

Chapter 161: The Ultimate Style Arrives On Stage

Meng Chao was silent for a while before he shook his head and sighed.

“Zhou Yun, monsters won’t care whether you’re a boy or a girl.” He smiled wanly.

“Meng Chao, you’re a man among men!” Xie Feng drew closer and whispered, “But being punished for this isn’t worth it. I heard that even the dean was startled. If the old man didn’t try to protect you with everything he had, you wouldn’t have been let off so easily with just a notice criticising your actions. You might have even been forced to stay in university for your actions to be observed or be dismissed!”

Meng Chao let his eyes fall shut and thought about it for a long while before he nodded slowly and said firmly, “It was worth it.”

“Huh?” Xie Feng was shocked. “You’re seriously not regretting it at all?!”

“If Zhou Yun and other female students became alert when they slept because of me and won’t miss when someone sneaks up to their bed, their chances of surviving the battlefield will increase by leaps and bounds,” Meng Chao said faintly.

“To save more of our female coursemates, to help them grow safely, and to create a brighter future for Dragon City, even if I have to receive a notice of criticism or even have to be kept in the university for observation, even if I am misunderstood by the girls, regarded with jealousy by the boys, scolded by the lecturers, or taken away by the police, I will regret nothing. I will still be content with it!”

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Xie Feng sucked in a sharp breath and was stunned for a long moment. “Meng Chao, I really can’t tell whether I should be more impressed with your ruthlessness or your shamelessness. Your shamelessness is even tougher than the monsters’ shells!”

“I already died once... during the practical test of the national college examination, that is.” Meng Chao smiled. “Having a sense of shame is useless to someone like me who fought my way back from hell.”

“You’re seriously shameless. I like it!” Xie Feng gave him a thumbs up in the dark. Then, he said even more softly, “Speaking of which, how did you manage to do it? You must understand that Zhou Yun’s dorm is on the fourteenth floor, and the entire building has CCTVs installed all over it. Our upperclassmen live on the lower floors, and there are also lecturers monitoring the area. They’re all elites of the martial arts course, and they’re much more alert than the average person.

“I... have a coursemate who has been thinking about this, but can’t understand it. That coursemate wants to get a deeper understanding of how you did this. Could you tell me?”

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Meng Chao frowned. “Your coursemate is my coursemate too. Who is it?”

Xie Feng scratched his head. "My mistake. It's not a coursemate. That person is a friend of mine and wants to understand how you did this so that the person can criticize it!"

Meng Chao thought about it and said, "I'll tell you. But even if you know the method, you can't do what I did, because you don't know the Ultimate Style. You don't have the same fine control over your muscles, so it's impossible for you to move over the walls as quietly as a gecko.

"It's also impossible for you to crawl into narrow and twisted tunnels, much less move like a phantom after you calculate the speed and angles at which the CCTVs move their heads so you can dodge them.

"If you don't cultivate your branch meridians and push the sharpness of your senses to the max, it'll be impossible to sense the presences of the female lecturers and female upperclassmen, which would allow you to avoid them and find your real target.

"Honestly speaking, I'd say that I'm very proud of my infiltration this time, because I used all that I learned. It was at least ten times more difficult compared to sneaking into Duan Lian's single-room dorm. You sure have a good eye for good stuff."

"Of course." Xie Feng paused before he quickly defended himself. "It's not me, it's my friend!"

"Alright, it's your friend." Meng Chao grinned and threw an arm over Xie Feng's shoulder. "Then, does your friend want to learn the Ultimate Style from me?"

"Yeah..."

"I know that you're a righteous person. You have noble sentiments, and you're a firm supporter of the Beast Soul Style. You'll definitely look down on a mere trick like the Ultimate Style, but you're a true friend, and you're willing to sacrifice yourself for your friend! I'll teach you first, and you can teach your friend. Won't that be perfect?"

Xie Feng scratched his head while looking conflicted.

Suddenly, he noticed Sun Ya staring at him and Meng Chao from a distance. Her gaze was incredibly profound.

Xie Feng shuddered and quickly moved his butt away from Meng Chao.

Meng Chao looked pensive. "So you— I mean, your friend wants to sneak into Sun Ya's dorm to... spar with her, yes?"

Xie Feng's face turned red. "I'm not— I didn't— What rubbish— No, my friend isn't— That's not right either. I uh..."

"Stop stammering. If you don't want to learn it, I'll learn it!"

Duan Lian sat down between Meng Chao and Xie Feng. "Meng Chao, after that lesson you gave me, I pondered over what you said for a long time, and I discovered that the Ultimate Style does indeed have some pros, and it can cover up for the weaknesses of the Beast Soul Style," he said sincerely.

“Please teach me all the ways you used to bypass the CCTVs and the method to blend into the night so that I can be more alert and avoid being ambushed by monsters! How many monster coins and cultivation resources do you want? Just name a price!”

“Huh?” Xie Feng stared at Duan Lian with a dumbfounded expression. “I didn’t expect that despite being so honest, you’re that sort of person too!”

Meng Chao wanted to heal the mental scar he left behind on Duan Lian that day when he put up an act of slitting his throat, so he naturally agreed to it.

Then, he got up and walked over to sit beside the girls led by Sun Ya.

Sun Ya, Zhou Yun, and the others trained their gazes on him. They were so wary that their eyes were as sharp as blades.

“And why are you here?” Zhou Yun scowled.

“To tell you something really important.”

Meng Chao turned his head to the side to look outside the portholes so Duan Lian and Xie Feng would not see his mouth when he spoke. “Right now, there are some bad people with ulterior motives in society, and they want to use the Ultimate Style to do some despicable, shameless, perverted, and degenerate stuff. You might be martial artists, but you’re also girls, so you must learn how to protect yourselves.

“Why don’t you learn the Ultimate Style with me? Only the Ultimate Style can hope to fight against the Ultimate Style. When you learn how to cultivate with the 1,024 branch meridians, your senses will increase by leaps and bounds. Then, next time, when some bad person wants to ambush you in the dark, they won’t be able to have their way so easily.

“Oh, I can even teach you how to set up certain traps. If the bad people in society really have bad intentions, you will definitely be able to teach them a big lesson, so they will want to die.”

“Wait.” Sun Ya raised her hand. “Compared to learning the Ultimate Style, we’re more interested in knowing just who are the ‘bad people in society’ that you just mentioned, aside from you.”

Meng Chao turned his head around and stared at Xie Feng and Duan Lian as he said, “I can’t say.”

Xie Feng did not know what was going on. He just smiled at him and Sun Ya.

Meng Chao smiled back at him.

Sun Ya, Zhou Yun, and the other girls narrowed their eyes.

“I can’t tell you just who has joined my band, but I can tell you that ever since I received my notice of criticism, many of the boys are indignant. They started howling like wolves, saying that they want to learn the Ultimate Style from me so that they can criticize this ruthless fighting style,” Meng Chao said earnestly.

“Honestly, a fighting style is like a weapon. In itself, it’s not good or bad. Look at me. I used the Ultimate Style to execute justice, contribute to society, help everyone, and search for a brighter future for Dragon

City. So, I'm worried that the Ultimate Style will end up in some rascal's hands who will use it for bad things. They'll end up destroying the reputation of Mr. Gu, the Ultimate Style, and me.

"That's why I'm doing everything I can to promote the Ultimate Style. I hope that all you girls can learn it or at the very least understand its theories.

"If you're willing to learn the Ultimate Style from me, I can even tell you how to increase your awareness when you're camping outside. I'll also teach you how to set up sentry lines and defensive measures.

"The defense of the female dorm in our university is filled with weaknesses. I have at least seven ways to sneak inside. If you have the same standard while you're camping outside, you'll end up dead, and you won't even know how you died!"

"Stop right there again!" Sun Ya raised her hand once more. "You told the lecturers that there are only three ways to easily attack the female dorm, and you pointed all of them out to make amends for your mistakes. That's why you only received a notice of criticism. Why are you telling us that there are seven ways to sneak inside now?"

"Did I just say seven?" Meng Chao waved his hand in dismissal. "Don't bother about the details. I'm currently talking about your life and death!"

Sun Ya, Zhou Yun, and the girls were stunned speechless.

As they talked to each other, the pod trembled a little. The armored airship had arrived at its destination. It started releasing air and slowly descended.

There were a lot of lakes at the center of Shattered Starlake. Among them were two huge ones located in the west and east. They were the largest lakes, and they had the most resources. The Dragon Citizens had already set up a camp of two thousand interconnected tents. They served as two fighting bases to clear the lakes.

The base next to the eastern lake was allocated to Agricultural University, the University of Technology, University of Science, Medical University, and the military school—the five university alliance.

The base at the western lake was allocated to Dragon City University.

From this, it was clear that Dragon City University had the status of the Goliath and could monopolize an entire region on its own. Its strength was evident.

There might not be any Apocalyptic Beast at Shattered Starlake, but there was a dense network of rivers. The ground was muddy, and there were weeds everywhere. There were also all sorts of insects and pests that were venomous or highly corrosive. If a normal soldier went in recklessly, there was a high chance that they would be severely injured.

Hence, the Red Dragon Army gave this spot to superhumans who were great individual fighters. As for humanity's mechanized machine army, aside from building the main artery connecting Dragon City to Shattered Starlake and defending it, it was also stationed between Shattered Starlake and Graveyard Forest. They were to build forts and set up defense lines to prevent the high-grade superbeasts from Graveyard Forest or even Raging Waves from charging out to swallow Shattered Starlake like a tidal wave.

