

Dungeon S 871

Chapter 871 Odd Conversation - Final

"What?! This cannot be! How can there be another entity here? *cough* I made sure to seal us up!" Wang Ba Tan was losing consciousness after losing out in this particular match, mainly due to the strange properties of Jin's subconsciousness.

Wang Ba Tan started to realise that he was about to get killed by Jin once the White Tiger pounced on him. With his experience, he had begun to activate his spiritual version of the Dantian Core so that he could remain hidden inside Jin. Wang Ba Tan had no idea that his Dantian Core was being tracked and taken out from its 'hiding' place.

Gramps Ming fiddled with the spiritual Dantian Core as Wang Ba Tan was still being pinned down by the White Tiger and his face turned to one of sheer shock.

"Not just another entity. The one you boldly chose to impersonate! All this time you have been here, I allowed you to play along with Jin. So be grateful that I gave you such a chance." Ming said as the White Tiger took the opportunity to bite even harder and more blood spilt onto the black concrete tiles.

"You mean...the reason this kid has no mental barrier around him is because of you?! You are actually the master of his unconscious plane?!" Wang Ba Tan shouted coarsely, not satisfied with dying in ignorance.

"I wouldn't go so far as calling myself the master of this place. If anything, I am more of an occupant. I got to switch off the viewing camera when he wants to have his alone time, right?" Ming joked, and Jin facepalmed while taking his sword out of Wang Ba Tan.

"I have enough people peeking into my life, I honestly do not need you to do the same," Jin complained.

"Well, what's one more?! Besides, you have to check out on this particular AV star. Last I saw her before I succumbed to my illness, she was totally breathtaking. I am convinced by now she should have realised her potential! I can give you her actress name and the name of the video I was talking about. Though you have to use a VPN to watch it. You probably cannot -"

"Gramps! SERIOUSLY?!?! Not in front of the enemy!" Jin was starting to get embarrassed.

"What does it matter? His life is basically over. Maybe in his next life, he will repent and instead of following a crazy ideology, he will actually enjoy his life more by watching some lustful videos as side entertainment." Ming countered with a smirk on his face, and that insult alone was enough to garner the last remaining strength within Wang Ba Tan.

"Don't be so cocky just because you have my Dantian Core! I am still the best dream manipulator around! I am the Parasitic Worm Cultivator of the Banned Emperor!! I WILL-" Before he could finish his sentence and set his remaining chi up to explode, the White Tiger of the West, smashed his head into the ground without mercy and released a thunderous shock that blew Jin away. Ming was barely standing straight after its attack, but at least he was able to withstand it.

"Woah. This feisty tiger here is not taking any chances." Ming said as he realised the orb he was holding had been obliterated into dust. Even as he withstood the thunder shock, the spiritual Dantian Core was not able to face the terrifying destructive backlash by the White Tiger.

"I honestly did not expect it to be this strong. Does it mean that the White Tiger was holding back when I was fighting against it?" Jin asked as he could still feel his entire body pulsating with electricity and decided to stay on the ground and concentrate on his breathing.

"Well, duh. It is one of the Legendary Cardinal Demons. Like you, it had been stripped down of its powers, and even its strength got nerfed to oblivion to match your measly little cultivation." Ming teased as he scratched the back of the White Tiger while generating some chi water to wash its mouth away from all that terrible meat.

"Still, it recognised your determination and diligence. Not every cultivator would dare to face it a second time, let alone multiple times like a madman that came out from a cave after seclusion." Ming said as he and the White Tiger walked towards Jin.

"Also, you remembered what I said about it, huh?" Ming added as the White Tiger took the chance to lick Jin over his face while he pondered over his grandfather's words.

"Gosh, his tongue feels like needles coming out, touching all over my cheek area. It's a little spiky and yet oddly soothing."

"You find poking needles soothing? Hahahahaha! Spoken like someone who would have one?" Ming made such a cold sex joke onto Jin that he could not help but roll his eyes.

"What do you know, stupid jeezer?!"

"Oh, you want to compare, do you? You want to be demoralised to the point that you won't be able to face reality? I can pull my pants down anytime." Ming dared Jin to do the same.

"Someone please get me out of this plane!"

"Sorry, but I can't let you do that. Not when your body is in such dire shape. You are lucky I managed to secretly pull you into this area. Else your mind would be dead too, and then the System would have to try resurrecting you." Ming denied his plea as he snapped his finger and the entire imagery of the inner black hall sanctum collapsed. They returned to where they were before, and this time Jin felt extremely cold being stuck in the snow.

The White Tiger was not helping when it decided to snudge itself around Jin, disabling him from moving away from it. Perhaps payback? Jin did not want to speculate any further and allowed it to do as it pleased.

"By the way, I am also quite curious about how you realised that Wang Ba Tan was a fake? Am I that easy to read?" Ming stroked his beard a little as he sat down on the bench and watched Jin stuck in the snow as the White Tiger yawned.

"See. The bench did not creak when you sat down on it. Never. Even at such an awkward position, you are still somehow able to avoid letting out a single noise." Jin explained as the White Tiger started to feel more relaxed with the petting.

"It was one of your habits while alive. There was never a moment where you made a sound when sitting, and your footsteps were silent. Sometimes I wondered whether you were trained by a ninja boss. I tried emulating that when I was younger, but never managed it."

"That's all? Damn, grandson. Picking up such weird things to symbolise your grandfather." Ming smirked as he conjured a femur bone for the White Tiger to chew on.

"I could go on, but nevermind that, what did you mean by the System would 'try' to resurrect me? What's the matter with that? My Dantian Core data should be with the System at all times." Jin asked as he started to pick his courage and pet the tiger.

"Haven't you picked up on it? You should have heard stories from me, Kraft, Yun and probably the System as well. Didn't you ever wonder why the System Users always struggled and why there was no prosperity even when we had such an enormous super entity supporting us?"

"I ...No." Jin initially did not understand what Ming was saying until he started to think back.

"Never questioned why the System grants you Bellators who are all-powerful to a point that you do not even actually need to raise a finger?" Ming hinted strongly until it somehow clicked.

"I ...cannot be resurrected?"

Chapter 872 Untold Revelations

"... Probably!" Grandpa Ming shrugged as he sat down properly and breathed in the air.

"Did you not ask the System directly before?" Jin questioned as the White Tiger had relaxed and released his body even further.

"Of course, I did. However, the System was not willing to give me a direct answer. It would always divert the issue by claiming that 'User should rather train instead of worrying about blah blah blah'. It was super frustrating to hear that, but nothing I could do to make it spill the beans." Ming replied while rubbing his nose and cleared his throat. The memory associated with those words was not something the grandfather would like to remember much.

"Well, I can give it a try when I have the chance to ask the System about it," Jin commented as if he was not too worried about it for some reason.

"And if what you say is true... Then I guess it cannot be helped. I mean it would make sense that there had to be a trade-off for having something as powerful as a System. And now I think about it, I realised how the System never spoke of past users joining the collective form of entities. Would like to know how their past actions nearly sent the System into demise."

"Heh! Are you indirectly insulting that I am incompetent? Gah that I will admit there were things I was not proud of when I was young. Still, I am surprised you took this message so easily. I was expecting you to be shaking or filled with anxiety. Knowing that unlike those around you, if something were to happen to you might actually die."

"Hmm, I mean no one can escape Death forever. Maybe I am less shocked because I had way too many near-death experiences ever since I inherited the System. I don't really want to think about it. Besides, I place my trust in my comrades and believe they will come to save me no matter what." Jin replied while thinking of all the times where he nearly got killed.

"Is that why you wholeheartedly tried to save their worlds when it's not your responsibility?" Ming was also curious why he would do such a thing when he had no real obligations to do so.

