

I Don't Want to Get Hurt, So I'll Max Out My Defense –

Chapter 53

Chapter 53

In the void, a blood-colored aura surged violently, and a Divine Blood Demon stood towering between heaven and earth.

Behind him, three heads and six arms, dozens of blood-colored tentacles burst forth simultaneously, piercing into several Demonic Beasts diving down from above.

The corpses of the Demonic Beasts were hoisted in midair, visibly withering and shriveling up at a rapid pace, until finally they turned into skeletons that scattered in the wind.

Meanwhile, Li Xiaobai's physical body recovered rapidly at a speed visible to the naked eye, the large hole in his chest healed in the blink of an eye, and he was once again brimming with vitality.

"What a pity, just a few Demonic Beasts at the Foundation Establishment Stage, not a single inner core among them."

Li Xiaobai slowly got up from the ground, his voice hoarse as the Blood Demon Primordial Spirit absorbed the energy from the bodies of the Demonic Beasts, speeding up the recovery of his flesh.

The System panel in front of him flicked.

[Attribute Points: 1000.]

[Status: Blood Demon Corrosion (Severe).]

"It seems that only advancing can alleviate the status," Li Xiaobai muttered to himself.

"Well done, actually understanding my intention, bringing two baits to attract the Demonic Beasts, quite impressive indeed."

He rubbed the fluffy bundle on his chest, it wasn't in vain that he brought the little broken dog out; in critical moments, it could still come in handy.

[Ding! Achievement unlocked: Champion of Creative Dying. Reward: One heavy-duty truck.]

Heavy-duty truck: Can transport thirty tons of cargo, covered in copper skin and iron armor, extremely sturdy, consumes one medium-grade Spirit Stone per kilometer.

Note: Even seasoned drivers face risks on the road; drive civilly, eliminate road rage, starting with me!

Hisss!

A thought struck Li Xiaobai's mind, this was the second time he had unlocked an achievement, and this time he was directly rewarded with a heavy-duty truck.

To know that this heavy-duty truck in the mount shop costs a full three thousand high-grade Spirit Stones, and now the System was giving it to him for free, this was a score!

"Young Master..."

Situ Yanyu trembled all over, facing Li Xiaobai, or rather the blood-colored Divine Demon behind him, she felt a primal chill.

This feeling was thousands of times stronger than when she encountered the Demonic Beasts, she believed that the senior before her was the true great calamity.

Moreover, through his words, she understood that all this was a ruse of the young man before her, the little broken dog luring her over, then she attracting numerous Demonic Beasts, and finally, the young cultivator using demonic techniques to drain the beasts to recover his injuries.

This play was a little too slick for her taste.

"Thank you both for your assistance, if it hadn't been for your arrival, those Demonic Beasts wouldn't have dared to come close, and my physical body could not have recovered so quickly," said Li Xiaobai as he clasped his fists in gratitude. Yet, he suddenly felt fatigue sweeping over him again, engulfing his whole body, and the status in that column remained unchanged.

The influence of the Blood Demon Corrosion continued to consume the vitality within him every moment; his body was drained of strength, and needed more time before things could improve.

Li Xiaobai's legs gave out, and he lay back down on the spot, closing his eyes and falling into a deep sleep.

The shadow of the blood-colored Divine Demon vanished, the pressure dissipated, and Situ Yanyu felt a relief in her heart, regaining control of her body.

"Woof woof woof!"

The little broken dog came forward and tugged at Situ Yanyu once more, the intent could not be clearer, to take Li Xiaobai with them and leave together.

“Uncle Wang...”

“Take him with us, if it hadn’t been for the senior here, we would have all died here, perhaps, this is your chance,” said Uncle Wang bluntly, picking up Li Xiaobai around the waist, and with the help of Situ Yanyu, they put him into the carriage.

The little broken dog also jumped in after him.

Uncle Wang snapped the reins, and the carriage sped away.

Inside the carriage,

Situ Yanyu curiously held the little broken dog in her arms, finally able to briefly have him to herself, fulfilling a small wish.

“Where did you guys come from?”

“Woof woof woof!”

“`

“This young master is really young. Judging by his appearance, he seems about my age, yet he possesses such strength. I really wish he could give me some guidance,”

“With such a formidable level of cultivation, whoever could injure him like this must be someone I can hardly even dare to think about in this lifetime,”

Desire surfaced in Situ Yanyu’s eyes.

Looking out the window, she noticed that demonic beasts wildly scattered as the carriage passed by, showing extreme wariness towards the carriage.