As the armored airship continued descending, the students could clearly see wind blowing everywhere. The grass fell to the sides and revealed the surging spirit flames from countless superhumans. They were like endless waves fighting against the monsters who had crawled out from underground.

Some powerful fighters had activated their vitality magnetic fields to levitate above the lakes with a principle similar to that of maglev. When the deep water bombs brought the monsters residing in the depths of the lake to the surface, they immediately killed them without any mercy.

In the distance, there was the border connecting Shattered Starlake and Graveyard Forest. A black defense line was being set up there. It was getting higher and higher.

More than one thousand artillery roared eagerly. They fired off their shells and fire bombs at Graveyard Forest every day and night with carpet-bombing. They were aiming to kill more than fifty percent of the monsters, superbeasts, and carnivorous etherealized plants before the powerful fighters arrived so that they could reduce the pressure on them.

Further ahead was a place surrounded by clouds and fog. Once every ten minutes, deafening booms came from there.

That sound was made by Huge Tiger's Mighty Cannon, a weapon that was one level weaker than Huge Dragon's Mighty Cannon. The army was testing waters by firing at Raging Waves. The higher-ups were hoping to anger the Apocalyptic Beast and force it to come out and fight against their Deity Realm elites.

The thick scent of blood and gunpowder mixed together, and it stimulated the students' senses. Everyone instantly entered fighting mode.

They instinctively clenched their fists, grabbed their weapon hilts, or their guns.

Those who were skilled would run into great opportunities. It was the time for them to spread their wings and have their names ring far and wide!

Chapter 162: Weeping Reaper

The freshmen from Agricultural University were the last batch of fighters to arrive at Shattered Starlake.

Over the past half a month or so, the upperclassmen from the universities had already started fighting.

The military school was in a somewhat unique situation. It had sent most of its students to become the main force in clearing out Shattered Starlake.

When the freshmen entered the ten-thousand-man tent at the center of the camp, the air had a bloody scent that was as strong as a tidal wave. A thick layer of blood and grime covered the floor boards.

The students who had arrived ahead of time had long since lost their naivety from university. Most of the boys had stubble on their faces and looked a little shaggy. They had an air of fierceness about them. The girls looked just as heroic. Their gazes were as aggressive as a saber.

The five universities of the alliance had their own unique features.

The students from the University of Technology wore strengthened exoskeletons with complex structures. They carried foldable unmanned fighting vehicles, and a few of them had intelligent fighting vehicles controlled by brainwaves. They were running around the group.

The military school students had all sorts of guns and ammunition belts bound to their bodies. They were like moving ammunition storages. Some of them had the heroic spirits that were commonly known as Predecessors floating behind them. They looked incredibly mysterious and mighty.

The University of Science was skilled in superbrain technology. Their students might not have looked strong, but their gazes were profound, and they looked as if they could see through a person's heart with just one glance.

As for Medical University, their life sciences could even rival those of Dragon City University. The students from Medical University were not just skilled in saving people, but in killing people too. They could also unlock the mysterious power in the depths of human cells to turn themselves into all sorts of strange shapes.

When the freshmen from Agricultural University saw their allies and their unique features, they refused to appear weak. The freshmen from the martial arts course released the beast souls they had just learned so that their spirit flames would bare their teeth. The freshmen from the monster controller course used their brainwaves to stimulate their biochemical beasts gently so that they would growl.

It attracted some nonchalant gazes and kind smiles.

When they reached the center of the ten-thousand-man hall, they saw the most eye-catching thing in the tent—ranking boards posted on more than ten monitors.

There was a ranking based on the number of monsters killed on that day, the grade of monsters killed, dangerous mission completion rate, viewer count received on their fighting videos in the livestreaming platform, the number of positive comments, and a Heroic Rank, which showed the accumulative score based on the ranks a student obtained from the other ranking boards.

Each of the ranking boards was meticulously divided into more categories, so everyone could judge who was the best one-star superhuman in a particular battle, who was the two-star superhuman with most monster kills, who was the most popular three-star superhuman, and so on.

Dragon City was a lone army in a foreign land. It did not have an export market, so it was impossible for them to rely on mass producing civilian industries to deal with the shortage of jobs.

Ever since the 3D farms, genetic technology, and the automated planting technology solved the basic problem of food, the agricultural industry could no longer provide much work for the citizens.

And when the first and second major industries could no longer provide a lot of work for the citizens, the third major industry faced the future where it also reached that stage all too soon.

In Dragon City, aside from heavy industries related to building bases, mining, refinement, or work related to the military, there was only one industry that could provide enough work for new members of society—killing monsters.

Dragon City's civilization could be said to be a hunting civilization armed with high tech and superweapons.

Then, through the other businesses, they could exploit the benefits of killing monsters to the last drop of their blood.

Aside from harvesting monsters to turn them into materials to develop their lives and the city, they could use all sorts of competitions, gambling games, and ranking boards to attract multiple citizens' attention, which would use up their energy, stimulate their passion for cultivating and fighting, and let them see hope in rising to the top in one go. It also presented a sense of "fairness".

Hence, it ensured the general stability in Dragon City, even if there was a huge lack of jobs, and the gap between normal people and superhumans was only getting larger.

That was why ranking boards were no joke.

The competitions and rankings in the northern offense were treated with utmost importance.

The Griffin Li Yingzi was the teacher who led the freshmen from Agricultural University to join the fight. She told everyone that the government and the famous corporations in Dragon City had poured a lot of money into the fight. They would provide great rewards based on different achievements and ranks.

Agricultural University's monster coins, the military school's iron-blooded coins, the University of Technology's machine coins, the University of Science's soul coins, and Medical University's willow coins, which were the internal currency of the five universities, could now be used between universities, because the channels to use these coins were now connected with each other.

If a freshman from Agricultural University killed a monster and got themselves monster coins, they could go to the trading stations from any university to get all sorts of items, weapons, lessons, and services.

"This is a rare chance. The rewards you'll get for killing monsters and completing missions are higher by 20% to 30%. In fact, you might even get more money than a superbeast is worth!"

Li Yingzi told everyone that the government provided two-thirds of the funds that were estimated to be needed by the army for the northern offense. The remaining one-third was pooled together by the major industries in Dragon City.

If they managed to develop a new region, the benefits they would gain would reach astronomical figures. All the rich mega industries wanted to have a hand in it, and the industry that would get the development rights would be the one who gave a lot of money to invest in the northern offense in the beginning.

"If we just focused on the residential area construction project in the new region alone, how many real estate developers do you think have been tempted to invest here?" Li Yingzi asked. "The government has planned out to give dozens of middle-tier real estate projects and high-end real estate projects. The real estate developers who joined the bidding had to provide real money and a lot of resources to reward the ones who did outstandingly during the war.

“In this era, the richest people are the real estate developers, so don’t hold back. Kill as many monsters as possible and make contributions so that you can get as much money from the real estate developers as possible and get more glory for yourself!”

With just a few words, she managed to make their blood burn with passion.

“If your performance is exceptionally outstanding, you will even have a chance to be chosen as the Daily Star or Weekly Star. Your name will immediately spread through the alliance of the five universities and the mega industries that share a close relationship with the alliance. Soon, you’ll get all sorts of sponsors and investors coming to your doorstep, and the cultivation resources as well as weapons they’ll be lavishing on you will make you faint. You won’t be able to even use them all.”

Li Yingzi pointed at the largest monitor and said, “Look, this is the Daily Star who killed thirteen superbeasts in a row yesterday and destroyed their superbeast nest. He killed more than one hundred normal monsters in passing as well.

“He’s an alumni who has recently graduated from Agricultural University’s martial arts course. Now, he’s known as the Weeping Reaper, an incredibly popular person on the livestreaming channels. I shouldn’t need to tell you just how popular he has been with the corporations lately, do I? If there’s a chance, I’ll have Lin Chuan share some of his fighting experiences with you. Work hard and learn from him!”

The person who appeared on the monitor was a tall young man. He had fair skin and was stupidly handsome, but he gave off a rather depressed air. He seemed like he had just graduated recently.

His appearance had not only caused the freshmen from Agricultural University’s martial arts course to cry out in surprise, even the monster controller course’s freshmen, who always treated the martial arts course as a thorn in their sides, stared at the monitor. In fact, even the students from the University of Technology, Medical University, the University of Science, and the military school could not help but cast their gazes at the monitor.

“It’s Weeping Reaper!”

“Lin Chuan! He’s my idol!”

“He’s so cool! Even if the monitor zooms in on his face, you still can’t find a single flaw on his face. As expected of the internet celebrity who is as famous as Ripple Princeess Yan Feirou!”

“Ha. Yan Feirou is nothing. She hasn’t even graduated from university and reached Heaven Realm. How can she compare to Lin Chuan? You should know that Lin Chuan reached Spirit Transformation Realm and Spirit Gathering Realm within two years. He’s one of the youngest Heaven Realm elites and is one of the fastest improving ones too!”

“I heard that he’s fearless and fights bravely. His performance has been incredibly outstanding, and he has already been chosen thrice as the Daily Star and once as the Weekly Star.

“He attracted a lot of attention from research centers and mega industries. Even Agricultural University’s martial arts course wants to hire him to be a lecturer, but he refused all the high-paying positions and projects that offer him a bright future. He said that he wants to stay in the wild to kill all the monsters and take revenge for his comrades.”