"Wouldn't you have done the same in my shoes? 'If you have the power to save someone, you should do it with all your strength. If not, it's not worth living', right? Though... I have to admit that it did not click until Hou Fei told it to me so blatantly." Jin remarked, and suddenly the White Tiger growled softly at the spot Jin was scratching.

"And the things you've invested and given to the people will be returned multi-folds.' Hahah! Glad to see, that you did actually learn some useful things from me before I was gone." Grandpa Ming appeared as if he had something else on his chest after all this.

What followed was a sudden silence. Jin could see that his Gramps was struggling about whether to tell him something important or not, so he just waited for Ming to gather his resolve.

"There is something you should know about the time reversal. It was not really me who had initiated it. After I had rampaged against the Zodiacs, all the System did was blare out alerts like an annoying cock screaming its lungs out before someone chopped its head off. Knowing that I could not be saved, Yuan she... sacrificed her Sub System module to ensure that I survived. After the System had learned about the Banned Emperor's involvement, it was ready to change the world's current history and allowed us to return back a few hours."

"A few hours? And that itself caused the System to go so haywire?" Jin questioned and Ming gave out a slight chuckle.

"I understand it might sound minuscule to you. But you have to understand it wasn't just a local time reversal for one particular area. Everything which happened in our universe had been turned back exactly 3 hours, 44 minutes and 59 seconds. The placement of the sun, the birth of a new child, the minutes before completion of an exam. Even something as grand as the true death of a star. Everything was pushed back. Memories were unwritten, and things that were supposed to happen did not happen. The scale of the things that had been reversed cannot be taken into account."

"But only you, the System and a few others should have memories with regards to that, right? Or are the things Wang Ba Tan said actually true? Does the Royal Dragon Clan have a person with the ability to have recorded that time reversal? The Royal Dragon Historian was it? Have people come to you and asked you about it?"

"For a Banned Emperor lackey, it is terrifying to learn that he is right." Ming sighed and nodded his head. Even when Wang Ba Tan was actively searching into Jin's memories, Ming was not just hiding. Like Kraft, he had used what the fox had taught him and extracted information whenever possible. When the Banned Emperor Elder thought he had the upper hand, Ming's smirk became wider.

"Well, the part about someone coming for it was something he made up. Still, a person with that moniker does exist and she might be someone who would know about the System or at least have an

inkling of the existence of such a Super Entity. Also, that last part of his advice should be false. When the System states that there is a rule, then it doesn't lie. It seems to take those very seriously without breaking them... Even that time reversal had some very stringent conditions which needed to be fulfilled before it acted."

"But it is possible for the System to take control of the cultivators and treat them as moneybags?"

"If you asked me about it a few months ago, I would have answered that it would be highly likely that it might do so via a loophole. But now that Kraft told me about your interaction with it, the System seems to have mellowed down and is actively trying to work with you. There shouldn't be any real benefit for it to betray your trust again. Still, this is just the ramblings of an old man. If you want to clarify things, you will have to ask the source. Just be prepared the answer might not be to your liking." Ming commented.

"Whew. This is a lot to take in. I might have to reconsider the way I do things in this world then. First off, my cultivation isn't great enough and even if I can hit a high grade like I don't know... Grade 15 or 16? I alone cannot fight against the political forces brewing like an active volcano waiting for the right chance to explode."

"Are you going to abandon all your work?"

"Impossible. There is so much I have already done and still so much more that I want to do. I have been thinking for some time on how to expand. I just know that I won't allow myself to be used as a pawn by others. The teleportation device is way too dangerous to reveal to the public seeing how they could bring in troops and supplies so quickly to reinforce the borders of Huizhou. It might be useful, but if something like that falls into the Banned Emperor's hands we might have monsters popping out everywhere..."

"Every action has a reaction. That law does not apply only to physics but everything else in this world. Items are never at fault. It's the people who use it." Ming preached.

"And for an ambitious dream to be the World's Number One Dungeon Supplier, I have been thinking that my steps were too small. Mainly because my capital had been restricted. Now that I have a certain reputation and the resources in place to earn money, I believe I should start to make bigger strides. That is why when I wake up, I am going to change how to deal with all this." Jin stated with some resolution.

"That is if you wake up. From what I know, your body is currently in no condition to do anything grand." Ming shook his head for having to be the one to bear the bad news.

"That bad?"

"You think I am just keeping you here because I miss my precious grandson so much? Believe me, I have ways to entertain myself in here. Hehehe."

"Please spare me the details. But yeah, I thought you wanted to share things with me after that sudden Banned Emperor Elder surprise bash."

"If you really mean what you claim and you do want to change the way you are doing things, you still need the appropriate cultivation to do so," Ming stated as he clapped twice and the White Tiger sat back up sluggishly as if Jin had been a perfect plushie for him to snooze on top of.

"You might have had the Sword Saint drill you for the basics, but I am going to train you in my own Panda Sword Arts. Once you learn them, you will understand why I wrote that Astral Panda Cultivation Manual in a certain way." Ming spoke mysteriously as he summoned out a black and a white scimitar.

"Only when you truly grasp and master the concepts here and that manual, will you have the ability to make your own Sword Arts."

Ming's chi started to emanate through the mountains. A spiral of black and white chi burnt through his body and melted the snow around him.

Jin knew that his Gramps meant business.

Chapter 873 Training A Panda

Just as the chi flowed out of Ming, it gradually returned back to him as well. The two weapons that he was holding combined into one black and white plastic-looking scimitar. "Get up. We do not have time to waste."

Ming ordered as he swirled the newly formed blade around. "Your objective is to make me use my ultimate form. Pressure me with what you have learned so far and don't hold back!"

"I won't be giving you any concession. If you die by my plastic scimitar then you only have yourself to blame. You should be ashamed till you beat me to clear those sins." Ming stated as the winter winds on top of the mountain began to whistle into their ears.

Jin stood up and prepared his stance by transmuting Bam and Boo to his waist. Yet, his sword was still within his scabbard and ready to be pulled out in a moment's notice. The very same technique as laido, a quick sword draw, responding to a sudden attack. Jin did not learn this smooth controlled movement without difficulty.

Zeru had pushed him to his limits to get it right. From the speed of his draw, the placement of his feet to the correct push from his muscles. A lot of it came with muscle memory and extremely rigid rote memory to boot. Even now, Jin could feel Zeru staring at Jin's back checking for the slightest mistake.

"Oh, I see. laido. The Sword Saint has taught you enough for my training to be two times more effective." Ming praised his grandson as he raised his plastic toy looking scimitar. "But it will also be two times more difficult for you to pass," Gramps added before starting to run towards Jin.

"Seriously? Just a straight on attack? Is he copying my method? Is it a feint or is thinking that way the diversion?" Jin thought to himself as he activated his Inverse Eyes. For some reason ever since Wang Ba Tan's assault, his Inverse Eyes started to act a little weird.

Fortunately, they behaved weirdly in a good way. It could predict the way his opponent moved, and that was how Jin had been able to evade most of the attacks. There was a slight change in the atmosphere which he could detect where it was coming from and thus allowing him to adjust his action.

Even when Wang Ba Tan was about to hit him, there were future apparitions that would hint ever so slightly where the attack was coming from. However, when used on Ming, Jin could not even see a trace of it.

He wondered if it was because it was a one-time thing with Wang Ba Tan, a restricted use which refreshed after a certain period of time or if Ming was simply on a different level compared to the Banned Emperor Elder.

Without the assistance of his newly improved power, Jin decided to rely on his training that Zeru had drilled into him as he tightened his form and waited for the right time to strike Ming down. Maybe, just maybe Ming was testing how strong he was with this first strike and would handle him depending on his level. Whatever the case, Jin was not going to let his grandfather down.