Without even thinking, she knew it must be because of the young master who had just been saved.

Even in a coma, lying quietly in the carriage, he still exerted a deterring effect on the demonic beasts—just how strong must his cultivation be!

Hearing Situ Yanyu’s soliloquy, the scruffy dog’s eyes revealed a touch of disdain.

The reason Li Xiaobai could deter the demonic beasts wasn’t due to his own strong cultivation but because there was still Blood Demon Corrosion Force lingering within him from a Transcendence Tribulation Stage expert.

This aura leaked out, and naturally, the surrounding demonic beasts fled at the sight of it.

“You’re quite the interesting little dog. Could it be that in your eyes, that severely injured young master is nothing special?”

Situ Yanyu chuckled, wanting to tease the scruffy dog.

The scruffy dog stood on its hind legs, with an even stronger look of disdain in its eyes. It stretched out a paw and made a gesture that seemed to say, “I alone am honored under heaven!”

“Then why did you dive into the young master’s arms when you encountered a demonic beast just now?”

“Woof woof woof!”

The scruffy dog’s attempt to act cool failed, feeling momentarily frustrated, it turned away and stopped paying attention to Situ Yanyu.

...

The journey was uneventful,

With Li Xiaobai deterring them, demonic beasts didn’t dare approach close, and Uncle Wang was able to bring the carriage safely into the city.

At the city gate, there was a huge stone door, with the words Ancient Moon City inscribed at the very top.

There were checkpoints on both sides, but Uncle Wang was obviously familiar with the place. He gave a slight nod and a greeting, and they were allowed to pass.

The city was bustling and lively.

Uncle Wang had a good reputation, and wherever he went, people knew him and greeted him warmly.

“Yo, Old Wang, picking up Miss Yan Yu again?”

“Hehe, Old Wang is such a good man. He’s almost like a second father to Yan Yu!”

“Yes, yes...”

“Hehe, don’t tease Old Wang...”

The carriage turned a corner and entered a narrow alley; this city was clearly divided by social class.

Big families and the wealthy lived in the bustling central districts, while commoners and ordinary citizens lived in the out-of-the-way corners of the town.

Situ Yanyu evidently belonged to the latter group, living in a particularly remote area, with a faint smell of decay lingering in the air.

“Grandpa, I’m back!”

Situ Yanyu called out and, together with Uncle Wang, carried Li Xiaobai into the courtyard.

“What happened? Who is this person, and why is he so severely injured?”

“Yanyu, haven’t you gotten into some trouble outside?”

An elderly man with white hair, hobbling with a cane, hastened over and immediately noticed the weakened Li Xiaobai, his heart tightening.

“Grandpa, it’s not like that. I’ll explain in a moment.”

“Yes, old man, let me tell you, this young man is quite remarkable. If it weren’t for him, Yan Yu and I might’ve been buried in the belly of a demonic beast,” Uncle Wang explained, indicating that they should move the person into the house first.

Relieved that his granddaughter hadn’t caused any serious trouble outside, the elder’s expression visibly relaxed. As long as that was the case, it was good. The outside world was too dangerous, and if anything were to go wrong, it wasn’t something that he and his granddaughter could handle.

“Alright, alright, let’s move this young man into the old man’s room first...”

Chapter 54

Li Xiaobai lay on the bed.

He had been on the old man’s bed for two days already.

During these two days, he had basically gotten a good sense of the information about this city as well as the basic circumstances of this family.

There was no helping it, he had been swindled too miserably in the Divine Beast Mountain Range. In all fairness, he should have been the one profiting, yet he was met

with divine twists at every turn. One must be extra cautious when traveling outside; otherwise, it really wouldn't be possible to get by.

The female cultivator who saved him was named Situ Yanyu, with a cultivation level that he estimated did not exceed the Foundation Establishment Stage—she belonged to the rather weaker cultivators.

This household only consisted of a grandfather and granddaughter, living a quite leisurely life. The elder, named Situ Kong, was also a cultivator in his early years and was now at the third layer of the Foundation Establishment Stage, spending each day offering guidance to the practicing Situ Yanyu.

It's just that his cultivation was similarly weak.

He didn't know about the cultivation levels of other cultivators in the city though. If it was a Novice Village, then there was no need to pay too much attention to it.

"Hehe, young master, the old man is here to wipe your face again. I don't know how you cultivated, but at such a young age you already possess such cultivation levels. If you could wake up, I would really like you to give Yanyu some guidance."