“Weeping Reaper, how devoted and loyal you are!”

The girls discussed him with adoration practically gushing out of their eyes.

Meng Chao stared at the handsome depressed man on the monitor, and his emotions surged while his blood burned.

It was due to a simple feeling of wanting to uphold justice, though. In truth, he did not have a lot of interest in handsome guys, no matter what sort of handsome they happened to be.

After he had been set up by his class rep, Zuo Haoran, he stayed far away from the dashing and righteous-looking people.

But Weeping Reaper Lin Chuan was an exception.

Just like the girls, Meng Chao treated him as his idol.

It was not just because he was one of the youngest people in Dragon City to reach Heaven Realm and improved the fastest nor because he was an alumni of Agricultural University’s martial arts course. It was because Lin Chuan shared a similar background to Meng Chao. Both of them came from poor families and did not have a strong background. They gained their achievements with their own hands.

Lin Chuan came from Joyous Heavenly Garden, which had public renting houses built by the same corporation that built Meng Chao’s Blessed Heavenly Garden. The distance between them was no more than five hundred meters, so they could be considered to be neighbors.

But even though Lin Chuan came from a poor family, he managed to get into Agricultural University’s martial arts course. This in itself was a miracle that provided a lot of motivation to others.

Due to him not having inborn talent, a firm foundation, and resources, when he was in university, he did not perform outstandingly. When he graduated, he was just a two-star superhuman at Earth Realm.

It was then that his legend began.

He had nothing, and to obtain cultivation resources, he joined a superhuman fighting squad to carry out incredibly dangerous scouting and hunting missions.

However, his luck was terrible. In the first three missions he carried out, he ran into high-grade superbeasts or a space-time rift. His squad was either beaten up and scattered or swept up into the currents of the space-time rift and relocated even deeper into the fog.

Many of the Heaven Realm elites who were two or even three realms higher than him died in the wild.

But through astonishing bravery, willpower, and adaptability, an amateur who had just become a member of society struggled out of hell step by step. He even reached Heaven Realm when he released explosive attacks at death’s door.

Lin Chuan became really famous from it and had a bright future ahead, but he sank into deep guilt. He believed that he was the reason why his squadmates died in his first three missions.

Everyone tried to convince him otherwise, telling him that the mortality rate of superhumans in Dragon City had always been much higher than that of normal people. The scouting teams and hunting teams danced on the reaper's blade. Life and death were predestined, so he should not blame himself.

Besides, during the subsequent two missions, while he escaped, he managed to save two other squadmates as well, which turned him into a true hero.

But he could not let it go, and like an aseptic monk, he started killing in the wild with the most insane methods.

And when he killed monsters, he cried in spite of himself.

The doctors said that it was a symptom of PTSD. Some patients released stress when their minds faced great stimulation.

Lin Chuan himself said that his tears were for his comrades who died tragically under the claws of the monsters and the millions of citizens who were murdered.

He was handsome, had a tall stature, and after all his trials and hardships, he was filled with determination. His fighting power was also head and shoulders above that of his peers. His act of weeping silently while he killed monsters was a topic in itself, and soon, he was picked out by the livestreaming channel. After they packaged him carefully and created an image for him, they promoted him with a lot of grandeur, and the Weeping Reaper's name instantly shook the entire city.

Chapter 163: Last Placed Heroic Spirit User

'Both of us come from families living in public renting houses. Since Senior Lin Chuan could do it, I can definitely do it too. In fact, I will reach Heaven Realm earlier than him!'

As Meng Chao stared at his idol on the monitor, his fighting spirit erupted like a volcano.

His train of thought then changed, and he thought of something else. 'Now, Senior Lin Chuan and Yan Feirou are known as the Golden Children on the livestreaming channel. Lin Chuan is even more popular than Yan Feirou now.

'After all, Yan Feirou's Ripple Force is just a basic force execution method, and she has never proven her strength in real fights before, while Senior Lin Chuan has slaughtered his way out of a pile of corpses with his fists.

'If I can get acquainted with Senior Lin Chuan, can I use his power to promote the Ultimate Style? If even the Weeping Reaper stands up to support the Ultimate Style, it'll be much easier for me to push the Ultimate Style onto the stage.

'Wait... There's something else, I don't think I've heard of Senior Lin Chuan's name in my previous life. Logically speaking, that shouldn't be the case. He reached Heaven Realm before thirty, which made him really famous.

"Many of the mega industries, spirit energy research centers, and even Agricultural University's martial arts course are fighting for him. They're willing to invest copious amounts of cultivation resources into him. With this development, even if he doesn't reach Deity Realm, he should reach the peak of Heaven Realm and be like Soul Breaking Saber Luo Wu. There's no way he can become a nobody.

'Could it be... he died?'

Meng Chao felt his heart tense up.

When he thought about it carefully, it did feel like it was the case.

Since the northern offense would not go smoothly, there was a high chance that they had, in fact, lost miserably.

And Senior Lin Chuan stayed at the frontlines practically twenty-four hours a day, where he fought fiercely and lived by torturing himself like an aseptic monk. Even if he faced the raging horde of evolved and mutated monsters, he would definitely not back down.

It was highly likely that he would die.

'If that's really the case, I must think of a way to change Senior Lin Chuan's fate.

'With his glorious achievements, even if he's not a heroic citizen, he's definitely at least an elite among elites. In the future, he's highly likely going to rise to a heroic citizen. As long as he remains alive, he will contribute greatly to Dragon City.

'Besides, he has a positive and determined image. He'd be the perfect ambassador for the Ultimate Style.

'Also, he's really popular and has a lot of connections with various forces of power. Through him, I might also be able to get into contact with some of the higher-ups coming up with the strategies for the northern offense and find the "correct person".'

Meng Chao made up his mind. He wanted to use Weeping Reaper Lin Chuan as his breakthrough.

And it was simple to get in contact with Senior Lin Chuan. As long as he started killing monsters madly, he would definitely make Lin Chuan, a senior, pay attention to him, a junior.

Once he became certain of his direction, Meng Chao relaxed.

Li Yingzi finished introducing the basic rules of the camp to the freshmen. She then brought them to the cafeteria to eat and get to know their comrades from the other universities.

When they reached the entrance of a large tent which could accommodate thousands of people eating inside at the same time, someone suddenly slapped Meng Chao's shoulder.

He turned around and saw a really dark soldier.

Dragon City was an international metropolis. Before they transmigrated, there were foreigners in the city, Africans and Westerners alike. As decades passed, they left behind their descendants, but there were not many of them.

Meng Chao frowned. He did not remember having any African friends, and he could not understand why the man would be staring at him with teary eyes. He looked like he was about to pounce on him and start bawling.

"Meng Chao..." the African soldier called out in an airy voice.

Meng Chao found the voice familiar, and he squinted to observe the man for a long while before shock suddenly rushed through his system. He could not believe his own eyes when he asked, “F-Feixiong?”

‘Oh my God, isn’t this my best friend? Isn’t he supposed to be as white and plump as a stuffed bun?’

When they met during the summer holidays, Feixiong was still a fatty who weighed more than one hundred and fifty kilograms. He just joined the military school, so how did he lose at least fifty kilograms and why did he look as black as charcoal?

Also, even if the military school had a unique nature compared to the other universities and two-thirds of its students had to join the northern offense, the freshmen who had yet to awaken to supernatural abilities were not allowed on the battlefield.

Since Chu Feixiong was here, that meant that...

“You’ve become a superhuman?” Meng Chao was both shocked and delighted. He slapped his best friend’s shoulder. “Feixiong— No, I should call you Black Bear now. You’re horrible. You didn’t contact me at all after you entered military school. How could you not tell me that you became a superhuman? That’s a big event!

“I only became a superhuman because I fought to the death with the Bloody Moon Wolf King during the national college examination and inherited part of Principal Sun’s strength. But you? It’s just been a few months. There’s no way you should have reached the level where you can awaken.

“You must have run into a miracle. Did you find your very own heroic spirit? Did you get a legendary Predecessor? That’s a treatment only main characters in novels have!”

“Can we please not talk about it?” The big white bear... No, he should be called the big black bear now. The big black bear that lost more than fifty kilograms of weight found himself wanting to cry, but unable to do it. “I’ve indeed found my very own heroic spirit and managed to become a heroic spirit user somewhat, but... Ah, how should I say this? I really want to cry!”

“What? You obtained the favor of a Predecessor and became a heroic spirit user? That’s an even rarer fighting occupation compared to being a martial artist, and many people can only dream of becoming one. Why do you look so scornful? That’s not how you’re supposed to brag about yourself while pretending to be humble, you know?”

Meng Chao became interested. He dragged his best friend to the side to sit. “I have to say, the military is really good at training people. If we walked on the streets, I wouldn’t have dared to call out to you in case I mistook you for someone else. Come on, tell me. What happened?”

Chu Feixiong seemed to have been holding back a lot. The moment he sat down, he started grumbling that he should not have registered for the military school in the first place.

The management there was much stricter compared to the management of the undergraduate students in Agricultural University. During the new recruit training period, which lasted the first three months after joining, not only were they not allowed to leave the school, their communications with the outside world were cut off.

When Chu Feixiong finally managed to get through it, he ran into the outbreak of war at the northern frontlines. Most of the military students were then pushed into the armored airships before they even knew what happened.

Shattered Starlake was fifty kilometers away from the main city, and the interference to spirit energy magnetic fields along the way was strong, so it became even more impossible for them to contact the outside world. Forget about contacting Meng Chao, Chu Feixiong had only phoned his family three times.