Once Ming entered the range of his laido strike, Jin flashed his sword and realised Ming clumsily fell down in the direction where it was out of the range from laido's strike. Jin was surprised and wanted to follow up a second strike instead of returning his sword back to scabbard.

But instead of hitting Ming, a blade slash suddenly hit his shoulder and ran down to his chest.

"How did...?" Jin, stunned by the slash, decided to move backwards. Unfortunately, he had underestimated the power behind the attack. The slash was deep and strong enough to break his vampiric bones and spill his guts out.

Now all Jin could do was lie on the ground and wait for his eventual death and reset. "Bad choice. You should not overextend your attacks. Had you returned back to your original laido stance, you would have received a lighter wound." Ming lectured Jin as he recovered himself from the ground, patting away the snow on his body.

Yet, Jin was there breathing in pain and simultaneously feeling scared. His partially detached heart from the attack was pumping blood furiously out in the open, dying the snow with dark red colour.

When Jin thought about it, there was not even any time for him to activate his 'Perfectly Normal' parry slash, which was one of his most-used skills in a close combat fight. There were many a time, he managed to stop Zeru's fast blade with that skill during their training. This time, Jin had been unable to see that plastic toy scimitar coming forth but just a slight tinge of chi in the air.

"This feeling of death... can't say I've missed it!" Jin thought to himself as he tried to use his Maqi to recover himself. The Astral Panda Cultivator knew that he could reset his life in this plane of subconsciousness without any problem. But if he relied too much on that, he might get careless in the future when outside.

And carelessness was not something he could afford if his life was at stake.

Thus, Jin placed all his Maqi that he could muster into the legendary recovery inscription charm knowing even more hurt and pain would grip his mind and body in this particular metaphysical plane.

"I see. So, you have a way to recover yourself even from such a severe wound. Do you want me to wait for you to recover or do you want to continue in this state?" Ming questioned as he rested the plastic-looking scimitar on his shoulders and swayed his body.

"Just a second..." Jin asked for a 'break' when his training had barely begun. For the first time, he finally saw how the legendary recovery inscription charm worked with the covering of his skin. There were literal worms- nay, leeches that started to crawl out of the inscription charm and started to cover Jin.

Only instead of sucking blood away from Jin, they were actually providing Jin with blood, and some of them were even grouping together tightly. To his surprise, he could see that the leeches were metamorphosing into blood vessels and even organs. The old vampiric bones infused with his own were also doing their magic working in tandem with the leeches, regrowing and heal the fractures together.

"No wonder it's always this painful." Jin was curious why the inscription charm and bones had also been replicated in this particular plane of subconsciousness. Unlike his sword, these were supposedly added on traits into his body and not something he should have been born with.

"Ah, whatever... I can't think with all this pain. Just focus on handling it." Jin thought to himself as he finally could stifle the pain from within and shouted at the top of his (damaged) lungs.

"At this rate, there is no way you will die if you have enough time to hide. Heck, you do not even need to worry about sickness." Ming remarked as he squatted down and observed the recovery process in real time.

Chapter 874 Clumsiness Is a Form of Ar

"How the hell were you able to do that slash without me realising it? You were faster than my laido! Even my Inverse Eyes were not able to catch a glimpse of your attack." Jin asked while healing. All that pain he suffered caused him to sweat profusely despite the cold weather. Not to mention his shirt was stained with blood and a gaping hole in the middle of it, making him colder (and to a certain degree, painful) with the winds blowing through his wounds.

"Panda Sword Arts. Although, to be more precise, what I showed you was the actual essence of being a Panda User." Ming explained after he sat down and occasionally poked at Jin's wounds to see if the leeches would react to it.

To his surprise, the leeches did by starting to suck his blood to use as nourishment to help their host recover. He decided to entertain them by allowing the leeches to do whatever they pleased. (Especially since those leeches would not stop until they have enough of his blood.)

"Have you ever seen a Panda ...be rigid in its life?" Ming asked, and Jin carefully shook his head without causing pain to his closing wounds.

"It's always lazy, clumsy and wants to play whenever possible, right? Like heck, I remembered a guy got taken down with a grapple by a Panda smaller than his size because he intruded his enclosure. And that Panda merely slept on him, thinking he was some pillow." Ming recounted an incident, waiting for the nod from Jin with regards to his initial question.

"So as Panda Cultivators, we naturally have to be like this too."

"You being lazy? Please, I think you'd rather die than be lazy. Whenever you came home from work, you always were busy with something. Mowing the lawn, repairing stuff around the house or simply cultivating. Anything you could find, to avoid sitting around and watch TV like a normal person! The only exception was on weekends, and even then you only did so as some sort of reward after training me." Jin reminded him, and Ming laughed.

"Hahahah! You are not wrong. I did not mean your way of life in general, but just how you fight against your enemy." Ming specified as he stood up and started to show a few martial moves without his scimitar.

When Jin watched his grandfather's demonstration, it was obvious that the way he moved was strikingly similar to the Drunken Fist martial style.

"Don't tell me the Drunken Fist originated from Panda Cultivators?" Jin could not have made that connection since most of these cultivators were from the Shaolin Temple.

"Not exactly. From what I discovered the roots of those Drunken Fist Styles were actually from a Shaolin Monk who observed a Panda after it accidentally drank wine. That stupid Panda had noticed the bamboo wine container and assuming it was more food, it greedily grabbed from the monk and ate the entirety of it all. Afterwards it started fighting other creatures and that monk emulated what he saw... well, the rest is history." Ming explained.

"Eh...I do not think that really answers the original question." Jin said as he tried to sit up slowly.

"Just a fair fun tidbit, but not entirely out of topic. Just like the Drunken Fist utilises unusual body movements to catch their opponents off guard, the true essence of Panda Sword Arts utilise the characteristics of the Panda. We deliberately get clumsy to fight, and you can say we are basically the antithesis of the Sword Saint." Ming told Jin as he finished his martial art demonstration.

"Zeru aims for precision and perfection as you would expect from a Sword Saint, but we should be clumsy to throw the opponent's conventional prediction out of the fighting ring and win the fight. They are bound by rules, but we set the rules with our own fighting style."

His Gramps said as he kicked up his scimitar and repeated the very same demonstration with his blade. This time, Jin could vaguely see silhouettes of a Panda all around Ming's body as he executed the moves with his scimitar.

"That is why I told you that this training would be two times more effective because you've been taught perfect basics from the Sword Saint. And two times more difficult for you to learn since you will essentially relearn most of it, to be able to deliberately behave clumsy."

After performing the very same attack which he hit Jin with, he fell to the ground as part of the demonstration. There was actually another vague silhouette left behind to perform the strike making the Astral Panda Cultivator aware of how he had been injured.

It was as if Ming's body was the diversion, making his chi and sword art the actual deal. "If you manage to master this, you will finally get to use your Astral Form to its utmost potential. It will be extremely useful."

Even without Ming's remark, Jin could already predict how useful it would be. "Haha... just 'complement' well? This is the real deal." Jin thought to himself as he watched Ming come up from the floor effortlessly. There was no wasted movement despite how clunky he seemed.

He later proceeded to sway his body and trip even though there was nothing there that would cause him to fall at all. Now, Jin has a grasp of what Ming meant by deliberate falling.

"You cannot act clumsy. You cannot preempt clumsy. You have to BE clumsy. Not only do you have to learn how to break the falls, but also learning to read the opponent's actions so that it would counteract against their conventional thinking and reflexes." Ming stressed as he showed how there were no bruises or cuts despite the falls he had made, and this made Jin understand that it was easier than done.

"It might be easier if you have an actual panda to mimic, but right now, you have to settle for me," Ming added.

"Hahaha, maybe if we put some black spots on the White Tiger, he might be of some use." Jin joked, and Ming laughed as he went towards the tiger and pulled its face.

