was in contact with a group of strangers. "Are they the enemy, L?"

"Wait a minute, isn't that Mr Know-It-All?" Jin blurted out loud, and Agent K was mildly surprised.

"Boss Jin? Is that you in that suit of armour?" Mr Know-It-All chuckled at the absurdity of this situation. "Okay, now I can connect some of the dots together." He stopped his chuckling and snapped his finger, and a couple of Bone Spirit Demons died right behind him while ignoring the Valgs.

"Holy shit. I told you that he was definitely hiding something big." Kraft reminded Jin about his suspicions with glee and Mr Know-It-All just nodded his head.

"Should I say as expected from Boss Jin to have someone behind him, who could see through me?" Mr Know-It-All replied, and Kraft smiled in return. It felt like Kraft had just made a new worthy frenemy, one he would have fun playing against in the shadows of information warfare.

"But before that, protocol demands that I need to see some confirmation that you are not our enemy. I know that you are in the good books of the Snakes and Tigers, but I still need some proof you are here to help. Else, as a private contractor, I am obliged to treat you as an enemy."

"Here." Jin quickly pointed to the badge that Hou Fei had given him at the very last minute and also took out the one the Tiger General had given them.

"Very well, Agent L. Cease and desist your aggression towards him and his group. He is a private contractor too. Approved by not one but two authentic badges. There is no need to hurry in finding your master. If you think he is the key to your Master, I will bring you to his shop after all this is over." Mr Know-It-All said after acknowledging their authenticity, and Ryuli stopped as commanded.

"You sure he won't disappear?" Ryuli asked while glaring at Jin.

"That dungeon supplier shop in Shenzhen is his livelihood and pride. I trust that he won't be going anywhere soon. At worst, I will spend some money to resurrect him if he ever dies in this skirmish." Mr Know-It-All replied before turning his head towards Jin. "Also, Boss. Please go all out. I do not believe those monsters that you have summoned was the best of your ability."

"How did you know?" Jin was surprised that his regular customer who never bothered to actually try out his dungeons would know so much about him, despite him never demonstrating his powers.

"I did not get the title of Mr Know-It-All for nothing, you know? Admittedly I pretend to know it all at times, and this was just another of those half bluffs. Still, we really need a miracle once in a while. So please Boss, do your miracle. I assure you that the Ministry of State Security (MSS) will cover your tracks and not bother you unnecessarily after this."

"You know, I could just remove all traces of this current situation if you want to," Kraft suggested as he shot a Bone Spirit Demon who did not understand the delicate situation they were in.

"Don't. It will be nice to have the Ministry of State Security owe us a favour or two. Especially after their apparent misstep for not being able to detain the Banned Emperor assassin we sent them." Jin said after recalling that seeing the Banned Emperor Assassin in the flesh at the forest.

"How did you..." Ryuli was surprised that Jin knew about the escape of the Banned Emperor, but Mr Know-It-All was mildly amused.

"Heh, let's just say we did our very own investigation before handing him over to the 'professionals'. But in order to not trouble Boss Jin, I have kept it under wraps because honestly, it was none of his business up until now." Kraft commented as he tapped on Jin's shoulders and his helmet display finally showed a number of stuff on the investigation he had extracted.

"Holy shit. It's that grand?! Wait, doesn't that mean you knew about this Monster Horde all along?" Jin was thankful for the helmet he was wearing since he could not think that he would be able to hold his expression away from them.

"Yes and no. They were smart enough to use a technique which deleted any relevant memories, but it's not like his subconscious didn't still have some puzzle pieces here and there. The things you saw from his 'memories' were the ones I managed to recreate after digging deep enough and combining them. Believe me when I say it was a pain in the ass." Kraft spoke secretly in an exclusive System channel which he was sure the private contractors could not even detect.

"All I knew was that this Monster Horde was going to happen one way or the other. Had I intervened any earlier they would have just switched locations and one of their backup locations was Shenzhen's coast. I am sure as hell you wouldn't want them so close to your backyard, right?" Jin could literally hear Kraft grin with pride for not interfering.

"Anyways the ones to actually summon these creatures must have only arrived here recently. To be honest, according to what I found in his memories they must rank above him, so he didn't have much on them. Fortunately, we should be able to capture quite a few of them this time around that is if you let them live. As I said, you were not ready to deal with stuff at such a level back then and frankly, you shouldn't have gotten involved in it. But since you bravely chose to accept the burden, I am here to make sure I won't have to start to address Hou Fei or someone else as Master in the near future." Kraft turned to his boss and stuck out his tongue a bit. "Besides, you are too gullible and fun to work with."

"And here I thought you did not have anything on them back then," Jin replied as the Demons were once again converging despite the fact he had subtly commanded his Valgs to keep them out when they were having this really awkward conversation.

"Don't make me laugh. You did not ask because you were too busy for almost everything else." Kraft pointed out, as he looked at the two State Agents. "Though I guess you guys already found out some stuff. Like how all of this practically stems from domestic terrorism."

"I am starting to like you and more, Sir Fox." Mr Know-It-All smiled as he tipped his boonie hat towards him. "Am I correct in assuming you are the reason why Boss Jin was able to survive this long despite having so much interference from the Royal Families?"

"I can neither confirm nor deny that part without the boss's approval." His only follow up to the reply was a wider grin which Mr Know-It-All just took it for what it was.

"Agent L, new orders from your superior. We are to cooperate with them as best we can. Make sure you survive this so you can find out what you were looking for. Also, keep this conversation out from your subsequent operation report." Mr Know It All commanded.