Also, Agricultural University's martial arts course put an emphasis on the students developing freely. The lectures, missions, and resources were offered up, and it was up to the students as to how they wanted to cultivate. The cultivation maniacs could train day and night, but if they could no longer last, they could take a breather.

It was different in the military school. They treated the freshmen as elite special forces soldiers and trained them fiercely. Even if they were resting, they sometimes had to go through emergency gatherings at two in the morning. Then, they would have to carry weights while doing cross-country running from thirty to fifty kilometers. They could not relax for even half a second.

Besides, Chu Feixiong had chosen to enrol in the heroic spirit course, which was the strongest course in the military school.

Usually, the ones who enrolled in the heroic spirit course were all elites among elites. Most of the people there were sons and daughters of generals. They drank gene medicine like water since young, ate superbeast meat, and watched their parents, who were top officers in the army, train as they grew up. Hence, no matter how tough the training programmes were, they could grit their teeth and bear through it.

Chu Feixiong was lucky. He relied on the extra points and made it past the minimum passing score for the heroic spirit course.

When he entered the heroic spirit course, though, he was naturally ranked dead last. He scored last place in every subject in his course.

But the military school placed a huge emphasis on unity.

Take Meng Chao for an example. He held himself aloof from the other students and constantly daydreamed during the professional classes, but no one said anything. At most, they thought that he had given up and abandoned himself.

But this would not do in the military school. When one student's scores held the others back, the entire unit suffered. After everyone received their punishment, they would also "kindly" help that student. In just a few months, everyone had helped Chu Feixiong so much that he lost more than fifty kilograms and was completely different from how he used to look.

"I'm seriously stupid," Chu Feixiong said, wanting to cry. "When I filled up my registration form, Demon Yan tried persuading me that even with the extra marks, I have only barely made it to the minimum passing score for the heroic spirit course."

“He said that if I’m serious and work hard, even if I’m in another course, I can still rise high. He told me that the heroic spirit course is famous for being a demonic course, and if I’m not strong enough, even if I manage to make it in, I’ll be eliminated.

“He then added that instead of being dead last in the heroic spirit course and being trampled upon by the geniuses there, it would be better if I obediently went to register for the military school’s martial arts course and learn the Gun Fighting Style.

“But I refused to believe him. I thought that I had a good personality and looked handsome, so I was born to be the most dazzling protagonist. When I entered the military school, I would be immediately chosen by a heroic spirit and inherit great power, which would then allow me to start writing my own legend.

“But who would have known... Ah, who would have known?”

Meng Chao gathered his spirit energy around his eyes and observed his best friend. He noticed a faint layer of spirit flames surrounding him, and there were a few spirit meridians that were exceptionally clear on his arms. Even though he had not cleared a lot of main meridians, he was indeed a superhuman and a heroic spirit user.

So why was he still displeased?

“Could you summon your heroic spirit so that I can look at it?” Meng Chao asked. “You’re the first heroic spirit user that I know, after all.”

Chu Feixiong nodded. Then, he sighed and clenched his fists before he gritted his teeth. His veins popped up on his temples.

Gradually, something amazing happened. The spirit flames surrounding him started dancing gently and encircled him to slowly turn into a faint green human behind him.

Even though the spirit flames were really thin, Meng Chao could still tell that it was a soldier with big eyes and thick eyebrows. He gave off an honest feeling. In fact, he seemed a little foolish. He wore a washed-out training uniform and stood around like a blockhead.

“Um...” Meng Chao scratched his head.

Heroic spirits were beings created when a human died and left behind a powerful vitality magnetic field.

During the process of their creation, they absorbed the spirit energy in the world to gather their form and grow stronger. It meant that they usually no longer were 100% human, but looked even mightier, more domineering, and sometimes even monstrous.

One of the examples was the student recruiter Meng Chao and Chu Feixiong had seen when they went over Red Dragon River in the armored train.

The heroic spirit of the captain in the promotional video was a black guardian god made of more than a dozen soldiers who died defending a fort. They had died in battle in a mighty manner, and their spirits, as well as determination, were nourished nonstop by the spirit energy in the world, which allowed them to turn into a firm, steady, and sturdy spirit energy magnetic field. They became a black steel giant.

Meng Chao knew that many of the mighty military men whose existences intimidated Dragon City had heroic spirits that stood as tall as towering deities when they were summoned.

Earlier, he had also seen quite a number of the upperclassmen from the military school. The heroic spirits trailing behind them were all mighty and murderous.

But Chu Feixiong's heroic spirit... looked kind of friendly?

"Who is this Predecessor?" Meng Chao asked.

Chu Feixiong gritted his teeth and said in exasperation, "He's a stupid soldier!"

Chapter 164: Stupid Soldier

Meng Chao frowned a little when he heard it.

"Since he turned into a heroic spirit, no matter how low his cultivation realm was when he was alive, he had strong beliefs and a determined spirit. He's someone worthy of respect," he said seriously. "Besides, he chose you, which means that your spirit has resonated with him on some degree. Even if he's slightly weaker, you can't say that about a senior, right?"

"I'm not the one who said it. His squad leader said it. He is indeed a stupid soldier!"

Chu Feixiong told Meng Chao the story of the stupid soldier.

Around three decades ago, a teenager lost his parents during a monster invasion and nearly died under a monster's claws. Fortunately, he was saved by the Red Dragon Army. He then naturally joined the army to become an honorable soldier.

But this teenager named Xu Wanshan had always been rather foolish. He was not stupid, but his brain worked a little slower, and he was a stubborn person to boot.

When he arrived at the new recruit training camp, he had a hard time learning the saber techniques, gun techniques, squad tactics, and all the regular courses. He spent three times the time others would take to learn, and he always dragged the others down.

The other last place scorers were mostly people who were not very determined. They were afraid of hardships, and they liked to play tricks to slack off.

But Xu Wanshan worked hard, and he really trained day and night, regardless of rain or shine. The squad leader and the instructors all saw it, but since he was rather slow, he ended up moving his left arm and left leg together even after practising the simplest goose step for a few months. The others did not know whether they should laugh or cry when dealing with him.

Fortunately, the foolish man had an advantage. He was honest, obedient, obstinate, but obeyed orders without question and did what he was told.

If he were slow, then when others ran ten laps, he would run thirty laps, fifty laps, or one hundred laps. If he were not strong enough and could not throw his grenade far enough, he would practice throwing grenades one hundred times, three hundred times, or five hundred times more than others, which made

him end up with arms and thighs thicker than those of other people. If his saber technique wasn't good, he practiced drawing his saber, swinging it, and sheathing it. He kept practising as if he were a machine.

He always worked much harder than other recruits. In the end, he finally passed the test of the new recruit training camp smoothly and could join the battlefield.

Unfortunately, real fights were different from training. With his intellect, he could somewhat pass the rather rigid courses in the training camp. But when he arrived at the battlefield, the rapid changes and the sudden accidents left him dumbfounded. When he first arrived on the battlefield, he grabbed a bundle of grenades and went forward to commit double suicide with a monster, but the problem was, the monster was already fatally wounded, and there was no need for him to be the hero and save his comrades!

The higher-ups quickly saw that Xu Wanshan was simply not someone suited to be a soldier. Coincidentally, at that time, the intensity of the Monster War was starting to drop. He was also famous for training hard in the new recruit training camp, so they sent him to the military school, which had just been set up. Naturally, he was not sent there to be a student or a lecturer. Instead, he was sent there to be part of the military logistics. He could help out with miscellaneous tasks in the military school.

Xu Wanshan was an honest and obedient person who could endure hardships. He had a good time as part of the military logistics in the military school, but he did not know his own limits. He felt that if he worked hard, he could eventually gain results. As long as he staked his life while training, he could also become an ace soldier, despite the fact that he was known as Stupid Xu.

So he started training madly, just like he did when he was in the new recruit training camp.

If someone ran five laps, he would run ten laps, or twenty, or thirty. If someone swung their saber one hundred times, he would swing it five hundred times or one thousand times.

In other words, he watched the others' training programmes while he performed his tasks during the day, and when it was quiet at night, he ran to a deserted corner and started competing against the others in secret.

But a fool was a fool, and Xu Wanshan forgot something. His comrades in the new recruit training camp were all normal people like him, so among them, he could cover his weaknesses with hard work.

However, the students in the military school were all genius teenagers. They were one in ten thousand. Many of them had awakened to supernatural abilities before joining the school, and a foolish logistics officer like him could not hope to win against them.

Everyone knew about the great difference between normal people and superhumans, but this fool was stubborn. He felt that they were all humans. They were born of a man and woman, had shoulders and a head, so if the others could do something, he could do it too!

At that time, he played a little trick. He knew that he would definitely be scolded by the higher-ups if they learned that he was training madly despite the fact that he was a logistics officer, so he decided to use the advantage of being very familiar with the environment of the military school. He searched for a few incredibly hidden training spots and started his training to become an ace soldier.

But the cultivation programmes for superhumans were not something that a normal human could withstand. Yet he was really slow-witted. Any other soldier would have started groaning after going through half a day's worth of training, and in three days, they would be sent to the medical office to be treated. It would have healed them to perfect health.

But no matter how much Xu Wanshan suffered, he refused to speak, even if he trained to the point that he coughed up blood and suffered internal injuries. When his higher-ups noticed what he was up to, it was already too late. He had drained every bit of his life within a few months and died because he ran out of strength.