"This guy has been so lazy he might even put pandas to shame, but clumsy? He probably would have to put in way more effort than all of us combined to do what a panda does." Ming got in on the joke as he rubbed the tiger's head who merely let out a light growl of protest before moving its resting spot to the wooden bench.

At this point, Jin started to get up as the wound closing was more or less bearable. He suddenly felt that he understood his cultivation more than just refining his abilities. Maybe that was why even repeated reading of the cultivation manual, continuous meditation in his spare time and going through near-death encounters had not increased his current Grade.

With a better clarity of mind, Jin picked his sword up and decided to face Ming. He knew that his grandfather was a person who did not teach with grace and patience. Everything he wished to learn would have to be gained on the field itself and from there, his grandfather would give the necessary advice allowing him to improve.

If anything, Jin was aware that overcoming this particular huddle could be one of the hardest portions of his cultivation journey.

Chapter 875 Not Waking Up

"Why is he still not awake? I know for sure that I have helped you transfer a shit load of mana into his circuits! I have better things to do with my time, you know?!" Peppers threw her manga book down and complained as she was stuck on a more advanced blood transfusion machine which Qiu Yue had bought after learning of their leader's situation.

She and Lynn had gathered funds from their individual Sub Systems and invested in specialised medical equipment for the Luxury Recovery Instance's ICU (Intensive Care Unit.) Initially, Jin and Pei had agreed

on creating a series of ICU rooms in case of fatal chi injuries, but the equipment was still pretty basic since no one was using them after the System's proper calibration of the Dungeon instance.

Later, the instance had swiftly been designated as a temporary medical outpost, and Jin had even ordered boxes of basic medical supplies and equipment for the Huizhou evacuation in case of trouble. It was meant for patients to get admitted before they would be assessed and triaged.

With the System as part of the medical analysis team, the Panda Nurses would have judged whether they could be treated on the spot or be sent to hospitals for specialised treatment.

That was why Pei and Milk initially used basic blood transfusion kits because they were part of the medical supplies that Jin had bought beforehand.

"Is there any progress in his diagnosis?" Lynn asked as Pei was still at the side of his bed, looking extremely haggard. She was notably reluctant to bring him to see a proper doctor specialist mainly because it was her fault that she had left him alone with the System.

Not to mention how she predicted that most doctors would say it would be better to pull the 'plug' and let him off. Because if it was up to her, she would have done the same if not for Jin being the System's User. What's more, the hospital doctors were bound to discover the abnormalities in his physique that she placed into Jin were more valuable than any current medical equipment available on the market. The Dungeon Supplier could have easily been turned into a guinea pig for the government in his current state.

"Both of his chi and mana circuits have mostly been repaired. It turned out to be a good thing that I had strengthened his body a while ago. However, it is weird that Jin continues to be in an unconscious state. I did feel some weird fluctuations in the brain waves during the first day as if he was panicking from something...but since then... It had remained normal." Pei filled her in as she was dying to do something more to ensure that Jin had not been reduced to a vegetative state.

However, it was Kraft who had explicitly ordered that no one was to touch him after checking up on him for a moment. Instead, they should just continue to rotate around the chi and mana insertion and ensure that his circuits would be well repaired. "Trust me on this. He will wake up, it's just a matter of time."

And unlike Kraft who could wander around without any worries, people with high social status had been coming to the shop to ask for Jin. Naturally, Yun rejected all of them no matter how important they claimed to be. She also ignored all sorts of threats they hurled her way (the System noted down any offenders). In fact, Hou Fei and Grandma Yuan were also protecting Jin by denying their fellow 'colleagues' from looking further into Jin.

They all repeated that Jin was busy recovering after the battle and had disappeared to his secret hideout to create dungeon instances for his shop. After all, the Chinese New Year holidays were coming.

Alas, the constant harassment from the Demon Exorcists and Military officials had continued to a point where Yun had entertained the idea of letting Kraft go deal with them (as non violent as he saw fit). Among the 'repeat offenders' were Ke Loong, his business partner and the State Agents.

Sadly, Ryuli left almost immediately upon learning that Jin was not available. She was not interested in experiencing any of the dungeons even though Mr Know-It-All wholeheartedly recommended them. (Especially the Deep One Escape City Dungeon Instance)

However, before she left, she did call Mr Know-It-All a liar since he promised that Jin would be at the shop after the Monster Horde Defence.

After a week of nothing but rejections, people finally believed that Jin had really disappeared to make some special dungeon instance and with promises to come back later, the Sub System Users could only buy that much time for their Boss.

"Isn't it weird that there are still no new Dark Sludge Crystals coming from him? Usually, Jin would have filled this whole room with Sludge Crystals." Milk tried to lighten the mood as she sat on a cushion at the side of the ICU, recuperating from the donation of mana.

"I was wondering the same, and that is why I am worried." Lynn acknowledged the observation Milk brought up and was hoping that Pei knew anything about it.

"The more unusual thing is the creation of them in the first place. We have all been through cultivation, and we know that there might be times where we would shed a layer of skin like a snake. Or grow slightly prettier because our chi circuits became cleaner. However, for him to throw out this much 'dirty chi' is pretty much abnormal behaviour." Pei tried to discern the nature of that.

"Maybe because he had been throwing out a ton of dirty chi also means that his storage might actually be way more than a regular person's ability to handle chi. That could be the reason why we felt that the chi and mana that we were pouring in seemed to be going to an abyssal pit." Pei theorised as she started to stand up and walk around the room for a moment.

"Then perhaps...he's also using this period of unconscious time to regain what he lost." The Crane Cultivator added as she picked up the phone and started to dial for the Panda Nurses. "Yes, it's me. Mind bringing a box of chi potions here? No, the new ones that the researcher made."

"That researcher?" Qiu Yue did not understand who Pei was talking about until she saw the wooden crate of specially stored chi potions. "Oh, so you meant Yu Xiang, the researcher that Jin hired to replicate the System's chi potions?"

"Yes, she came in a day ago, wanting to show Jin her results as part of a Chinese New Year surprise but we told her the same convenient excuse as everyone. She had actually managed to make a chi potion similar to the System's demands." Pei explained.

"As I recall, it was a project meant for us to mass-produce them in the future to avoid relying on the System's reliance on the Black Market. From what I have learnt, the prices started to increase rather drastically ever since Jin requested the System to buy a ton of them." Qiu Yue reasoned.

"Exactly. That Yu Xiang is truly a genius lass. I personally tried one bottle since she had already brought them over. The quality might be the same as the ones the System bought, but the chi effects are longer lasting than the System's inferior goods. It actually prompts the Dantian Core to produce chi. I plan to put this on a hydration cycle for Jin and dilute it with some basic mana potion. Let's hope this will fill his

bottomless pit and get him back up for work." Pei told them as she already started to take one of the potions out.

"Does that mean that I can get this needle out of my arm?" Peppers felt left out by the conversation.

"What? No. You are connected to the universe pool of Mana. There is no way you are coming out of that seat until Jin wakes up. Milk has already overdone it, and I don't want to have to treat her as well!" Pei stressed as she wore a pair of gloves and set up a drip stand with the chi potion on hand.

"But you just said that you are using basic mana pots." Peppers argued, feeling frustrated.

"What are you talking about? You are the basic mana potion!" Both Milk and Qiu Yue said at the same time which made Lynn and Pei laugh, causing Peppers to roll her eyes and heaved a 'brrrrrr' sound out.

Chapter 876 Falling, Failing

Time was not a factor in Jin's plane of subconsciousness as Ming and the White Tiger alternated training Jin in his inelegant swordplay. At first, he was embarrassed trying to behave clunkily, but that made him suffer even more wounds from Ming.

Only after he started to grasp the movements did Ming decide to take a break and let the White Tiger train with him. Unlike humans, the White Tiger was able to 'play' with Jin using grapples, knockdowns and tussles which made it harder for Jin to execute his fakeout attacks and he had to be more creative in actively avoiding them while performing the clumsy rolls.