"I thought you said we 'retired' already upon taking this job? In any case, I will not die until I learn the truth about my Master." Ryuli took a deep breath and turned to look at her boss and nodded her head.

"Retirement? Since when? State Agents never retire until they are banished from this world. They merely go on paid vacation." Mr Know-It-All responded as he used his sword sheath and tapped on the ground. Suddenly the surrounding air veered slightly, and Jin could see a barely visible silhouette of a Chinese Serpent Dragon circling around them and the forest.

It immediately vanquished every single Bone Spirit Demons in the area, giving Jin the space to breathe and work his magic. "I cannot believe I am falling deeper into this world's complex web of politics," Jin complained as he took a card out from his deck.

"As you always do." System commented.

Chapter 845 Chaos in Dongguan

The borders along Dongguan Province were in worse shape than ever before as the Demon Exorcists from Jin's store desperately tried to stop the second breach. This time, the Border Guards and Royal Horse had been utterly defeated despite their desperate attempts.

Unlike in Huizhou where Jin had activated the Portals and enhanced them with Black Sludge Crystals to interrupt the Bone Spirit Demons instincts to destroy the city, Dongguan had no such luxury. The portal trucks in Huizhou had also been actively utilised not only by the evacuation but also the military after Royal Snake General Hou Fei told the Central Headquarters to deploy the troops from Shanghai to Huizhou.

This extensively expedited the supply run and it did bring in soldiers to reinforce the border walls around the Huizhou province. A number of high ranking officers were shocked by the leap in technology but did not question it at the time as the defence for the province was more important.

As for Dongguan, the only saving grace was that JODE Chancellor Ma Ge had authorised a few private planes to fetch the Demon Exorcists from surrounding provinces and airdrop them into the cities along

the walls. Because of the flight restrictions beyond the border walls, a couple of the planes were forced to make a large detour in case there were flying creatures within that vicinity.

But most importantly, it was mainly due to the Air Force sending a fly by sortie to that area. With the horde increasing in size and appearing unstoppable as compared to the situation in Huizhou, the Chinese Air Force had sent a couple of J-30 fighter planes, the latest multi-role fighter aircraft and one of the proud achievements for the Chinese Air Forces.

Equipped with high-intensity napalm bombs inscribed with Demon Slaying attributes, courtesy of JODE for just such an occasion, the aircrafts dropped those bombs dangerously close to the border walls, igniting the forest repeatedly with layers of strikes. They risked burning the forest entirely but forests, like all the other things natural in Jin's world, had certain grade to them. A few of the trees still stood tall despite the impactful destruction and unfortunately the same was true for the Bone Spirit Demons.

Anything weaker than Grade 8 was incinerated due to the fire and the special inscriptions attached to the explosive. However, for the higher grades, they were only injured to various degrees but all retained their ability to continue rampaging. Still, that did not mean the napalm bombs were useless as the heat and fire affected their defences, slowing them down for the remaining troops to take a breather.

Also, the Bone Spirit Infused Demons were still animals at their core. The Bone Spirit Demons might have possessed them in order to have a body to run around in the forest, but the animals need to breathe to survive. Heavy smoke and haze from the burning of the forests managed to choke some of the animals that were Grade 8 and higher.

And even if the Demons could survive the smoke and fire, there were incidental infighting because of the animals' instinct took over the possession momentarily because of primal fear of fire. That caused some minor casualties in the grand scale of the scheme, but it was still worth noting that the rumoured Banned Emperor's assassins do not have full control over them.

Unfortunately, not all soldiers used that breather the same way. Some of the Royal Horse Battalion Soldiers tried to desert upon seeing the mass destruction was not entirely effective, but the Border Guards prevented their exit. "If you call yourself a soldier! Fight!" The Border Guards punched and later aimed the guns on them, creating unnecessary tension between the two scared and fearful factions.

The Royal Horses had just been stationed here because of their job, but to the Border Guards, their homes and families were at stake. When the second breach occurred, it would mean that they had already failed their job twice, and it would be the lives of their friends and families on their hands. They'd rather face death than the shame they brought to their city.

"Let them go!" A voice echoed as the side doors to the border wall Gates were opened.

"You ass, why did you let an elderly through this dangerous place?!" One of the senior Guard shouted until Grandma Yuan presented her unique Demon Exorcist. For the Border Guards to not know the JODE badges would be a sin, let alone the badge of the Gleaming Griffin.

"You are the infamous District Guardian of Tiangong?!" The Border Guard said as he let go of the Royal Horse soldier who he had just punched.

"Sadly, Yes. I am that District Guardian. Reinforcements are coming, but they will take a while. According to the Chancellor, the cities bordering Dongguan Province have most likely been deemed a lost cause by the higher-ups. Now retreat before the Air Force sends in another airstrike. Pass the message." Grandma Yuan told him, yet the Border Guard spit right in front of her even though she was of a higher authority.

"This is my home. I will not abandon it. If I have to die in the fire, I will use that fire and fight the remaining horde!" The Border Guard claimed which resonated with the rest of his fellow colleagues while the Royal Horses shamelessly ran out of the city. This attitude of honour inevitably made Grandma Yuan laugh.

"Hahahahah! It seems no matter the time and age, there will always be young ones recklessly trying to throw away their lives for the country. I like your guts, and truth be told, I was the same at your age. Still, if you continue to stay here, you will just die meaninglessly." Grandma Yuan said as she walked further. "If you want to help the city, you should better use the time to help with evacuations." Unfortunately, they were unwilling to budge despite the repeated warnings.