The comrades and squad leader who learned of this all felt their hearts ache for him. They scolded him for being the most foolish soldier that the Red Dragon Army had ever seen.

"I see." Meng Chao pondered over this. "If that's the case, this Senior Xu was a normal person up to the end of his life? Can a normal person turn into a heroic spirit?"

"A heroic spirit is made of the vitality magnetic field and brainwaves a person leaves after their death. As time and spirit energy nourish them, they grow stronger and firmer through all sorts of coincidences.

"As long as one's willpower is strong enough, anyone can turn into a heroic spirit," Chu Feixiong said. "But since the brainwaves of a normal person are weak and are no longer protected by the brain against the radiation from the stars, the planet's magnetic field, and all sorts of interferences from spirit energy magnetic fields, they soon disappear. That's why you don't usually see normal people turning into heroic spirits.

"But while Xu Wanshan wasn't strong, his determination was really firm, and his mind could be said to have been as sturdy as a rock. Since he ran out of energy while training, he died unable to accept his own death, so he left behind his determination—I must become an ace soldier.

"If he died elsewhere, no matter how strong his determination was, before long, it would have disappeared like smoke, but he had died in the field of the military school's heroic spirit course.

"What sort of place do you think the heroic spirit course is? It's where there are the most heroic spirits in Dragon City, and it's the place where they are the strongest too. Many of the lecturers and instructors are high-ranking heroic spirit users. They have powerful heroic spirits from Heaven Realm elites and even Deity Realm elites!

"These powerful heroic spirits often create a resonance with their vitality magnetic fields, as if their souls are resonating with each other, and hence, without anyone noticing it, they formed a forcefield around the heroic spirit course which can block off the radiation from around the world and the interference from magnetic fields.

"Xu Wanshan's determination stayed protected, and it was influenced as well. After around twenty years, he gained some strength and turned into a small heroic spirit... the weakest heroic spirit in all of Dragon City."

"I don't get it. Based on what you said, Senior Xu's heroic spirit should be the determined and persevering type," Meng Chao said with a frown. "Why did it acknowledge you and resonate with your mind to become your heroic spirit? Based on what I understand of you, you're clearly not the

determined and persevering type. There are plenty of other freshmen in the military school, so why didn't he choose someone else but you?"

"I wish he would've chosen someone else!" Chu Feixiong said with a scornful look. "It's all that woman's fault that I'm bound to the weakest heroic spirit in Dragon City!"

"Wait!" Meng Chao's eyes lit up. "So, there's a woman involved! Is she pretty?"

"The most important thing about being a person is to be kind. What's the point even if she's pretty?" Chu Feixiong said angrily. "Didn't a philosopher say that the more beautiful a woman is, the more diabolical she is? He was freaking right! That woman is my squad leader. She looks decent, but her heart is as wicked as a snake's. If we compared Zuo Haoran to her, he'd be eligible to contend for the top ten most outstanding youths in Dragon City!"

"No way. Did she provoke you or did you provoke her?"

Meng Chao felt that with Chu Feixiong's misdeeds in the past, the latter was more plausible.

"It's all because my scores were terrible and I always dragged the squad down. It made her feel humiliated as the squad leader!"

Chu Feixiong told Meng Chao that the rules and regulations in the other normal undergraduate courses like the ones in Agricultural University did not have a concept such as a squad leader. The student council was simply in charge of the major and minor matters among students.

But in the military school, the competition between squads was incredibly fierce. The squad leader had more power than a class rep in high school, and they could be considered pseudo-instructors and commanders.

The squad which had Chu Feixiong, the joke of the course, was naturally ranked behind the others in all sorts of sparring sessions and competitions. This made their prideful female squad leader, who joined the heroic spirit course as a specially recruited student, really angry.

She, thus, always treated Chu Feixiong as an eyesore and targeted him.

And their lecturers just had to pair them up into a study group. They wanted the female squad leader, who had extraordinary talent and outstanding abilities to help Chu Feixiong, who only managed to join the heroic spirit course out of sheer luck, which made him rank dead last. They wanted the person ranked at the top to help the person who showed bad results, and they gave the female squad leader an order she was not allowed to refuse. She could not give up on him or cast him aside. She had to make Recruit Chu Feixiong a new man and catch up to the monstrous geniuses in the course.

The female squad leader did not mind helping the weak students or comrades. The problem was, their standards were different. One of them was a rare super genius, and the other was a normal student who came from a normal family, had normal talents, and was normal in every aspect. Since they were forced to pair up, it was impossible for them to produce any results in an instant.

The female squad leader even felt that Chu Feixiong was intentionally going up against her by slacking off all the time and refusing to train honestly.

Chu Feixiong, in the meantime, thought that the female squad leader was intentionally making things hard for him by setting impossible targets and terrifying training programmes. She wanted to make things hard for him, torture him, and trample on him so that she could vent the displeasure she had for him dragging the entire squad down.

On the first day they paired up, they started arguing and fighting against each other. In just a few days, the female squad leader tried to persuade him to stop trying and change courses.

“Honestly, it’s not that I have to stay in the heroic spirit course. From the first day I entered military school, I knew that the heroic spirit course was a place for geniuses, monsters, and the children of generals and aristocrats. It’s not suitable for normal people like me. It would have been better if I had obediently written a report and applied to transfer to the martial arts course or the logistics course.”

Chu Feixiong then gritted his teeth and hissed. “But applying for the change is one thing, surrendering and running away like some dog with its tail between its legs after being looked down upon, mocked, and tortured by that woman is another! No matter how cowardly I am, I’m not going to bow down to that woman’s will!”

Chapter 165: A Strange Coincidence

“That’s true.” Meng Chao nodded. “You usually act really gungho in front of girls.”

“Of course I have to do that. Honestly, if that woman hadn’t provoked me, I wouldn’t have been able to last even one week in the heroic spirit course. It’s just too full of suffering, too tiring, and too brutal!” Chu Feixiong said in an aggrieved and frustrated tone.

“But you didn’t see how she looked at me. She always looks at me with this almost smirk, and there’s scorn all over her eyes. There’s also this mocking look on her lips, and even when she breathes, she breathes scorn. What’s that supposed to mean?”

“All I did on the first day when I enrolled in the school was to say boldly before everyone got to know each other that I want to become the greatest general in the history of the Red Dragon City and defeat all the current generals, even Thunder God Shao Zhengyang, which she accidentally heard.”

“Thunder God Shao Zhengyang is a Deity Realm elite and an eight-star superhuman. He has led three of the ten great expeditions of the Red Dragon Army, and he’s indeed a mighty general. You can’t win against him so easily,” Meng Chao said. “Speaking of which, didn’t they say that a soldier who doesn’t strive to be a general isn’t a good soldier? Even if you’re reaching for something beyond your grasp, it shouldn’t have made her target you in every aspect, right?”

Chu Feixiong’s face suddenly turned red. “I was foolish in the beginning,” he whispered, “and I criticized the mistakes in Thunder God Shao Zhengyang’s three expeditions. I also said that if I had led the expeditionary army, I would have done it better than Shao Zhengyang. I might have used rather crass words, but that woman’s expression changed completely.

“I only learned later that her dad is Thunder God Shao Zhengyang.”

“Um...”

Chu Feixiong continued now that he had started. "Anyway, from that day onwards, that woman treated me like a thorn in her side and an eyesore. Ever since she was paired up with me, she even started picking faults in everything I did. She either starts mocking me by wondering how I managed to get into the heroic spirit course or persuading me earnestly to switch courses, since I would sooner or later die during training.

"She then adds that she would send me out with fanfare and give me a grand farewell if I switched to the logistics course. She would even reach out to the middle-aged men and women over there to make sure that I would enjoy my time and get the fifty kilograms I lost back. She has said stuff like she would do anything just so that I would change courses. Tell me, is that the way to look down on someone?"

"I think that you should consider the last option, you know?" Meng Chao pondered over it.

Chu Feixiong glared at him.

Meng Chao raised his hands. "I was just joking. You need to fight for your dignity, after all. Even if you have to leave, you can't leave defeated."

"That's right. If that woman hadn't said anything, I would have left a long time ago. The more she provokes me, the more I want to stay in the heroic spirit course to fight against her. Even if I rank last in every class, lose another fifty kilograms, and die, I will die in the fields of the heroic spirit course.

"Then, I will turn into a toad and jump on her foot and bite her! Even if I can't kill her, I'll disgust her!" Chu Feixiong said. "Anyway, ever since that day, I fought against her with everything I had. I did whatever training programme she set for me, but if my movements were off and I was too slow, that was not my problem. I knew that I needed to improve my skills and strength, but at the very least, I was determined!

"But I have to say, that woman is seriously brutal. She just had to leave me covered in wounds every single day, and even when she saw that I really couldn't get up from the ground, she didn't feel sorry for me nor lightened the training load.

"In the end, after training for more than a month, I became exhausted and got myself a really bad fever. I stayed in the medical cabin for three days and three nights and still couldn't get up.

"Coincidentally, there was going to be a loaded one hundred-kilometer cross-country race in the next few days. It's incredibly hard, which is why it's known as Hell's Road. All freshmen have to participate in it, but that woman used her power as the squad leader and deleted my name. She said that I was sick and couldn't take part in the race, which was just humiliating me at that point."

Meng Chao was slightly stunned. "What do you mean?"