What Ming had told him turned out to be true. Zeru's teaching about posture made it all the harder for him to forget since it was trained deep into his muscle memory. Thus, to speed Jin's learning process, Ming had secretly manipulated the plane to put in stones and sticks within the snow.

This would make the falling and trips slightly easier for Jin while he learned how to utilise his Maqi to project his Astral Form out for an attack. "Trust me, you have it WAYYYYYY easier than me. Like I did not even have an Astral Form to project my attacks much less anyone to guide me. I had to cultivate my chi to do it by myself. Me giving you that perfected Panda Cultivation Manual is already providing a handicap."

"Yeah, but you had years to come up with and practice it while I only have what? Hours? Days? At most a week or two! I am worried the System and the others are already facing the backlash of the Monster Horde without me at the helm." Jin complained as the White Tiger pounced forward.

Jin was able to gracelessly fall to the ground and perform an Astral Projection Attack, but the White Tiger used its tail to slap Jin on his balls before evading the Projection attack too. By now the West Cardinal Demon had adapted to him and started to feint his own attacks better than Jin which made his training even harder.

"Oooh. That hurts just watching it." Ming giggled while ignoring Jin's worries as he saw his grandson trying to breathe through the pain. The Tiger had no human sympathy for a person being hit in the balls. As long as it saw an opportunity, it would take it and strike mercilessly.

And as expected, neither Ming nor the White Tiger gave Jin any breaks in between, causing him to train ceaselessly. The only time he was allowed to take a breather was when the wounds he suffered from were major and required much time to regenerate.

In one instance, the White Tiger nearly decapitated Jin's head, and it was barely hanging with the left side of the skin intact. Ming had to use his chi to keep Jin's heart pumping and ensure there was a blood vessel connection to his brain while he healed. He could have let him and resurrect but Jin's pleading gaze had made it clear that the dungeon supplier would rather suffer now than take the easy path.

All this intense training and punishing pain brutally strengthened Jin's mental concept of physical toughness while he got the hang of the Panda Style. His Astral Form got even more potent as time went by. Considering there was no night and day unless Ming deemed it appropriate for training, Jin had lost sense of all time. (Usually, it's the System that reminded him of things.)

For night training, Jin fought with Ming in absolute darkness as his current mentor changed the landscape to a snowy forested area. Unlike daytime training where Ming would help Jin with obstacles, the forested area his grandpa had created was ever-changing. The rocks, trees and slippery snow was more of a hindrance to Jin, forcing Jin to finetune his movements so that whenever he moved, it would be gracefully clunky.

To make matters worse, Ming also added traps which he would intentionally lure Jin into, further increasing the difficulty for his grandson. And as if that was not bad enough, his grandfather also blindfolded after he seemingly got used to the advanced training. Naturally more cuts, bruises and bite wounds from the White Tiger helped turn Jin into a deadly combat specialist.

However, all these appeared like child's play compared to his final test. Ming teleported Jin to the very same black concrete inner hall where he had fought against Wang Ba Tan.

With a quick glance, Jin already saw his final exam question staring right in front of him. The silhouette was more than enough to discern who he was. "You must be kidding me. How did you get him here?"

"It wasn't that hard. This version is based on your memories, and I asked Kraft for some samples of his stats and attributes some time ago. This representation is not as powerful as the real deal, but it's more than enough for you to have a hard time against." Ming explained as he lit up the whole black hall and they found Zeru replica with his long yellow hair intact.

"I suppose that means his strength is above the one he used to drill me last time?" Jin asked, but before he could get a reply, a slashing shockwave zipped by him without any warning. To this particular Zeru's replica, his opponent was right in front of him, and there was no obligation to wait.

Ming clearly did not need to answer that question anymore as he stepped backwards and summoned the very same wooden bench he had used in the mountains. The White Tiger also sat on it while staring at the impending fight.

"Welp. Here goes nothing!"

After days and days of training his whole body was filled with superficial scars. Not to mention, he was left half-naked with bloodstained tattered pants since he had been wounded time and time again throughout the training. As a consolation, he had full access to his Inverse Eyes in this fight.

He decided to run straight towards Zeru, just like how Ming had done against him. With their roles seemingly reversed, he noticed that Zeru similarly took on the laido stance Jin had previously performed. The Sword Saint's chi coursed through his body and Jin knew how powerful Zeru was... it would be instant death if he got so much as grazed by this replica's attack.

However, with all the Panda training Jin had done with Ming and the White Tiger, he now had confidence that his cultivation style was indeed an antithesis to all weapon specialists.

Chapter 877 Astral Panda Projections

Replica Zeru performed his laido slash, yet Jin was able to dodge it in time since he remembered his sensei's timing by heart and the replica behaved true to its name.

At that moment he dodged, Jin performed a fall which indeed prompted Zeru to overextend his attack range, and that was when Jin initiated the Astral Form Slash after his fall. The projection of his Maqi appeared almost instantly doing a straight cut right after Zeru missed his target by a few centimetres.

Alas, it would have been too easy if that was the end of it. The replica managed to block the surprise Astral attack, but that was when Jin decided to push for a follow up strike.

However, Replica Zeru had not dismissed Jin despite the diversion of a second opponent. The replica was merely slightly confused that he had to block a sudden strike from a black and white sparkling silhouette that disappeared momentarily after that.

A stab from the bottom caused Replica Zeru to move aside and use his scabbard to block the attack but somehow Jin "accidentally" dropped his weapon. This greatly threw off Zeru's reflexes as a different black and white astral silhouette stabbed Zeru from a slightly different position. Possibly only a change in a five-degree angle from where Jin dropped his sword.

While Zeru once again managed to move away from the attack, he did not get out unharmed. That stab managed to scrape his elbow, causing a light wound which hindered his arm movements a little.

"Nice, +1 point for aiming at the nerves. If he moved the other way around, your silhouette would have gone for his armpit, and that would have been worse for him." Ming commented from the side and accompanied it with a clap. The tiger even gave a low happy growl as if to approve his training partner's efforts.

"You are taking points for this?!" Jin didn't think his grandfather was serious on a 'final exam' duel. And yet that moment of distraction was what Zeru needed to throw his scabbard into Jin's face.

But thankfully, after fighting blindfolded and in the dark, Jin placed some Maqi in his hands that made him slip intentionally rather than dodging outright, and this gave the Astral Panda Cultivator the opportunity to project another Astral form to attack. (As if Jin needed to fulfil a requirement to project the Astral images but no, it was to complement his attacks.)

And yet all of his attacks were actually part of the basic Panda Sword Styles. Technically speaking, as long as a cultivator was using chi with his weapon to attack, it's already considered as a basic Weapon Style. (Even if it was just imbuing the weapon as that itself requires basic knowledge of transferring chi energy into it.)

So for each Astral Projection that popped up, it's basically Jin utilising a basic Panda Sword Style mainly because the silhouette that appeared looked exactly like a Panda holding onto a sword.

If any of his regulars were to see him, they might think that Captain Hei had been fused with Jin or even believe that those Panda Captains were incidentally part of Jin.

The Replica Zeru might not be affected by the Panda Astral Silhouette since it's reconstructed for battle, but against other cultivators, both Ming and Jin believed that its size (and to a certain extent it's cuteness) would be adequate enough distraction to gain an advantage over the opponent. And that was important since a moment of diversion was all a fighter needs to have the upper hand to win the fights.

And as Jin continued his duel with Zeru, he did not feel as pressured as the time he duelled against Zeru for one last time before the underground boxed up cellar was officially opened by Claire.