As she reached the top of the wall, the stench of death assaulted her nose. Bodies of Bone Spirit Infused Demons were lying all over the place with human bodies beneath or over them. The remaining Guards were patching up the injured as much as they could. Some proceeded to grab the equipment from the dead bodies because of their own lack of firepower. The situation was beyond dire, and it reminded Grandma Yuan about the grim gloomy days during the Second World War.

Right now, they were fighting against insurmountable odds against actual Demons rather than monsters disguised as humans. "Even with time, things never change." Grandma Yuan sighed as she saw the eyes of desperation, all staring at her as if she was the only saviour in this place as the flame rages in the forest beyond.

"Warning, System has detected a possible manifestation of yet another Loopa Ooofpa in the outskirts of Dongguan Province. System recommends past Sub System User Yuan to evacuate as soon as possible." The System suddenly spoke out through the ring that it had given her.

"Another?" Yuan asked with her eyes squinted to see beyond the endless flames burning the forest.

"Affirmative. User is currently fighting one with Peppers as well as two particular State Agents. Codenames: Mr Know-It-All and Ryuli." The System replied, and that response surprised Grandma Yuan.

"Of all the State Agents in the country, Jin had to meet the notorious two." Grandma Yuan did not know whether this was fate punishing Jin for having the System or there was something else in the grand scheme of destiny.

"Still, that is a lot of firepower gathered in Huizhou. That brat should have at least send someone capable here to keep things in check rather than this rascal here." Yuan complained as she eyed Yun who came up the stairs subsequently with a Demon Exorcist badge which Yuan considered to be a bad joke.

"For a System clone to wear that Demon Exorcist badge is an utter disgrace to my previous disciple," Yuan stated, and Yun just looked away without saying a word. She might not like it, but it was her job to protect Yuan as designated by Jin.

"Your hatred towards me is unwarranted. Believe me, I enjoy being here with you as much as you enjoy my presence." Yun countered in defiance and Yuan snorted.

"To think she has the same attitude as the previous Yun... Whatever." Yuan thought as she cleared her throat and portrayed her cultivation aura with her eyes staring at a particular emerging silhouette far within the forest.

Chapter 846 Media Blackou

Even though it was the latter half of the day, heavy smoke from the flames made it almost impossible to make out whether the sun was setting.

News media outlets have long since been broadcasting about the massive evacuations at the borders near Dongguan and Huizhou after an hour of national media blackout so that the Ministry of Defence would be able to release a statement first.

Yet, pictures and videos of the devastation beyond the border walls had already been broadcast all over social media. Still, within that hour of media blackout, people from behind the scenes had been busy scrambling to send out revised heightened alerts to not just the military but also a call for civil defences and hospitals for them to receive the injured.

That hour of media blackout had also been to allow the stock market to close in time before any damage was done to their market, making the Ministry of Finance extremely concerned about any consequences if the Monster Horde attack would drag on to the next day. Fiscal reserves were quickly being prepared in order to hold the market if necessary.

Surrounding provinces were put high alert and reserve soldiers had been sent to the border walls for defence although the Ministry of State Security was doing the opposite. According to Mr Know-It-All's urgent report, the Monster Horde could be held within the cities with more reinforcement and yet they decided to place this unnatural phenomenal assault via the mountains.

His superintendent understood the implications of a possible diversion and had already dispatched local State Agents within the province's classified locations in case of a possible infiltration or assaults on important points of interest.

Cultivators of high grades and other private contractors were also roped on short notice to perform protection details for essential services like the power stations and water plants.

Thus everyone was extremely vested to make sure this horde did not go further than expected.

To help make this a reality, Grandma Yuan had decided to face the manifestation of Loopa Ooofpa for the second time in her life. Coincidentally that first encounter had been the famous incident which had led to her becoming the current District Guardian of Tiangong.

"To face this monster again... is like facing my fears once more. Although, I must say it's true origin name is so much funnier than the one given by the military." Grandma Yuan thought to herself when the System queried about it.

"While the current System has knowledge that past Sub System User Yuan had a fight with a colossal monster based on your memories, it is unable to analyse and compare its power level since the Sub System was not contracted at that point of time. Please give a rough estimation for the System to understand whether Jin's temporary combat alliance is overkill."

"No. It is not." Grandma Yuan stated decidedly with a shake on her head as she vividly remembered the horrors and atrocities that the particular manifestation of Loopa Ooofpa had done during the Second World War.

As she powered up her cultivation to gather as much chi as she could, Grandma Yuan couldn't help reminisce the past where her comrades died fighting such a monster. As controversial as it may be, the Banned Emperor faction did participate in the Second World War in defence for their motherland. However, they had joined under a false name as the State Agents later on discovered. Once their origin became known, they quickly started to dismantle that faction's name and reassume their old identity.

That was also why she had found these Bone Spirit Demons oddly familiar even though she could not identify them with the current database of monsters. Any records were removed right after the war, and she was going through PTSD and depression to even recall about the enemies.

The Loopa Ooofpa was later used against the Chinese after the Banned Emperor faction found out that the invading opponents were targeting highly valued VIPs. Somehow the information about an undisclosed meeting of the Royal Zodiac Clan Heads as well as the resistance factions had been discovered.

That leak of information had brought about a much heated discussion within the faction itself, but the majority demanded that they should remove the Clan Heads and be the ones controlling the remnants of the clans if they were to stand a change in this war.