"Everyone in the heroic spirit course is treating me and that woman as a joke at this point. In fact, there are people who have started a gambling pool betting when I'd leave. I have been persevering all this while, and even if I rank dead last in all the matches, I join it to show those bastards my determination!"

Chu Feixiong gritted his teeth and said, "But that woman didn't even say anything and just deleted my name. It was all because she wanted to get rid of me and increase the average score of the squad. But no one else knew about it and just thought that I backed out because I'm a coward. They said that I don't have the guts to go on Hell's Road and pretended to be sick to avoid it!

"I got angry after that and argued back. I told her that I'm part of the Red Dragon Army, and even if I'm sick, it's nothing. When the monsters invade, would a sick man not need to fight just because he's ill? Who was she to prevent me from going on Hell's Road without even talking to me about it?"

"That woman then smiled coldly and said that with how I am right now, even if I participate in Hell's Road, I will definitely not be able to reach the end. Instead of giving up halfway and becoming the subject of everyone's jokes, it'd be better if I didn't register for the race at all. It'd be better if I just stayed comfortably in the medical cabin.

"We argued and argued, and the fight increased in intensity. In the end, we made a bet on whether I'd be able to last the one hundred kilometers with a three hundred-kilogram weight on my back in the obstacle course around the heroic spirit course's field.

"If I could do it, she would admit that I am a jade worth polishing, and one day, I can become a mighty general. But her methods are too crude and rough, so she can't train me. She would apologize to me in public and be gentler when she sets up a new logical training programme according to science.

"If I lost, there was nothing else to say. I'd leave."

Meng Chao scratched his head. "You're in university, man, and you're even in military school. Is it really okay for you to be so childish?"

"Childish? What are you saying? Do you think I care about that woman being gentle? I just couldn't take such an insult lying down," Chu Feixiong said. "Honestly, I signed the form to change courses and even left my thumbprint on it. It was in my pocket. I had been bothered by that woman for a month, and it was time for me to end things.

"But even if I left, I had to leave with my head held high. I already thought about it. I definitely had to complete the one hundred-kilometer obstacle course with three hundred kilograms on my back. Then, while the woman was dumbfounded, I'd bring out the form to change courses and slap it against her face.

"It'd show her that she just ended up making an outstanding person leave in anger and that Dragon City had lost a great general who could win all fights just because of her pettiness and harsh nature. I wanted to humiliate her and make her beg me not to leave.

"Of course, I'd definitely not leave. Heroic spirit course? I don't care about that! Think about it, wouldn't it be really elegant? You'd feel good too, right?"

Meng Chao said, "I think that you have a really good imagination."

"Anyway, before I fully recovered, I ran that obstacle course. And let me tell you, a one hundred-kilometer obstacle course with a three hundred-kilogram weight is really freaking hard. If I were my usual self, I'd have started begging for mercy after about fifty kilometers, but that woman was beside me, watching me with an intense gaze!" Chu Feixiong said.

"Every time I finished a lap, I saw her dumbfounded expression, and I imagined her feeling ashamed and regretful after I finished. Heh, and then, without realizing it, all my fatigue and pain disappeared. I was filled with an endless amount of motivation. As I ran, I actually—"

“Finished one hundred kilometers?” Meng Chao asked.

“Hahaha! You wouldn’t expect it either, but I ran one hundred and twenty kilometers, which shocked that woman. Based on what she said later, I ran as if I were possessed, and even when she called out to me, I wouldn’t listen. When she went to stop me, I just stared straight ahead and bypassed her. If I couldn’t bypass her, I moved forward while pushing her.

“I was so strong that she couldn’t stop me. In the end, she had to ask the lecturers for help, and they carried me to the medical office. Each of them held one of my limbs.”

Chu Feixiong first laughed, but then he covered his face, and his shoulders shook. “It’s only later that I learned that at some point in time, Stupid Soldier Xu Wanshan’s heroic spirit bound itself to me, and with his help, I managed to run more than one hundred and twenty kilometers!”

Meng Chao connected the dots in his best friend’s words, pondered them for a while, then understood what happened.

“So, Stupid Soldier Xu Wanshan’s heroic spirit had been lingering around the field in the heroic spirit course while looking for a heroic spirit user who would resonate with him? And he was searching for someone who is honest, foolish, determined, perhaps not very outstanding in terms of his martial arts, gun technique, and intellect, but determined?”

Meng Chao smacked the table and said, “But even if he turned into a heroic spirit, he still couldn’t wrap his head around it, huh? He didn’t remember that all the students who managed to get into the heroic spirit course were elites among elites. Their determination was definitely strong enough, but they weren’t honest, foolish, only had average skills in martial arts, gun technique, and normal IQ.

“Fortunately, God never forsakes those who work hard. He waited for many years, and he finally found you, you joker. At first glance, you’re practically the same as him.

“Heroic spirits have no will, so he didn’t know that you made a bet with your squad leader. He just thought that you’re the same as he was in the past, and by some strange coincidence, as you ran, your vitality magnetic field and his spirit energy magnetic field resonated and fused together. You inherited Stupid Soldier Xu Wanshan’s strength and dying will, and you became a glorious heroic spirit user, is that it?”

“That’s right. That’s what happened,” Chu Feixiong said with a depressed face. “Since Xu Wanshan’s strength as a heroic spirit was too weak, in the beginning, the lecturers in the heroic spirit course and the medical doctor couldn’t even sense him. They sent me to be treated in the medical cabin.

“In the end, I got up with a muddled head in the middle of the night as if I was daydreaming. With great familiarity, I went to the corner of the school campus and practiced the Army Fist the entire night before I was discovered. Everyone was shocked and sent me back to the medical office.

“I didn’t know what was going on myself. I seem to remember it, but I don’t seem to know anything either. I just felt numbness and pain all over, and that my muscles had no strength. I didn’t even have the strength to poop, but there was this urge in my heart. When I saw a field, I wanted to run in it. When I saw a horizontal bar, I wanted to rotate over it. When I saw grenades, I wanted to throw them. When I saw nothing, I wanted to practice my Army Fist. Not even five men could stop me.

“In a short week, this sort of thing happened four times. In the beginning, the doctor thought that I was obsessed or had started sleepwalking. Later though, a veteran in the military school saw me sneaking out to train and realized that my gait, posture, and foolish demeanor was exactly the same as Stupid Soldier Xu Wanshan’s!

“So, he asked the most powerful lecturer and the greatest specialist from the heroic spirit course to examine me. They used the most advanced equipment and finally found Xu Wanshan’s heroic spirit. They also discovered that his heroic spirit had embedded deep into my brain and even fused into one with my soul. We can’t be separated anymore!”

Chapter 166: Invincible Army Fist

When Meng Chao heard it, he could not help but frown and say, “Alright, the process might have some twists and turns, but the results are still pretty good. No matter how insignificant something is, it’s still worth something, right? Even if he’s the weakest heroic spirit, he’s still a heroic spirit. Many people want one, but don’t have it!

“I heard that heroic spirits can change to a lot of forms and have a lot of divine abilities. Even in dreams, they can teach their heroic spirit users a lot of skills. They can also use their heroic spirit users to strengthen their bones and bodies. They can also release them as killing moves.

“The speed of their attacks is even faster than that of martial artists’ creation of spirit energy magnetic fields. They can also seep into the heroic spirit users’ weapons and use the vibrations from the spirit energy magnetic fields to interfere with the sphere energy level in an atomic nucleus. They can change the atomic mass of a weapon so that they can maximize the quality, optimize the form, and maximize the power of the weapon.

“If you add a heroic spirit to a normal saber, it will turn into a dragon-slaying saber. If you add a heroic spirit to a normal rifle, it can oneshot a Nightmarish Beast.

“What sort of ability does your heroic spirit have?”

“Nothing! It has nothing!” Chu Feixiong said with a long face. “That’s the problem. Other people’s heroic spirits are made from the powerful vitality magnetic fields, memories, and determination of Heaven Realm or Deity Realm elites. They possess powerful divine abilities that allow them to split open the earth and destroy the world.

“Some heroic spirits are formed after Earth Realm elites die, and they absorb a lot of normal people’s dying wills and determination. After they gather their wills together, they turn into powerful entities and can be considered to be very powerful.

“But my heroic spirit is a normal, fragmented soul. With his stubbornness and obstinance, he was born alone in the field of the heroic spirit course. Xu Wanshan was a foot soldier when he was alive, so what sort of skills do you think he has?

“I often dream about being Xu Wanshan and training madly, but all he does is practice running, walk in goose steps, stand at attention, salute, practice push ups, rotations on the horizontal bar, throwing

grenades, the most basic saber techniques and gun techniques, and Army Fist. No matter how skilled he was with these 'skills', at the end of the day, he's still just a foot soldier."

Chu Feixiong suddenly stared straight ahead.

Before Meng Chao could say anything, he stood up, took one step back, and stood at attention. His eyes were wide open, his expression was honest and stern, and he flung his arms before he executed the most beautiful army salute Meng Chao had ever seen in his life.

If the generals saw him, they would definitely not be able to help but slap Chu Feixiong's shoulder and praise him. "What a good soldier!"

His large movements naturally caught the attention of quite a number of the five thousand people in the cafeteria.

Some of the freshmen who had just arrived were very shocked.

But when the military school students saw that it was Chu Feixiong, they smiled kindly at him and turned away, as if they were used to this.

"What are you doing?"

Meng Chao was shocked. He quickly tugged at his best friend, but he stayed as still as a pine tree rooted to the ground. Even with his insane strength, Meng Chao could not make Chu Feixiong budge.