Jin utilised all he had learnt fighting against a Cardinal Beast as well as Ming who had comparable years of experience. Though he would not be thanking them for all the near-death experiences, it was definitely helpful to learn how to overcome them. Not forgetting what Zeru had taught him, Jin had also utilised his skills and projected them via the Astral Panda silhouettes. And sometimes the fight they were in made it look like Zeru was fighting with a cultivator with his pet Panda instead.

"Advanced Panda Sword Art, Bamboo Sword Rain!" Jin shouted as he slammed his sword on Zeru's wooden sword and immediately put his weight on the other side of his body causing him to roll to his enemy's back with the aid of Panda Tumbling.

At that point, Replica Zeru was prepared to defend himself from an aerial attack since the Astral Panda Cultivator called out Bamboo Rain.

But to his surprise, Bamboos were shot out from the ground and pierced his left foot without warning. Zeru managed to evade for the second one that aimed for his intact foot and immediately unleashed a large chi slash on the ground to counter Jim's Bamboo Sword Rain.

...Only to realise that the Astral projection of Pandas holding swords started to rain from above and aimed for Zeru.

Even as Zeru blocked one of the Astral Panda projections, another one came too close for comfort. It was to the point where the replica had to remove the wooden shaft and pull out his real sword.

Once shifted to dual wielding, he could block and dissipate every single metaphysical Astral projection, but he did not realise that there was a second part to the attack.

The Bamboo shoots that grew eventually were rooted out and held by more Panda Astral Projections and this time. It was Jin sending the Maqi into them. Each of them imbued with some form of element, they charged towards the replica at lightning speeds.

Immediately, a whirlwind of lotus flowers emerged from the centre of the conflict, and it pushed all of the Astral Pandas away. For Zeru to resort to using a Sword Art meant that Jin had managed to push the replica to a certain limit.

Still, that was what Jin was waiting for.

"PANDA YAWNING!" Jin yawned really loudly, releasing a large amount of Maqi which he had accumulated over time. For some reason, he felt that his Maqi generation got better as his training days passed.

Ming believed that his body had been healing rather well and his caretakers were already taking into consideration his mana and chi consumption such that they pumped enough for Jin to perform his Panda Yawning technique.

In the meantime, with all that trickery, Zeru decided to not bother evading and take the blast head-on. Jin did not expect this course of action but was delighted that his mentor had done so.

Mainly because the Panda Yawning technique he used was not the usual energy beam. Instead, it was actually a series of Astral Projections being compressed into a single beam.

Jin had initially planned for Zeru to evade, allowing the Panda Astral Projections to make a roundabout and return to attack from his back. But since he was taking the hit, the Panda Astral Projections were damaging him consecutively.

For Replica Zeru, Jin believed there was no way he could withstand such an attack head-on.

But he was dead wrong.

Zeru blew it all away with yet another slash filled with lotus flowers spreading across the air and looked angrily at Jin. In the next moment, more lotus flower petals started to appear around Zeru, and the radius widened.

"Okay, that's enough." Ming clapped once and suddenly the replica dissipated into thin air.

"Huh, why?" Jin asked as he was still able to fight since he had yet to suffer any serious injury.

"You will die if I let him continue. Trust me, you don't ever want to be on the receiving end of what he was about to do. Come to think of it, he might not have been the best enemy to be reconstructed for your test." Ming meant that Jin managed to pass Zeru's threshold, which caused him to move to the next level.

"Does that mean I pass?" Jin asked and Ming nodded his head with a smile.

"No rewards though. Just permission to leave this place for now. I believe I held you hostage long enough for it to be an interesting scene when you reach back." Ming's grin started to resemble Kraft's.

"Wait, what?! What about that ultimate form promise?!" Before Jin could get an answer, he was flung back to the real world.

"Nah! Was kidding about that, hehe! Don't forget to check out the video I was talking about!" Ming's voice turned into an echo for Jin who felt his subconscious plane fading away.

Chapter 878 Time Lost Can Never Be Returned

His eyes were heavy with the rheum that had accumulated throughout his sleep. His arms were aching when he tried to remove the dried up mucus and Jin felt as if he had been chained down for a very long time.

Only after rubbing his eyes did Jin start to realise that his body was incredibly dull and ...damp?! "Oh shit..." Jin thought to himself as he noticed that it was not just him but the entire place which had been flooded with the dark sludge liquid.

It was even more viscous compared to his original iteration, but it was obvious that it was leaking not just around his bed, but it actually broke the door and glass of the room that he was residing in.

"JIN!" Peppers shouted angrily as she popped her head out of the room's window. "THAT HURTS!" The little girl Bellator shouted as she wiped the dark sludge away from her face.

"Oh but this is comedy gold!" Peppers laughed while pointing downwards. As the Dungeon Supplier was strapped to his bed, he could not clearly see what was happening.

"Shut up!" Milk argued in a disgusted voice as she stood up all drenched in her sleepwear.

"Who asked you to change into your sleepwear? You are totally translucent now. So baggy! Ahahaha!" Peppers continued making fun of her, but Milk showed no mercy and grabbed her.

"Sheeesh! Better than the flat slopes that you have!" Milk replied while grinding her fist on top of Peppers' head.

"That was really unexpected..." Pei started to remove the formerly white (but now dark chocolate colour) coat and threw it on the floor.

"Oh hey... Ladies?" Jin felt something similar to an impending doom when Pei walked closer to him as she folded her shirt sleeves up. But instead of a punch or slap, she actually performed her role as a physician and merely checked his vitals and some other parameters.

"Everything seems to be in order," Pei concluded after the last step of the checkup in which she shone light into Jin's eyes. "Looks like you finally returned. Well, it's been long enough." Pei heaved out a sigh of relief while trying to remove some of the stains.

Not before long, Panda Cleaners started to come in and whiff away all the sludge out of the room while Peppers and Milk decided to return back to their respective rooms for a much needed change of clothes, leaving Pei with Jin alone.

"How long have I been out?" Jin asked as he felt his body was stuck on the bed mainly because of the dark sludge overflow.

"It's been decades. At first, the girls stayed at your site, but eventually they had to move on with your life. It took Lynn about 15 years, whereas Qiu Yue stayed here by your side for 4. Nevertheless, both managed to live comparatively happy lives afterwards. Unfortunately, they are no longer with us." Pei answered nonchalantly, but Jin had his jaw dropped.

"No way! You are kidding, right? I don't think that I passed out that long." Jin refused to believe what he had just heard and tried to look around for his phone, but it was nowhere to be found.

"We have kept your store going, but after around two years, the customers stopped coming. They could somehow tell that the new instances we introduced lacked the charm of previous versions. Without you, the monsters could not give it their all, so it had to be closed down. Similarly it felt wrong to open up Pandapolis without you, so it hasn't been used. The only relief you have is the Demon Metropolis.

Although that place has been repeatedly invaded because of the new tech we had introduced. So not much left there either." Pei listed everything while checking her nails.

The Panda Cleaner picked her coat up, (now all white again thanks to Panda System Magic) and Pei stuck her hand into one of the pockets, picking out his phone.

Jin was sitting in the sick bed in awe and could not believe the date on his phone. The timestamp was eighty years from now, and he did not know whether to tear from the fact. "Then the System kept me alive here for these eighty years?" Jin asked.

"You've achieved a miracle by allowing the System to improve its processing capabilities for the first time in centuries. There was barely anyone that had ever done something like that, and the System believes that you could continue to do so as long as you are kept alive. Speaking of, there's also the problem, that you are now the only original Panda Clan Member remaining. All the more reason for it to keep you around." Pei shared while she began to unbutton her clothes when the Panda Cleaner gave her a new set of fresh clothes.

"Before they left, the System convinced the Sub System Users to part with some of their eggs in a cryofreeze compartment. I, however, recommend you to fertilise them all. Especially since they possessed Sub Systems of their own. Who knows what special genes they might have once the System modified their body to take on the Sub System modules." Pei suggested as she went to a corner and pulled the curtains so that she could change.