"I have already asked for a doctor from the city to come look at the young master's injuries. The doctor will arrive shortly, and we all hope that the young master can wake up soon."

Situ Kong gently wiped Li Xiaobai's face with a wet towel, then left with the bowl of water.

...

In fact, Li Xiaobai had already come to consciousness, but his body still hadn't regained sensation and couldn't move.

Luckily, a kind-hearted sister had saved him and brought him to a city. Right now, the straw-cloaked man must be frantically searching the surroundings.

Being out in the wilderness always felt unsettling.

Still, it was more comfortable sleeping inside a house—humans just needed a building surrounded by walls on all sides to feel safe.

Checking the attribute value panel before him.

[Host: Li Xiaobai]

[...]

[Defensive Power: Fifth revolution of the Nine Revolutions Undying Golden Body. (6000/50000) Upgradeable.]

[Attribute Points: 0.]

[Skills: Hatred Hundred Percent, Muscle Flaccidity, Four revolutions of the Nine Revolutions Undying Sword Intent, Blood Demon Transcendental Venerable, Super Abdominal Muscles...]

[Store: Open.]

[Status: Blood Demon Corrosion (Severe).]

...

The status hasn't shown any improvement; the Blood Demon Corrosion was severe, with the life force within continuously slipping away.

Fortunately, the speed at which the life force was fading balanced out with the recovery ability of the Nine Revolutions Undying Golden Body.

The state of his body was barely maintaining itself.

After a bit more recovery, he should be able to move freely.

He checked his inventory.

This time, unlocking achievements had netted quite a few good items.

[Items: Somewhat Careful Helmet, Thousand Mile Transmission Talisman... Heavy-duty truck.]

Heavy-duty truck: Capable of transporting thirty tons of cargo, armored with copper and iron, extremely sturdy; consumes one Middle Grade Spirit Stone per kilometer.

Note: Even experienced drivers face risks on the road, drive civilly, eradicate road killers, start with me.

This was a mount—or rather, an off-road vehicle by the looks of it. Whether for travel or defense, it seemed quite remarkable.

When the opportunity arises, he could test out the power of his new mount!

He continued his rampage through the store.

He had almost run out of High Grade Spirit Stones, leaving only Low and Middle Grade Spirit Stones, which limited his options for high-end products.

However, he didn't need any high-end products right now; what he needed most was a way to change his appearance at any moment.

That straw-cloaked man in the outside world was undoubtedly searching for him relentlessly; perhaps a portrait had even been circulated, and he needed an item that could change his appearance for a disguise.

After a long search in the corner of the store, Li Xiaobai found an item he liked.

[Human Skin Mask: Once worn, can change one's appearance and aura. (1000 Middle Grade Spirit Stones).]

“

Note: The Human Skin Mask can be reused, but facial appearance and temperament can only be reset once a day. Slight alterations to one's character may occur, so please use with caution.

Great, you're the one!

Upon clicking 'buy,' a face that wasn't his own suddenly appeared on Li Xiaobai's face. He could control the facial expressions at will since the mask was in tune with his wishes.

Isn't this just like creating a character in a game!

Hehe, since I'm going to shape a face, I must of course shape it into a handsome guy!

The original Li Xiaobai was good-looking, though only to an extent—it wasn't to the level of being strikingly handsome.

Now that he had the chance, he naturally had to make the most of it.

Eyes need to be fierce, nose must be straight—in short, just make it as handsome as possible.

As for the temperament, let's follow the path of the third senior brother; I hear that handsome guys with that half-dead-alive melancholic air not only slay all the ladies but also incite unlimited hatred from their male peers.

Kill two birds with one stone.

...

It was at this moment that the door opened with a “creak.”

Situ Kong and Situ Yanyu led the doctor inside.

Upon getting a clear view of Li Xiaobai at that moment, both grandfather and grandson were startled. The young master had changed his face in just a moment.

No doubt about it, he must have already awoken and wished to conceal his identity.

“Doctor Mo, this young man is the patient I spoke of. Please examine him carefully,” Situ Kong said politely.

“Hmph, make sure the Silver Coins are prepared. My visit fees are quite expensive!” Doctor Mo snorted coldly, his tone sounding strangely unpleasant to the ear.

“Hehe, old man, I’ve already prepared everything,”

Situ Yanyu looked displeased and wanted to say something, but was stopped by Situ Kong.