A few seconds later, Chu Feixiong returned to normal.

"This is a very common sight of new heroic spirit users losing control when their vitality magnetic fields and their heroic spirits' magnetic fields interfere with each other," Chu Feixiong said gloomily.

"But when other heroic spirit users lose control, they display beautiful and powerful skills in spite of themselves or execute the signature moves of their heroic spirits. When others see them, they know that they're a successor, right?"

"As for me, I salute, stand at attention, or march in goose steps, and I can't control myself! When I march, I even march with the same arm and leg! Oh God, why? Can you imagine a heroic spirit marching with the same arm and leg?"

Meng Chao imagined it, and he could not help but snicker.

Chu Feixiong glared at him fiercely.

"I'm sorry, my mistake." Meng Chao raised his arms in surrender. "But look at the brighter side. We're all in the same boat now. I'm a broken-star superhuman, so I have my difficulties too, right?"

"Bah, no matter how few main meridians a broken-star superhuman has, at the very least, they can execute a few skills. Didn't you also get Principal Sun's Demon Subduing Pole and even upgraded it to the powerful Demon Subduing Slash?" Chu Feixiong said gloomily.

"At least, you have one skill. I might be a superhuman, but I have nothing. I'm a blank piece of paper. The strongest skill I have is the Army Fist. I can use it to fight against normal monsters, but how am I supposed to use it against Nightmarish Beasts, Hell Beasts, or Apocalyptic Beasts?"

The Army Fist was similar to the One Hundred Saber Techniques. It was a basic skill everyone could learn, and many high schools set up extra-curricular classes to teach the Army Fist. Obviously then, it was not a killing move with great power.

Meng Chao thought about it. "Since you've already cleared some spirit meridians, you can practice other skills. No one said that you can't practice martial arts just because you became a heroic spirit user, right?"

Chu Feixiong's expression turned even more bitter. "Yeah. Usually, a heroic spirit won't interfere with the heroic spirit user practising other skills. Instead, they'd help to a certain degree and fuse the skills they had while they were alive to blend with the heroic spirit user's new technique. Once the fusion is complete, they can execute the moves with greater power.

"But remember what sort of person my heroic spirit is. He's Stupid Xu, famous for being stubborn and obstinate. He believes that the Army Fist is the strongest martial art in the world, and if you mastered the Army Fist, it'd be even better than any amazing skill that can destroy the world.

"This is a belief carved into his soul, and after he bound himself to me once he turned into a heroic spirit, he carved that belief into my mind, as if he left a spirit mark in my brain.

"My current self logically knows that the Army Fist is just a technique taught to grassroots soldiers. It's the most normal and basic martial art, and no matter how much I practice it, I won't become invincible. In fact, it won't even be enough for me to reach the ranks of third-class fighters, but whenever I want to practice other martial arts, my heart resists it fiercely, and as I practice, at some point in time, I shift back to practising the Army Fist!"

"How can this be?" Meng Chao was dumbfounded.

"I spoke a few times to Xu Wanshan's former squad leader, and I learned that Xu Wanshan was really stupid in the past. Forget about any sort of amazing skill, even if it were just an intermediate martial art that was slightly harder to learn or some fusion fighting skill that combined the use of cold weapons or firearms, he just could not learn it. Only his Army Fist was pretty good," Chu Feixiong said.

"The former squad leader could not bear watching him fail multiple times but keep gritting his teeth to continue persevering only to continue failing, so he lied and said that there was no martial art in the world that could be considered the strongest in the world. The strongest person could make even the most normal martial art, like the Army Fist, deliver destructive force once they mastered it.

"It could even become a divine art that can uproot mountains, and with Xu Wanshan's potential, he was most suited to practice the Army Fist. As long as he could persevere, sooner or later, he would definitely make the Army Fist shine with glory and make it an invincible martial art.

"The former squad leader was kind. He didn't want Xu Wanshan to continue experiencing pointless failures, and Xu Wanshan looked as if he had understood the truth of martial arts. From then on, he continued to practice the Army Fist even harder, and he was very happy doing it, but that's a problem for me! I inherited his will and determination! I don't want to practice the Army Fist! I won't become a general if I just practice the Army Fist!"

Meng Chao scratched his head. "When you put it that way, it does seem like a huge trouble."

“It’s a major problem!” Chu Feixiong slapped his thigh and said, “Having this heroic spirit is even worse than not having any heroic spirit. When I didn’t have a heroic spirit, I could at least imagine myself getting some powerful heroic spirit’s favor and resonating with the mind of a Deity Realm elite. Then, I could easily inherit a divine art and command an army. I could march boldly in war and become a brave soldier of the Red Dragon Army!

“But when you resonate with a heroic spirit, it means that your soul is bound to them. Under normal circumstances, it’s impossible to get bound to another heroic spirit. It’s also impossible to kick aside a heroic spirit just because it’s too weak and look for a new one.

“But my heroic spirit is not just weak, it won’t even let me learn other martial arts aside from the Army Fist!

“Honestly speaking, even though I have the dream of becoming a mighty general, I know that it’s not good for me to reach for something beyond my grasp. I have to be down-to-earth. Even if I can’t become a general, I should be content with second best and become an ace soldier. It’s something I could somewhat accept.

“I wouldn’t mind becoming an ace soldier who can pretend to be a normal bodyguard after retiring from the army and mingle around beautiful socialites. I could even use my strength for things that I shouldn’t, like reaching out to beat up the rich men’s sons. That sort of life would be pretty good too.

“But now that I’ve been bound to Stupid Soldier Xu Wanshan, I can’t even think about becoming a general or an ace soldier! I’m going to stay as a normal foot soldier for the rest of my life!”

Meng Chao did not know how to comfort his best friend.

In his previous life, Chu Feixiong did not manage to make it into the military school and sacrificed his life quietly during the Monster War as a normal soldier.

In this life, even when he managed to get into the strongest undergraduate course in the military school with Meng Chao’s help, after all the twists and turns, was he still going to end up as a foot soldier?

Was this fate?

“It’s all Shao Jianqing’s fault! That harsh, mean, ruthless, and wicked woman!” The more Chu Feixiong spoke, the angrier he became. He punched the table fiercely. “If it weren’t for the bet with her, I wouldn’t have run a one hundred-kilometer obstacle course with a three hundred-kilogram load in the field, and I wouldn’t have resonated with Stupid Soldier Xu Wanshan. I wouldn’t be bound by this weak and stubborn heroic spirit, and now, my dream wouldn’t be completely ruined.

“Shao Jianqing, because of this, we’re mortal enemies. Just you wait, don’t let me find a chance to get back at you, or forget about Thunder God Shao Zhengyang, not even God himself will be able to save you. Hehehehe...”

When Meng Chao saw the savage grin on his best friend’s face, he quietly raised his hand. “One question. Does that Shao Jianqing you’re talking about has fair skin, a wicked figure, an oval face, looks rather coquettish, but has large, lively eyes resembling a tiger’s, which shreds all that coquettish air and makes her look so heroic and aggressive that no one would dare to look her in the face? Is that about it?”

“Huh, how did you know?” Chu Feixiong asked in shock.

“I saw her,” Meng Chao said.

“When did you see her? Where?” Chu Feixiong was curious.

“Now, behind you.”

Chapter 167: Score A Lucky Hit

Chu Feixiong jumped up like a cat with a stepped on tail.

He curled up and covered his butt, then said to the woman who had been standing silently behind him for three minutes, “If you were willing to take the bet, you have to be willing to lose! You said that once I finished the one hundred-kilometer obstacle course with a three hundred-kilogram load, you wouldn’t attack me again!”

Meng Chao suddenly felt that his best friend’s description of being a determined, hot-blood young man who had launched his counterattack was a little different from reality.

He quietly observed his best friend’s female squad leader, Shao Jianqing, who was the daughter of Dragon City’s Thunder God Shao Zhengyang.

There were quite a number of new people around them, and they observed her curiously but discreetly.

She was a woman who was destined to attract attention.

Very few female soldiers were able to stand gracefully even with a nanotech fighting suit, a strengthened exoskeleton, and two mighty swords that looked like the propellers of a helicopter.

And very few female soldiers had skin as white as snow and without a single blemish even after going through high-intensity training for a few months in the most brutal weather under the summer sun, then joining the battlefield in the wild and fighting for half a month against monsters.

If not for her aggressive, tiger-like eyes, she was not at all like a soldier, but like a fashionable, teenage celebrity who was even more brilliant and charming than Yan Feirou.

But her intense eyes could not hide her ambition and determination, and it cast her awe-inspiring beauty into the shadows. Everyone could only see her heroic gait.

“Don’t worry, Chu Feixiong. I won’t hurt even half of your finger today.” Just like her demeanor, Shao Jianqing’s voice was a little hoarse, making her sound quite gender-neutral. She said faintly, “I only came to tell you that I completed the mission we got to kill fifty Three-eyed Spirit Cats, and I even killed some extra. I killed a total of seventy-six of them, so you can have half of my kills. Go and get your iron-blooded coins later.”

“What?” Chu Feixiong was a little stunned, and he frowned. “Since this is a group mission and we were supposed to hunt in pairs, why did you complete the mission on your own. Wouldn’t I be...”

Meng Chao felt that he wanted to say that this meant that he ended up relying on her to complete the mission, but they were in public, and he felt embarrassed to say this out loud.