Thus, the Banned Emperor faction had gone ahead with their coup d'etat by unleashing such a monster. Ironically the allies mistook this action as the Banned Emperor faction trying to defend the Clan Heads via a summon techniques from their ambush attack.

Sadly, it did turn uncontrollable and aimed for everyone, including their own masters after dealing with the foreign invaders. Hence the cleanup crew involved Yuan and her comrades who only graduated recently from the special Demon Exorcist training. (Yup the very same Grandma Yuan was heeding in this age.)

"So there is much pressure for the ex Sub System User to succeed again." With her permission, the System briefly scanned through her memories to check whether it could get an estimation of the Loopa Ooofpa strength, but unfortunately, human memories were somewhat deceptive and unreliable. Especially after they had been tinkered with.

"Told you, it's useless. Unless you wish to bestow me a Sub System again." Grandma Yuan joked as she knew that was not possible as her module was the very thing that rescued Ming from his predicament, yet it broke after being used.

"Apologies, System cannot adhere to such requests. Giving past Sub System User Yuan to permission to contact the current User's System is already a break in System's standard protocol." The System replied as if it was giving much leeway for her only to honour her previous occupation.

"Fortunately it's Jin wish to see you safe, so that is why I am here to ensure your survival," Yun said, but instead of gratitude, Yuan just gave her a menacing glare.

"I'd rather die than allow you to save me." Grandma Yuan pouted as she finally reached the peak of the chi gathering, but things got grimmer as the Loopa Ooofpa emerged fully from a distance.

Its faceless head roared with the urge to consume. Its hand tentacles were spreading like wings stretching after a long slumber. There was nothing on its body but a pile of flesh covered with streaks of bones around it. Only with a pair of binoculars could one see how the Bone Spirit Demons were coming out from its abdomen.

At that point, the second wave of J30 fighter jets who were initially planning for a second fly by through the mountainous forests had decided to change their target to the large colossal manifestation.

"It's useless..." Grandma Yuan knew that those napalm bombs would be ineffective against the giant leader that emerged from the Banned Emperor's Ritual. If those bombs could only eradicate Grade 8 and lower Demons, they would merely tickle the monster's skin, and their only utility would be in eradicating those newly emerged weak Demons.

If anything, that was a new unique trait of the current Loopa Ooofpa which Grandma Yuan didn't encounter in the past. (That fight had been hard enough without such a trait)

"Instructor Yuan!" Lein and his group of Demon Exorcists returned to their teacher's side after completing the objective of removing the Demons who leaked out from the second breach.

"There are some remnants running around, but the others are chasing them after the second breach of the wall had been mended by the Border Guards." Su Zhen reported.

"But more importantly, we are concerned the moment we all felt your chi aura kilometres away!" Lian spoke out the truth which made Grandma Yuan grin a little.

"Your other disciples are already airdropping into the town. They abandoned everything the moment they heard that you sounded the alarm for a Danger Level 4 Alert in Dongguan." Claire appeared from nowhere and surprised the Young Demon Exorcists.

"Wow, doesn't that mean a portion of the elite Demon Exorcists is joining the fight?" Rong exclaimed when he heard Claire's remarks and the rest of the Demon Exorcists were excited to see their senior disciples under Grandma Yuan.

"Heh, Claire you sneaky little... Nevermind, that means I can fully concentrate on the big guy, huh?" Grandma Yuan showed a rare wide genuine smile before taking one more look at her latest batch of graduated students.

"Will it be time to let the younger generation take over..." She whispered as she executed a technique which had not been used since the last Loopa Ooofpa fight.

Chapter 847 Rebirth of the Golden Griffin

The cultivation aura which was initially intense and oppressive but it suddenly turned soothingly warm and light on the body. Faintly visible golden sparks of energy were seen being emitted out of Grandma Yuan's body as she breathed in and out.

"Epic Gleaming Griffin Arts, Rebirth of Golden Griffin," Yuan spoke as a silhouette of a massive Griffin slowly climbed out of her body and took shape. The winds within the borders became unsettling as if to show its aggressive emergence into this world, and it even imitated the way Loopa Ooofpa emerged from the forest by letting out a loud wailing screech.

Subsequently like Grandma Yuan's chi, the Griffin calmed down when it lowered its claws as they grabbed the ledge of the border wall. But the most unexpected thing to the Border Guards and Demon Exorcists was seeing that silhouette of the Gleaming Griffin materialised.

They were all in shock as this was the first time seeing someone materialising their animal cultivation into a living and breathing creature. "Heh, this is nothing compared to the Royal Zodiac Dragon Clan's technique. Mine is just a rip off of theirs." Grandma Yuan explained to the students watching her from behind while taking heavier breaths as a way to stabilise her chi circuits.

While this particular technique had never been used against any enemy for decades, it did not mean she lacked any practice on it. In fact, it was actually part of her recovery therapy, allowing her to master the intricacies of it with the help of a Royal Zodiac Dragon clansman. It was mainly because she had used this Rebirth of Golden Griffin technique as a last resort against the rampaging Loopa Ooofpa at the expense of her comrades' chi and ...life.

The chi 'payment' for the technique had been so tremendous back in the day that her comrades sacrificed their blood and flesh to convert the remaining chi needed for the summoning. To this day Yuan blamed herself for her incompetence to hold the materialisation at that point.

Even though it was not fully her fault for not comprehending the technique well enough as her cultivation manual only had theories for such a technique, it technically bordered a miracle that she had been able to materialise it from just that alone.