"I..." Jin was at a loss of words, and he ignored the Panda Cleaner's presence. The cleaners had to pull him out of the bed because of his sudden shock and changed everything except for the monitoring wires that were still on him.

"Any preferences on who I should start with? Unfortunately, the System was unable to get the genes of the Tiger Princes. No, it would be more appropriate to call her Ex Tiger Queen. It's too bad because her firstborn daughter had led the Royal Tigers to another Golden Age, even more so than herself." Pei literally threw her dirty clothes out of the way and wore new ones.

"I am not choosing! If anything, I will continue with my work." Jin stated as he leaned on the wall for support.

"You sure? It might be best to try to have offspring before it's too late. Not sure how much your body can handle. This room has been set to dilate time, but that doesn't mean your body hasn't aged at all." Pei asked for a confirmation, but Jin shook his head.

"I am sure. Just give me some time to process all this information." Jin pleaded. He didn't know how long it would take him to adjust to the new norm.

... fortunately, he wouldn't have to find out.

"See? I told you, that's how he would react! Even up until the end, he prioritises work!" A familiar voice was overheard from the broken windows and then a mix of giggling and sighs.

"Well, if you had let this play out for a day or two, he might have changed his mind." Pei shrugged her shoulders when she came out from the curtains.

"Wait...wait, wait! Wait a minute! So, it was ALL a prank? Pei played a prank on me?" Jin's brain was unable to understand this change. He could only conclude that he had been bamboozled once Qiu Yue and Lynn emerged from their hiding spot, waving their hands even though they were equally drenched in Jin's dark sludge.

"Pei decided to have some revenge on you for making us all worry." Qiu Yue confessed with a smirk.

"Welcome back." Lynn bowed a little with a tinge of happiness in her heart and a small tear in the corner of her eye.

Chapter 879 Imposter?!

"Wait, so you were all in on this? OIII, System is that why you have kept quiet all this while?" Jin questioned in annoyance but got no answer. He waited for the girls to also change clothes before continuing their conversation.

"They thought it would fun to make you go cray cray once in a while." Qiu Yue apologised as she quietly checked if she still had any odour from the sludge on her.

"Cray Cray?" Pei did not know what that was and could only assume the meaning behind it.

"Crazy. A slight slang." Lynn explained as she typed a message for her penguins to bring some food to Jin's usual dinner table. That table was left empty in their house for a very long time. (Definitely not eighty years long!)

"System agreed to Bellator Pei's idea since there was a 54.79% chance that faced with his own mortality and the passage of time, the User would start to be more proactive in procuring the next generation. Any attempts to wake User had been unsuccessful, even the non subtle ones." The System spoke out while the whole group teleported to Jin's house.

Everything was the same as it is as if there was no change.

"What do you mean with non subtle ones?!" Jin asked as he started to check on his body. All he knew there were still needle wounds all over his arms, and that was where it ached the most.

"Nothing much to be honest." Pei answered as she was the first to pull the chair out and sat down as if her burdens were lifted away from her. "I first tried to make you regain by inserting chi in specific points of your body.

After it failed, I tried the same with acupuncture, and even an aromatherapy hoping that certain smells would wake you up. Without any progress, we tried a more modern version by electrocuting you a few times, hoping to excite your brain waves while not short circuiting your heart."

"And you dare to say it so calmly!" Jin could not believe what he heard and decided to dismiss it since he knew there was no use pondering over it. "So how long was I really out? It honestly feels like it was yesterday to me, but it might just as well have been more than a month."

"Your timing is impeccable. You sure, you didn't plan this out? Today's actually Chinese New Year's Eve. Well, just the start that is." Qiu Yue pulled her phone out, and it showed 00:23. Jin quickly checked his phone, and the timing had been synchronised properly.

"Gosh. That means I was out for nearly two weeks or so." Jin realised as he sat at the end of the table. Soon the penguins arrived, all delighted to see their master was well once more. They had no idea that he was out cold for such a long time and believed what Kraft and the others had said about him being wounded and resting.

Only after the penguins had left, Lynn decided to fill him in and not reveal the truth of the matter to his minions. "... So, we inadvertently told them that you were hidden away in some secluded place to recuperate and create the new dungeon instances for this upcoming Chinese New Year Holiday."

"Should the System inform Panda Remnant Hou Fei and past Sub System User Yuan about your recovery or does the User prefer being the bearer of good news?" The System asked as it knew that there were a lot of things Jin had to do because of their white lies. While they knew about Jin's condition, the System felt Jin would need some time to adjust.

"Let's leave that matter for later. Jin is finally awake, and we should use the time together to have the mini celebration for Jin's recovery first. Besides, I am really hungry now that I know Jin's okay. Not to mention Jin, who hasn't had enough to eat for all that time." Qiu Yue commented, and the rest felt the same way too. They all felt as if a heavy load had been lifted off their shoulders since all the signs of Jin being unresponsive had been way too abnormal.

"Don't count us out!" Peppers suddenly chimed in as she came running down the stairs, nearly tumbling over one missed step. Milk had to hold onto the back of her shirt to prevent her from falling flat on her face.

"Same here, after giving Jin so much of my blood, I need some food here. But hehe, at least I know I am now one with Jin." Milk said with a blush until she got kicked by Peppers in the stomach. Though it was not that painful, it was surprising that Peppers had learned a trick or two from the Monk class Bellator.

"You little rascal! Is this how you repay me after saving you from falling flat on the ground?! Yo- Ooof!" Now another kick to her face which nearly made Milk react with a punch/slap but Jin intervened in time by dragging Peppers away.

"My blood is equally as much as yours in him. It disgusts me knowing that! For the Demonic Sag-Mmhmmm." Peppers' mouth was stuffed with a drumstick which immediately pacified her.

"Milk, be a good elder sister. Forgive and forget. She helped you too when you nearly fainted after throwing too much mana into Jin, right?" Pei reminded her and Milk had no choice but to let the little rascal get away with it this time. Fortunately, that anger simmered down the moment a piece of food went into her mouth, and she fell into the laps of heavenly bliss.

"So, what is all this blood thing that you guys talked about?" Jin asked, and Pei informed him that he had been suffering from Chi Death Syndrome, which was why he had been unconscious.

Moreover, Jin was able to preserve his life because of his unique cultivation.

"Sounds bad enough. Sorry to have made you guys worry so much. Also, got to tell you guys something. Remember how...erm with regards to the Loopa Ooofpa, we couldn't find the summoner?"

"Yeah, we killed all the Banned Emperor lackeys, yet the monster still rampaged on. We looked everywhere but no mastermind who we could have missed." Milk remembered' about the incident.

"Not your fault. Apparently, he was controlling the monster from within." Jin revealed, and the rest looked at him confused. Even the System had certain queries on how he got such a piece of information.

"Oh. Eh fun fact. He fled into me when his life was about to be over. Had to fight him off. Well, I didn't really exactly best him or anything. Things in my subconscious or unconscious...pssh I dun even know which is which. But anyways, they beat them." Jin said, and the rest had problems responding.

"Are you okay Jin? Pei, do you wish to check his psych?" Qiu Yue asked as if she did not know whether Jin was blabbering the truth or still suffering from some unknown side effects from the blood transfusion aftermath.

"I ...am actually a little apprehensive about the situation. Kraft did tell me that Jin had some special plane of subconsciousness which he used to train himself, but I do not exactly know the details. Unlike him, I had mainly focused on defensive psychic usage, so I can't really dive into someone's consciousness. You will have to ask him to do that."

"Why can't you just ask the source?" Jin questioned, and Pei shook her head.

"Trust my patient who came back from a near death experience?"