In the higher echelons, an Elixir Grandmaster is the boss; and to those lower down, a doctor like this one is the boss. The reason is simple: they can heal your ailments, and you need to provide for them and take good care of them.

“Hmm, let me have a look,” said Doctor Mo, sitting beside Li Xiaobai and scrutinizing his complexion.

“Oh, pale complexion, forehead full of sweat beads, these are symptoms of physical weakness. But considering this young man is a cultivator, he must be poisoned,” Doctor Mo observed.

“Let’s see what kind of poison this is,” the doctor said, extending a finger to lightly touch Li Xiaobai’s wrist.

“Hm, this poison is…”

“Demonic Yin poison has entered the body, he must have been harmed by a powerful senior who has cultivated a Primordial Spirit; that this person is still alive is a marvel!”

In just an instant, Doctor Mo’s face drastically changed. The lowest level needed to cultivate a Primordial Spirit was the Nascent Soul Stage.

Anyone capable of contesting with a Nascent Soul Stage senior was certainly not an ordinary individual. This young man probably was not truly young, but an old monster of a thousand years. There was too much at stake here, not a matter for an insignificant doctor like himself to be involved in.

He hastily packed his things and, holding his medical box, darted out the door.

“Aiyo, this old fellow can’t deal with it!”

“You two rest assured, my mouth is absolutely sealed. I understand the rules; I won’t let a word slip. If I break this promise, may lightning strike me!”

With that, Doctor Mo ran off without looking back.

Situ Kong was stunned, while Situ Yanyu held her belly, laughing.

This somewhat domineering Doctor Mo had actually been scared off by the young master’s internal injuries.

“Has the young master awoken?” Situ Yanyu asked.

“Yes, I have awoken,” Li Xiaobai replied.

“Then is there anything the young master desires?”

“I want to be left alone.”

“...”

Chapter 55

Situ Yanyu and Situ Kong left the room.

Li Xiaobai sat up from the bed, touched the human skin mask on his face, and found it to be quite realistic.

He was able to move his body slightly now but was still very weak.

However, there was no helping it. As long as the Blood Demon Corrosion State within him wasn’t completely resolved, he would continue to look sickly.

He needed to find a way to quickly increase his Attribute Points.

Being beaten up was the fastest method, but with his current condition, finding weaker cultivators would yield trivial Attribute Points, and sparing with stronger ones would simply be suicide. With the Blood Demon Corrosion not fully resolved, Li Xiaobai did not want to invite further trouble.

After much consideration, only Tangneng First-class bathhouse could address his urgent needs.

He needed to get himself a bathhouse to soak in!

He rubbed the furry lump on his chest, “Dog brother, do you have a name?”

“Woof woof woof!”

The shabby dog wriggled out from inside the cloth on Li Xiaobai’s chest, looking somewhat puzzled.

“Shall I give you one?”

“Woof woof woof!”

“Then from now on, you’ll be called Nicholas Ergouzi. How’s that, cool and gutsy, right?”

“Woof woof woof!”

The shabby dog stood on its hind legs and gestured a unique hand sign, completely disregarding the name Li Xiaobai had given it.

However, Li Xiaobai clearly didn’t grasp the dog’s gesture.

“Good, since you also think so, that’ll be your name from now on, Ergouzi!”

Li Xiaobai patted the shabby dog’s back, feeling that the little dog was quite sensible.

Ignoring the shabby dog’s displeased expression, Li Xiaobai got up, preparing to go out for a walk; he needed to find a suitable place to build a bathhouse for soaking.

But at that moment, loud quarreling noises came from outside the room.

“Wang Ergou, you can give up that thought. I, Situ Yanyu, would rather die here today and be buried alive than marry into the Xia Family!”

“Indeed, my granddaughter is intelligent and cultivates swiftly. Given time, she’s destined to stand out among others. How can we tolerate your harassment?!”

“Heh, old man, do you really think your precious granddaughter’s cultivation level came from nowhere?”

Outside, a frivolous voice of an unfamiliar man reached inside. Li Xiaobai paused, wanting to assess the situation first.

But the shabby dog couldn’t wait, and without a thought, it squeezed through the crack of the door and went out.

The Situ Family was being bullied, and the culprit shared the name Ergou; that was something it couldn't stand for.

Although it didn't like the name, Li Xiaobai had forcibly given it to the dog.

If it couldn't resist, then it had to accept it.

In this world, there could only be one Ergouzi!

Outside, in the courtyard.

A few young men had cornered Situ Yanyu and Situ Kong in a corner, their expressions somewhat ferocious.