Only through the help of the Royal Zodiac Dragon clan did she find out that there were so many missing components with the 'summoning' and the optimisation of her chi could have improved. Although she would have preferred to keep the memories of that fateful day where it all happened suppressed, she stared at the Unceasing Hunger as if this was what she had been waiting for all her life.

A chance to redeem herself.

Even though there were also regrets with Ming and his System, this particular grievance in her heart was heavier than the others as there was no possible reconciliation between her dead comrades who had overtaxed their Dantian cores to allow for the maximum amount of chi transferred into her.

"Everything ends with a full circle, eh?" Grandma Yuan thought to herself as the Gleaming Golden Griffin lowered its body. Yuan could feel the softness of its feathery neck while it glittered and glowed with radiance.

The Griffin also rubbed onto Yuan as a sign of affection and later allowed her to jump onto it before extending its wings again to signal the others to move away from it. The Border Guards were taken

aback that such a weakly looking old grandmother had the strength and finesse to jump so easily, but the Demon Exorcists knew better how that look was merely a façade.

"I can still remember how she whooped our asses on the first day of her intensive camp training." Lein said when he saw her jump so elegantly. The days where they underestimated their demanding elderly instructor felt like it was just yesterday.

"I can hear you." Grandma Yuan said without turning her head back.

"Teacher! I am coming with you!" Su Zhen shouted, asking for permission to fight along with her. This prompted the rest to want to follow her as well.

"NO!" Grandma Yuan told them sternly as she activated her cultivation once more, pushing them away with a chi burst. At this moment, the Griffin had also started flapping its wings, further disabling them from moving forward.

"Let it go." Lein decided to hold back Su Zhen. "If we follow her, we will just hold her back."

"But it's impossible for her to fight alone! Claire, say something to stop her!" Su Zhen shouted as the Griffin began to take off. However, even her long-time assistant was standing at the back, subtly waving back at her.

"You still owe me my bonus red packet for the upcoming new year. Please remember to return." Claire said via the System Channel which made her boss smirk.

"Just get it from your new Boss. You two-timer." Grandma Yuan snapped back at her.

"You were the one who approved it. Don't pretend to go senile on me now. Besides, it feels more appropriate to get it from an elderly figure." Claire remarked as she started to type a few things on the System's phone. "System, you better have a way to save her..." Claire thought to herself.

"This rascal... I never regretted hiring you to be my assistant." Grandma Yuan replied as she looked forward. The Loopa Ooofpa had never been so ready to consume the incoming large golden Griffin as it could sense the intense amount of chi residing within it. Hand tentacles had already started to crawl out of the forest and zoomed into the skies just to grab the prize that was like an inch out of reach.

"Gleaming Griffin Arts, Rainbow Feather Storm." Grandma Yuan announced as she lightly held on to the nape of her Griffin and continued to channel chi within it. The Golden Griffin glimmered despite the looming dark skies, and out of its wings, feathers with homing capabilities soared through the darkness with streaks of bright rainbow trails following it.

Like a beacon of bright light that continued to shine and illuminate, it destroyed the hand tentacles and lit the hopes of the Guards along the wall, bringing cheers.

"Don't be so happy!" Claire shouted at the Border Guards. "The waves of enemies are not stopping! Use that renewed strength you uncovered and stop those monstrous Demons! You four! What are you staring at? Since you are at the wall, do your job as Demon Exorcists!" Claire commanded as she placed an artefact on the ground and suddenly the section of the wall lit up with greenish hues.

"Ms Claire, you are using that?!" Su Zhen lit up further when she saw the greenish hues glowed with a hum along the edges of the border wall and slowly spread to the other sections of the border walls.

"Duh, how else are we going to survive with these little numbers the guards are left with?" Claire answered as she used her head to prod the Demon Exorcists to get a move on. "We have to stall them until other demon exorcists reach here."

"Besides, I need to see if Jin's System was not lying to me about my new 'intern' powers," Claire added in her head.

Chapter 848 Magpie Form

"I get to boom it, right? Right?" Peppers squinted when Mr Know-It-All literally gave the go-ahead that the Ministry of State Security would cover their tracks no matter what they did. His Dragon Wave Barrier had also eliminated the small fry (to the System's dismay) and provided Jin with some breathing space to prepare for his 'all-out attack'.

"Not yet. Just give me a minute" Jin told her as he held up a monster card with the picture of Que Er, the Magpie Queen and used the System Driver to activate it.

"Card Activated, Magpie Form."

His Rider Suit once again changed with a flash. After its transformation, it featured a magpie head as his mask, and there were some other obvious changes to his suit too. A pair of Raven Wings was growing from his back, metallic in form because of the living armour nano suit's ability.

And out of a portal, both of Odin's Ravens landed on his shoulders cawing at the current situation. "You got to excuse their... initiative to erm 'claim' your shoulders."

"Well, that just means they love you enough to not be separated from you." Jin teased Que Er who he had fused with. (Of course, the others could not hear their talks unless they were in the same System's channel.)

"Oh please, they keep complaining how Odin did not work them as hard as I do."

"And yet, they continue to work for you. Perhaps they preferred to be with a pretty queen than a grumpy old man?" Jin commented with a proverbial wink.

"Since when did you become such a smooth talker? Should I be worried that older women are your preference? Is that why you haven't been paying attention to your Sub System User's? I honestly don't mind if Master wants a piece of me." Que Er teased Jin back.

"Please. Imagine having thousands of crows and magpies and two talkative Ravens secretly peeking at us. You must be insane if you think I have such a voyeuristic nature."