"More like trusting your boss? Just this once?"

"..." Pei sighed heavily and nodded her head slowly. (Perhaps with good food, her mood has been alleviated just like with the other female bellators?) "Fine, let's assume that it is true. So what actually happened?"

"He invaded my head because there were no psychic or mental defence barriers, thinking that it would be very easy to go through."

"Welp, that's partially my fault," Pei interjected.

"Nah, it's not your fault. I was the one to agree to your request. No one could have known they had a psychic user amongst them." Jin emphasised. "In any case, he thought he could control my body and pretend to be me-" and suddenly everyone went into battle mode. Even Peppers was holding a drumstick as a wand.

"Wait, wait listen. I am myself!" Jin tried to calm the group down, but they were not letting up.

"Kraft. We need you." Pei said as she was unsure whether this was really a ruse or not since there were some things she could not detect.

"For the beautiful and enchanting Pei to call upon me, there must be some - oh, Master you are back." Kraft said and bowed towards Jin. "Had a good time training?"

"That's not the point, he said there was a Banned Emperor Summoner that was inside his psych. We are not sure whether it's him or that Banned Emperor Summoner."

""Seriously guys, if I were a fake, would I be stupid enough to share this story with you all?!" Jin questioned with a stone face.

"How can we believe you? What if you suddenly call out hand tentacles against us?!" Peppers asked and added that maybe Milk might be delighted.

"What?! No! Don't group me like that!" Milk countered.

Kraft immediately walked towards him to size him up and yet Jin was not afraid. He sat back down and ate his supper while Kraft took slow steps and even released a concentrated amount of chi.

Suddenly Jin was back to a dark room with a lightbulb, with a gun pointing at him.

"What has this period of darkness taught you?"

"Thanks to this darkness, it showed me the beauty of light?" Jin joked a little.

The next moment he was back in the kitchen and continued with the meal. The rest hadn't even noticed him disappearing.

"How boring. The Jin you talked to is undoubtedly genuine... though I have to say, you've changed a lot." Kraft stated with a slight relaxed smirk.

Chapter 880 User To System Talk - Part 1

"You noticed?" Jin asked with a weak smile.

"Who do you think I am?" Kraft responded, but the rest had no idea what was going on. "So, do you wish the share with the others?"

"Maybe later? I've kinda been through a lot and would prefer to relax." Jin answered as he continued to munch on some bite-sized snack.

"What is he keeping? What is he keeping?" Peppers asked excitedly with her mouth full of food. "I DEMAND ANSWERS, after everything I've endured for your sake!"

"I also cannot deny that I'm curious." Lynn chuckled. "Peppers at least swallow before speaking, otherwise don't blame me for denying you seconds!" Lynn remarked as she gave the little magician girl a glass of water so she could swallow her food faster.

"Yeah, Jin. You're basically indebted to all of us." Qiu Yue nodded her head towards Pei, who kept quiet and simply chewed her food.

"Talk is cheap, how about a bit of performance instead?" Kraft asked with an even wider smile. He even placed his fingers near No Mercy and Just Business, which indicated to the group that he was serious.

"What? Against you? Forget it. There is no way I am able to defeat you, much less spar with you for more than five seconds." Jin vehemently shook his head.

"Aww, not even if I limit my powers to your level?" Kraft coaxed as he let go off his hand from Just Business and put it up in the air and yet Jin still sternly refused. He knew how crazy strong his bellators were, and it was basically suicide to think of fighting against any of them. At least with Zeru, he had confidence that his master would hold back...

"Jin, no fun! Boo!" Peppers showed a thumbs down and yet that did not incite any feelings inside her master.

"The System is also interested to learn what changes have happened with its User. However, that will have to wait. In User's absence, an outstanding number of issues have piled up and are awaiting input." The System remarked, and Jin was giddily happy inside. Finally, an excuse to keep his newly trained powers a secret a while longer, so he could show them off some other appropriate time.

The rest stopped pestering Jin any further and they continued their mini supper until Jin dismissed himself from the table and returned into the Dungeon Maker.

"Thank you for your help, System. Since we are alone, I wish to have a heart to heart conversation with you." Jin announced as he sipped some Blue Mountain Coffee and laid lazily on his reclining chair.

"While the System does not have a heart per se, System understands the meaning. What does User wish to talk about?" The System queried.

"I wish to close down the store in our world." Jin started his conversation with a shocking revelation, yet instead of arguing the System was quietly computing all sorts of solutions with regards to Jin's decision.

"System predicts such a course of action will result in a profit loss of approximately 27% for this month assuming it will be a gradual decline of business closure instead of an abrupt one."

"I was intending to close it down after a good night's rest as soon as everything was done. Preferably by the end of today instead of tomorrow. Only the dungeon supplier store that is. The rest of the shop instances would remain open." Jin emphasised.

"Does that mean User would like to move the establishment over to the Dungeon World or Goblin World? Perhaps doing a risky move and moving to the Farming World instead?" The System asked, intending to reduce the number of permutations for its solutions.

"Nope. Just a full-on closure." Jin stated, and the System stopped calculating.

"Has User given up on his dream of becoming the Number One Dungeon Supplier?" System asked.

"Not really, but judging from the current situation, it appears that the shop and I have been tangled into loads of unwanted political stuff. To resolve that, I suggest we cut off as many ties to this world as possible."

"While it is User's dungeon supplier shop, what does User intend to do with regards to the upcoming Cultivation Zoo and JODE advanced training centre?" The System questioned. "You promised Ex Sub System User Yuan and such a promise should not be broken."

"I will have to talk to Grandma Yuan about it. Judging from our performance at Huizhou, I believe we can bargain for a better deal under our conditions. As for the Zoo... I still plan to create it, but I have some other ideas in mind."

"Speak freely." The System asked of Jin, since it was unable to comprehend Jin's sudden decisions and its predictive analysis were hitting a wall.

"I am concerned about the future if we continue as we did. While it is nice to increase the cultivation of our customers, this might ultimately lead to our downfall. Whatever the customer do with their strength might inadvertently relate to us."

"But that is what Dungeon Suppliers are meant to do." The System rebutted.

"What other dungeon supplier store can boast about the efficiency we do? Let's just take a look at the Pandawans. Xiong Da had been at Grade 1 when he came to me and yet he is now at Grade 5 in a matter of months. While that is still acceptable given his age, the high schoolers are not that far off with their cultivation. If this trend continues, they might actually get as strong as our Generals and could rival the Heads, perhaps even by the end of the year." Jin reasoned.

"A reasonable concern-" The System agreed, but Jin interrupted it.

"You might be thinking that it might not be our responsibility. After all, we are merely providing the means, but seeing how this world continuously tangles us into its politics, its factions and people... I don't doubt that there will come a time when we will have to acknowledge that we had played a role in whatever happens." Jin continued.

While the System understood Jin's point of view, it was still unsure what Jin intended to do. There was no easy way to prevent cultivators from increasing their grades because that was how the System's dungeon instances had been designed.

They could make the minions and monsters more difficult for the cultivators to kill, thereby limiting the amount of spirit power taken in, yet that would definitely turn off a lot of customers.

"How does User intend to fix that?" The System asked.

"Remember how Ke Loong- wait, speaking about Ke Loong, I plan to stop that whole portal thing too. It was necessary to deal with the Monster Horde, but I fear it's too convenient and it might tip the scales of the economy as well as unbalance society way too much. Sea Mesh is not ready for such fortune and possible backlash despite them being a fairly successful company."

"Then what does User suggest?" The System repeated its question.

"We got Ke Loong's promise to help us start Panda Inc. Instead of relying on them, I am suggesting we build a virtual reality network."

"System does not comprehend."

"A Virtual Reality Massive Multiplayer Role Playing Game." Jin said, and if the System had a mouth, its jaw would have dropped.