The conversation they had just now was very unpleasant.

"What do you mean by those words just now? My granddaughter's cultivation level is the result of her hard work!" Situ Kong seemed somewhat furious.

"You're overestimating yourselves. If it weren't for the operations of our young master, how could a little girl from the poor district obtain a cultivation technique that would allow her to reach the Golden Core Stage?"

"Don't say that Wang Ergou didn't warn you. Our young master taking fancy to Miss Yan Yu is a privilege you should appreciate, don't reject a toast only to be forced to drink a forfeit!"

The leading young man spoke sinisterly, not putting the Situ Family in his eyes at all.

His followers also looked on with mocking eyes at everything happening in the courtyard. In this city, having power and influence was everything.

Without a doubt, they were the ones with power and influence.

"This is a threat, shameless!"

Situ Yanyu's face was filled with aggrieved anger, highly indignant.

"Yes, it is a threat. What can you do about it? My young master has already given you time to think. Today, you must come back with me to the Xia Family. You should know that there are at least a hundred, if not a thousand, ladies in Ancient Moon City who dream of marrying into the Xia Family to reach the sky in one step. Don't be ungrateful."

Wang Ergou's face bore a smug look, quite arrogant.

"Woof woof woof!"

The barking of a dog rang out as the scrappy little mutt could no longer stand by idly; it leaped forward and furiously bit at Wang Ergou.

Not only did this person share its name, but he also dared to be so arrogant. The scrappy little mutt's mind was made up. Today, either it or this Wang Ergou must die!

"Where did this stray dog come from? Scram!"

Taken aback by the pain, Wang Ergou became furious and kicked the scrappy little dog, sending it flying.

"Woof woof woof!"

The scrappy little dog was enraged. Suppressing its urge to rush forward and tear its assailant apart, it instead barked insistently towards the room, seeking Li Xiaobai's help for revenge.

"Hmm? Is there someone else inside?"

A jolt of alarm passed through Wang Ergou's heart, and the others became wary as well.

The Situ Household had always consisted of just the grandfather and granddaughter, without any outsiders. Today, there was unexpectedly someone else hidden in the house, and they hadn't even noticed.

"No one's here, no one!"

Situ Yanyu blurted in a bit of a panic, stepping in front of Wang Ergou.

But at that moment, the door opened with a "creak."

"In broad daylight, under the bright heavens, to see you molesting a respectable young lady, I, as a paragon of virtue, simply cannot stand by."

Li Xiaobai stood with his hands clasped behind his back, speaking dispassionately.

"A man, your household is actually hiding a man!"

"No wonder you refused my young master's demand. You already had a pretty boy stashed away. Well then, today I, Wang Ergou, will shatter your hopes once and for all!"

Wang Ergou shrieked in shock, drawing the longsword at his waist, his eyes filled with a ferocious gleam, "What are you waiting for? Get him, kill this pretty boy!"

"Kid, you've got guts, daring to compete with my young master for a woman!"

A few of them sneered menacingly as they rushed toward Li Xiaobai.

“Young master, be careful!”

Situ Yanyu involuntarily called out, but then remembered something and clamped her mouth shut, realizing these servants, mere Foundation Establishment stage lackeys from the Xia Family, stood no chance against the young master.

“Heh heh, such nutritive offerings right at my doorstep. I’m really not fond of killing, so how about I absorb half from each? Blood Demon Transcendental Venerable!”

Li Xiaobai chuckled lightly, and behind him, a blood-red shadow emerged suddenly, with tentacle-like appendages piercing into the bodies of the lackeys and beginning to frenziedly absorb their energy.

This energy was not just Spiritual Energy but also the strength of their physical body, Blood Qi, and extracting it could provide a good boost to Attribute Points.

[Attribute Point +50...]

[Attribute Point +50...]

All points to defense!

[Defensive Power: Indestructible Golden Body Fifth Stage (7000/50000).]

However, due to the low cultivation level of these lackeys, not too many Attribute Points could be added. After draining them to a point near death, the blood shadow dissipated, and the lackeys fell to the ground, slipping into a deep unconsciousness.

Li Xiaobai waved his hand: “Bear Paw Shock.”

This was a skill he had acquired in the Divine Beast Mountain Range, its effectiveness was mediocre, but it was enough to deal with a few henchmen.

An invisible wave of impact surged, the ground fractured inch by inch, and the troublesome lackeys were blown away.

“Young master, won’t this cause a problem?”