"That is true. Especially those lecherous Ravens. I have a feeling they keep peeking into my attire when I am not looking. Perhaps why they love to stay on my shoulders. Not sure if they transmit anything to Odin though." Que Er agreed as she pinched both of the Ravens on their necks which made them caw even harder.

"We swear we would never do such a thing! Never!" Muninn screamed via the System channel.

"Your denial makes it even more suspicious!" Que Er said as she now grabbed the two by their necks. By now all the scouting magpies and crows were hovering above the group in circles.

From afar, the Border Guards and Royal Battalions might have mistaken it as a slow-moving hurricane given their numbers.

"Ah...I get it. Not a bad idea to be honest." Peppers who saw the circling birds chirping away now understood what Jin was aiming at. She took her staff and swung it a few times to show her finesse of using a staff and pointed it to the sky.

Subsequently, the magic within the staff was dispersed. All the magpies and crows absorbed it and started to glow with a bluish-black light. She did not forget to imbue her magic transfer with the Black Sludge Inscription Charm so that those birds would inadvertently attract the Bone Spirit Demons. (And ensuring those monsters ate the 'bombs' instead of evading it.)

"Man, I was expecting a more spectacular kaboom, but this is an interesting variant I've been wanting to try ever since their inception." Peppers shared in the System channel while she sent the remaining portion of the magic into the two Odin Ravens.

"Que Er, send half of them to Dongguan. Grandma Yuan might need all the help she can get before we settle this." Jin requested and Que Er obliged.

"Sure thing! Muninn, Huginn lead the way. MAKE SURE these birds reach there safely." Que Er ordered as she squeezed the Ravens once more before sending them off.

A flock of them immediately left the area with the remaining half now spreading themselves out in the wild. Que Er took the opportunity to fly up and size her opponent up.

"Actually with Peppers magic now strengthening the explosive power of each of my children, I do not see a need to increase it any further. However, I figure that Loopa Ooofpa won't go down that easily. Who knows? Maybe he will eat the explosion." Que Er analysed.

"Quite an astute observation! Now if anyone at all is still interested, I would love to explain how the artificially created Loopa Ooofpa appeared in the Second World War." Kraft offered. While he would usually use Itori to fly around, this time he did not use any tricks or wings but to hover beside the System Rider Magpie. Apparently, all he needed was just chi which made Mr Know-It-All all the more curious about the cultivation grade of the newcomer.

"Not really the time for a history lesson. More importantly, does that thing have any weak points?" Que Er could literally feel Jin's anxiety in wanting to finish this monster quickly before it got any worse.

"If one explosion is not enough, make it two. I still have a whole bag of things I never got the chance to try out which might prove useful. Actually, Peppers made the right choice by breaking her magic into hundreds or thousands of them. That monster would have literally absorbed the first shot and used it as his own energy source. Basically like an enemy Derpy." Kraft stated as he checked his storage ring at the side.

"Well, duh. Why do you think I was so willing to forsake my chance of a grand explosion? Of course, I had read it up the moment you said that you knew about it. Though I have to admit, it's equally nice to be able to see a series of fireworks..."

"Ah, the System must have Grandma Yuan's entry of the Loopa Ooofpa she fought." Kraft deduced since there was no way the System had access to his database of naughty secrets.

"Eh really? I merely used the birds because they could be as highly deadly as a piece of missile." Jin said in the System Channel, attempting to bluff Kraft but to no avail.

"Don't white lie or play dumb with me, Boss. You are not of that level yet." With his head down, Kraft shook it slowly. He then unveiled the triple-barreled, triple-cylindrical revolver ornamented with detailed golden fox designs and pointed at the messy blob of tentacles.

His all precious 'No Mercy'.

"But I shall play along with you just this one. We will divert its attention by allowing it to feed on one large enough explosion and you can attack him with the rest of your birds. At least, we got to show that we are so SO much stronger than those State Agents, right?" Kraft added as he already loaded a trio of steel bullets into No Mercy.

"I don't really understand your intentions, but let's do it." Jin allowed Que Er to take over the combat, and with a hand wave, the birds started to glow brightly as the magic churning inside them was dying to come out of them.

"Nice, Nice, Nice." Kraft grinned as he aimed his gun, all ready to press the trigger.

Chapter 849 Loopa Ooofpa's Weakness

"Don't. Stay back and watch their backs in case they will require us to intervene. I can sense that the other monsters are all actually converging to our location and leaving the soldiers to regroup." Mr Know-It-All said as he raised his hand to stop Ryuli from intervening in their fight.

"You honestly think that they can win? No matter how I sense it, that guy in the weird suit is only Grade 8 Peak for goodness sake." Ryuli argued, and Mr Know-It-All laughed.

"That's what I thought too. But if you are sensitive enough to detect his chi, you should understand that his power level is ...for the lack of a better word, fucked up." Mr Know-It-All explained as he lowered the Dragon Wave Barrier and noticed the monsters under Jin's command continue to pull those Bone Spirit Infused Demons towards the portals.

"Is that how he collects monsters and learns how to reconstruct them? Under controlled circumstances? If yes, he is one tenacious fellow with a high level of creativity." He thought to himself. He was already looking forward to the next dungeon instance and expected it to be filled with those creatures.

"Erm, yeah. I did notice an abrupt spike in power after he used that card to transform and gain wings for his suit. Some of the talented mages in Europe's Circus also possess such abilities, what is so special

about that?" Ryuli asked as she pointed out that the spies in the European countries had better transformation abilities than him. Only when she said that she realised something was off.

"...He uses magic and chi circuits simultaneously and with the same efficiency too," Ryuli whispered to herself and noticed this was unprecedented.

"Mmhm. You used to think that you were the only few in the world who could use magic to supplement your chi, right? It seems that he is one step further than you by utilising both circuits allowing him to cast spells too. So, at least in theory, he is actually as strong or maybe even stronger than you." Mr Know-It-All reasoned. "All the more reason for him to be your so-called 'elder disciple'." Ryuli heard it and was unsure how to process that information. She could only listen to her superior ramble on as she watched the two start the fight.

BAM!

Kraft had fired his first volley of shots, and the three steel bullets were immediately imbued with his chi, breaking each and every hand tentacle that tried to stop it. Needless to say, the Loopa Ooofpa relished such a 'mighty' meal as it opened its mouth to slow its descent by absorbing the chi that was within the steel bullets.

But the moment those bullets stopped to a halt, they immediately released a gaseous substance that caused it to choke. Oddly enough, the bullets were releasing more gas than it should have contained in terms of standard physics. That was because it was actually a steel bullet encased with Evon's inscription. The chi Kraft had imbued was like a bottle cap, keeping the bottle from overspilling. Only when the chi got taken away, would the inscription self activate courtesy of the bullet.

"Jespa really wished to pin me hard on the wall after I told her that I needed to make a bullet out of runic metals and of all metals. Steel fused with mithril alloy. Despite all her arguing, she sure did a great job. Hehehe!" Kraft was not one to waste any monster talents in Jin's disposal, and the rune bullet itself provided enough power for Evon's inscription to work beyond its inscription limits.

The gas eventually spread around the Loopa Ooofpa, and Kraft subsequently shot out standard incineration bullets to ignite the gas. "Though it was meant to be a choking gas bullet, it's quite flammable in nature." Kraft boasted as the bullets were visible with the tracers on them and instantly, the surrounding area exploded.

"Huh. Not bad. 1/10." Peppers graded the explosion after helping the Valgs by magically chaining the monsters up with magic. She had used her staff as the anchor to pull all the surrounding Demons towards her. Only when the Valgs brought the Demons near the portal did she release the chains and the portal sucked them in. As for those Bone Spirit Infused Demons who were too close for comfort, a knockback explosion was sufficient to push it away and sometimes into the portals too.

"I am totally ignoring you, Peps." Kraft declared nonchalantly. (Though Jin believed that he only did so because he was pouting. Everyone always looked up to Pepper's review rating as if it was the international standard for explosions.)

"Go, my birds!" Que Er, who had actually used Jin's Maqi to further juice up her birds' offensive power, finally gave the order to attack the Loopa Ooofpa. With their small physique and their body frame for

speed, the magpies and crows easily evaded the Loopa Oofpa's hand tentacles by skidding along it and dived towards the body.

But what Que Er did not expect was that the hand tentacles began to evolve as soon as Kraft's attack had started. The hand tentacles immediately released pores that could explode as quickly as one of Que Er's birds entered within its proximity. As a result, a secondary blast happened since the magpies were basically flying timebombs too. (At least, it took out the hand tentacles too.)

"Do you see now what I told you about the Loopa Ooofpa? They will use your magic against you after eating it. If you throw a nuclear bomb at it, chances are it will become a walking nuclear disaster and irradiate the regions it does through." Kraft pointed at it as if he was proud that the monster was proving his point.

"So, then how are we supposed to kill it?" Jin, who was at the sideline, saw it.

"Constantly interrupting its eating time," Kraft replied. "Whenever it attempts to consume an attack, you break it. But of course, different types of attacks means different types of consumption methods, and that means it will make it harder to kill."

"So that is why we are merely concentrating on explosions right now instead of a variety of attacks?" Que Er reasoned as the System Rider's mask gave her a more advanced display interface on the visor so she and the System could fully control the movements of each and every bird as if they were living breathing homing missiles. With the evolution of Loopa Ooofpa in mind and the losses it incurred seconds ago, the System had already adjusted the birds' trajectory and aimed for the parts of the body where it was producing the Bone Spirit Demons from.

"Yeap, that is why when it is attempting to eat the explosions, it is also taking damage from the constant release of choking gas turning into explosions. The fire from the after-effects will ignite those gases and cause the explosions to continue for some time." Kraft informed them as he fired a few more incineration bullets.

"At the same time, we target its body which had residual crevices after the Demons get 'born'. Even if it could regenerate and evolve, there is no such thing as an immortal creature." Que Er remarked.

"How sure are you?" Jin queried thinking of the worst possible scenario.

"Trust me, I am an immortal at your service." The magpie queen giggled as a result of her birds' attack and her honest comment to Jin.

"Sometimes, we got to fight smart, right? Brute force isn't always the way." Kraft winked at System Rider Magpie while grinning when he thought how the Banned Emperor Assassins must be tearing their hair out to see their Loopa Ooofpa in trouble.

Especially when Loopa Oofpa should be deemed as their trump card in this Monster Horde attack.

Chapter 850 Command Headquarters

True enough, the State Agents were baffled when they saw the Loopa Ooofpa getting damaged. Their initial attacks when fighting against the colossal manifestation had been useless as it continuously regenerated and threw their strikes back in their very raw essence.

They literally could feel their own strength and chi being used against themselves and were only thankful that they had not used any higher advanced techniques.

That was also one of the reasons why Mr Know-It-All decided to step back and see if the dungeon supplier had any ways to damage the monster (Especially when they are supposedly the monster experts.)

"Seems like this won't be a futile alliance!" He thought to himself as he saw how the monster wriggled in pain and turned even more aggressive.

With the attacks on its "birthing" crevices, it somehow stopped the Monster Horde temporarily from growing, and this gave them confidence that it could be defeated.

"Master! Air Command is sending reinforcements to fight against the creature, do you want me to belay that order?" General Hou Fei finally checked into the System Channel.

"I am leading this battle for now. Tell them to aim for the crevices. I will send you some digital pictures shortly via the System." Kraft answered, and Hou Fei rolled his eyes.

"As if those pilots in the air have a telepathy System Channel in their heads for me to transpose that information!" Hou Fei cursed under his breath as he saw the pictures had already been sent via an email. "I have a few choppers ready to fly. They should be able to airlift a few of my artillery scouts, and I shall order them to laser paint the targets for them to hit."

"Great, just make sure to set their explosion delays to intervals of three seconds. That or hit it with precise timing of at least three seconds apart. We need double impacts for it to be effective!" Kraft replied as he reloaded his No Mercy and switched to a combination ratio of one Evon Special Choking Gas bullet to two incineration bullets.

"I will try to relay that information but cannot guarantee whether those pilots can be competent or listen to us." Hou Fei yelled back at Kraft.

"Ehh? Don't tell me... aren't those exclusive to the Royal Zodiac Rooster's Air Force?" Instead of the standard J30s, Kraft distinguished with his keen eye that those were, in fact, the J30-Rs. One of the two special variants custom made to suit the Royal Zodiac's privileged group of pilots.

"Hmm yeah." Hou Fei scratched his head, thinking of a way to send that instruction without making it sound as if he was undermining their authority.

"Ah, fuck it!" Hou Fei opened the secure channel and just repeated the information he got from Kraft to Central Command.

"Roger that, we will relay the planes to do a quick roundabout before sending them your way, so you have time to paint the targets." A familiar voice was heard by Hou Fei, and it was none other than his Royal Zodiac Snake Clan's head, Mong Tse.

"Sir! I did not expect you to be part of the command staff for this current operation." Hou Fei was glad to hear his voice in this chaos.

"Hehe, did you think I would stay idle during a national crisis? I have been monitoring your progress since the start. As much as we want to be quiet with our development, we have to plan for pessimistic scenarios. Why else would those lazy Roosters get to sortie this quickly?"

"That's true. Despite their namesake, being early isn't really one of their specialities." Hou Fei jest for a moment, but he knew this wasn't the time for idle chatter and his Snake Clan Head informed him that the field artillery would be in soon via the portals.

"Your decision to bring one of the portal trucks to Shanghai was a good one." Mong Tse commended his General, and subsequently, Hou Fei asked about the situation at Dongguan.

"Tiangong District Guardian certainly lives up to her name. Satellite feed shows that she is damaging the manifestation the same way your group of private contractors are doing. However, she seems to be waning in power. Alas, time is a deadly enemy nobody can escape. I will liaise and get the Royal Dragon Air Force to send their planes there as soon as possible." And suddenly from the corner of the voice call, someone was already shouting.

"They are already on their way!" Royal Zodiac Dragon General, You Wan Long, shouted over the many shoulders within the command meeting room. A number of officers saluted as he stomped into the room and literally threw classified documents on the table.

"This is everything we have on the target 'Sundew' from the National Secret Archives. As we speak, the J30-D's have already been equipped with the latest gravity implosions bombs, which we believe should be enough to decimate it."

"It might actually make things worse unless you-" General Mong Tse tried to explain, but the Dragon Zodiac General didn't even let him finish before he rebutted.

"On whose information are you relying on? We have records about killing target 'Sundew', and Demon Exorcist Instructor Yuan was the one to write that particular report. Also, the information has surprisingly been updated in recent years during the revision audits from Monsterology experts." He stated matter of factly.

"I do not wish to argue that. However, the latest intel on the ground has shown results proving that their technique works. Are we going to rely on paper or results from the ground?" Mong Tse knew that Wan Long was a little impulsive to show off that the Dragons were superior to the rest of the Zodiac clans.

All he needed to do was switch the way he phrased things so that he would listen. "By following this method, it will guarantee the Dragon Air Force's success in injuring target 'Sundew' and also show off its superior finesse and accuracy. Should that not work, please feel free to go back to your way of handling things."

"Very well. I am listening." Royal Dragon General Wan Long nodded after he caught the 'correct keywords' and Mong Tse easily explained the tactics that Hou Fei had relayed to him.

"That's it? Of course, my pilots can do that!" Wang Long quickly told his telecommunication officers to send in these orders.

"Very good, I will send the message to the Border Guards, and hopefully they can at least help in aiding with the laser painting procedure." Mong Tse took a quick heave of relief before forgetting that he had his General on hold.

"I actually heard everything." Hou Fei admitted, and Mong Tse chuckled. "To see the Snake subdue a Dragon is always satisfying."

"Then do me proud." Mong Tse answered.

"No worries. I actually should have a way to contact Instructor Yuan and the Demon Exorcists in Dongguan immediately. Although to be sure, please send a formal communication telegram order." Hou Fei replied, and his Snake Head Clan was smiling.

"You sure you do not want to take the chief position of our Military Intelligence Branch?" Mong Tse asked once more.

"Trust me, you do not want me to hold on to state secrets. They might slip out of my hands." Hou Fei refused the offer once more and officially closed the communication channel before giving the latest information to his soldiers as well as Claire who was holding the fort at the Dongguan border walls.