“If it were Demonic Halberd Pigs, Iron-armored Rhinoceroses, or any other monster that has thick skin but is slow, I wouldn’t mind leaving behind a few for you to play with, but Three-eyed Spirit Cats are famous for being agile and cunning.

“Fight them with your Army Fist? Ha, are you going to hunt them until midnight? I don’t have so much time to help you practice your Army Fist until it’s the best fist technique in the world. My efficiency is higher if I act alone.”

Shao Jianqing paused, then added, “I will give you half of the rewards from my hunts over the next few days. You can stay in the camp and rest while you think about the suggestion I gave you.

“You should know that you don’t have to stay in the heroic spirit course just because you have a heroic spirit. You can go to the martial arts course, firearms course, commanding course, or even the logistics course. Those places can help cultivate heroic spirit users as well. Besides, your heroic spirit... is too unique. What’s the point of you continuing to stay in the heroic spirit course?”

“You... What’s the meaning of this? Are you looking down on my heroic spirit just because he’s a normal soldier?”

The female squad leader’s words had stomped on some taboo in Chu Feixiong, and rage swirled around him. His expression instantly became different, and he looked quite “stubborn and obstinate”. The shock from when he saw Shao Jianqing was completely gone.

He slammed his fist on the table and got up. “I’m telling you, Shao Jianqing, you can torment me, trample on me, and even torture me, but don’t insult my heroic spirit!” he roared.

“So what if he’s just a normal soldier? No matter how mighty a general is, without thousands of soldiers to fight for him, he’s just a general without an army to command. He’s useless.

“Even if my heroic spirit is the weakest in Dragon City right now, heroic spirits can grow together with their heroic spirit user, and one of these days, my heroic spirit will become even stronger than your Female Battle God, and your father, Thunder God Shao Zhengyang!”

The female squad leader frowned a little, then sighed in resignation. She ignored the raging Chu Feixiong and extended a hand to Meng Chao. “I’m Chu Feixiong’s squad leader, Shao Jianqing. You’re his friend, right? Please advise him to change his mind. The heroic spirit course isn’t suited for him and his heroic spirit. There’s no need for him to show off or sulk about this. He’s just staying in the course to suffer at this point.”

Meng Chao’s mind raced.

Thunder God Shao Zhengyang was a resolute general and a major figure in the Red Dragon Army. Naturally, he had the right to join Dragon City’s tactical plans.

Was he the “right person” worthy of Meng Chao revealing some information to him?

But no matter what, Shao Jianqing was someone worthy of getting acquainted with.

For the future of Dragon City and the safety of thousands of his peers, even if he had to sacrifice a bit of his best friend’s pride and... his body, everyone should understand where Meng Chao came from, right?

“Hello, I’m Meng Chao, Chu Feixiong’s best friend. Don’t worry, Shao Jianqing, I don’t think Feixiong is suited for the heroic spirit course either. I’ll definitely persuade him to switch to the logistics course and stop bothering you!”

Meng Chao quickly took Shao Jianqing’s hand and put on a smile on his face. “Do you mind if we exchange contacts so that we can contact each other often? Honestly, I’m filled with admiration for Thunder God Shao Zhengyang. After all, I’ve grown up listening to General Shao leading the expeditionary force in the wild. To me, he’s not just a mighty general, but a legendary and famous general!”

Chu Feixiong did not expect that Meng Chao would “betray” him so willingly, and he was instantly flabbergasted.

His dumbfounded expression made Shao Jianqing break into laughter.

When she smiled, her sharp, tiger-like eyes crinkled. The sharp glare she had disappeared, and only a beauty that would make heads turn remained. It caused quite a lot of boys around them to suck in sharp breaths.

But that smile only lasted for half a second before her expression instantly turned stiff and wary. “You... You said you’re Meng Chao. Are you from Agricultural University?”

“That’s right. Please take care of me, Ms. Shao.” Meng Chao smiled faintly.

Ever since he killed the Bloody Moon Wolf King during the national college examination’s practical test, a lot of media corporations fell over each other to interview him, and he could be considered quite famous. It was not surprising then that Shao Jianqing would recognize him.

If that were the case, she might take the initiative to become his friend, and they might have the chance to sit down together to have a meal to talk about the current situation in the world as well as the tactical strategies employed by Dragon City, right?

But to his surprise, Shao Jianqing took her hand back at the speed of lightning. Contempt that she did not bother to hide appeared in her eyes. She first glared at Meng Chao before she cast a scornful look at Chu Feixiong and shook her head as if she was saying “Birds of a feather flock together, I guess.”

She turned around and left, and when she walked, she even flung her hand, as if the skin Meng Chao touched was bitten by a toad.

“What’s going on?” This time, it was Meng Chao’s turn to feel gloomy. “I don’t know her at all. Just how did I offend her now? No matter how much she hates you, there’s no reason for her to be angry at me as well, right?”

“Don’t look at me. It has nothing to do with me. She just hates you.” Chu Feixiong delighted in his misery and said, “Think. Your reputation is down the drain right now. And you thought to win that tigress vixen’s favor by betraying your friend? Impossible!”

“What do you mean?” Meng Chao was puzzled. “Bad reputation? Who? Me?”

“Duh. Why are you pretending to be innocent? I’ve been wanting to ask you about it, but I didn’t get the chance just now,” Chu Feixiong said. “Right now, there’s a rumor going around in the alliance of the five

universities that there's a freshman in Agricultural University's martial arts course who practises an evil martial art called the Ultimate Style just so that he can sneak into places he shouldn't and do despicable things that would enrage both heaven and earth.

"And he actually managed to fulfil his goals. Of course, in the end, he had his criminal acts unmasked and received a notice of criticism. There was a picture of that notice posted on the university's website.

"Most of the groups in the alliance of the five universities know about it. In some screenshots, that person is known as Meng Something, and in other screenshots, that person is known as Something Chao. Isn't that you?"

"What?!"

"I didn't know that you're this sort of person— Ah, fine. Honestly, I can believe you being that sort of person. But I didn't expect you to be so daring, so efficient, and this evil Ultimate Style to be so powerful. You actually managed to sneak into the girls' dorms despite the fact that their defence is so tight?"

"No. Listen to me. The Ultimate Style is actually a profound and legitimate—"

Chu Feixiong did not wait for him to finish. "Right now, the expressions of most of the girls in the alliance of the five universities change when they hear your name, and all of the boys are indignant. They want to put a shameless dog like you through the most severe interrogation and make you hand over the ways to practice this evil martial art so that they can criticize it. Then, they're going to cut you up so that they can vent their anger!"

Meng Chao said, "You've truly mistaken. How would I do something so shameless, boring, and perverse? The reason behind this accident is— Hang on, what did you just say? Repeat that for me, will you?"

Chu Feixiong did. "They're going to cut you up so that they can vent their anger!"

Meng Chao shook his head. "No. The one before that."

Chu Feixiong went straight to the start of the conversation. "The expressions of most of the girls in the alliance of the five universities change when they hear your name."

Meng Chao shook his head again. "Not that one either. The one in the middle."

So, Chu Feixiong said, "The boys in the military school want to put a shameless dog like you through the most severe interrogation and make you hand over the ways to practice this evil martial art so that they can criticize it."

Meng Chao's eyes lit up, and his delight was greater than his disappointment. "Really? You want to criticize this evil martial art?"

Chu Feixiong spoke severely and with a sense of justice. "Of course it's true. Many of the boys in the military school heard that you and I both came from Ninth High School, so they tried to interrogate me too so that they can learn the truth of this evil martial art. If it's really dangerous, we will delve deeper into it to explore it fully so that we can learn how to counter it. That's the only way we can uphold justice and maintain peace!

“We’re all friends, so tell me honestly. Is this Ultimate Style really sinister, despicable, shameless, and underhanded?”

Meng Chao had to say, “... Yes. It’s indeed sinister, despicable, shameless, and underhanded.”

“Then you have to give up the ways to practice it so that the boys in the military school can criticize it.”

Meng Chao agreed to it. “No problem. Anyway, all the boys from the alliance of the five universities are going to stay in the base now. We can make an Ultimate Style Study Group, just like we did in high school. Aside from the boys in the military school, we can also gather all the hot-blooded boys with a great sense of justice from the University of Technology, Medical University, and the University of Science. I’ll take the lead and have everyone criticize the Ultimate Style!”

Chapter 168: Female Battle God

Chu Feixiong was so amused that he let out a huff that blew a bubble from his nose. “Seriously?!”

“Feixiong, we’re friends who have fought in life and death situations. When you downloaded those dangerous and stimulating life science videos in the past, you shared them with me so we could criticize them together. Why would I lie to you?”

Meng Chao slapped Chu Feixiong’s shoulder and said firmly, “Don’t worry. Even though I don’t have great knowledge about heroic spirits, the 1,024 branch meridians we cultivate in the Ultimate Style aren’t connected to any killing moves that require you to form a spirit energy magnetic field. It shouldn’t clash with your Army Fist.

“It’s fine even if you don’t have any skills. When you wander around the land, you need to rely on a sturdy body and a firm fist to survive, not some dazzling skills!

“You mentioned something that I agree with. Regardless of whether it’s a martial artist, heroic spirit user, or heroic spirit, all of them can grow. Even if your heroic spirit is very weak right now, as long as you cultivate your 1,024 branch meridians until they are as tough as steel and are perhaps even thicker, sturdier, and even more energetic than your main meridians, even the most normal Army Fist will be able to kill Nightmarish Beasts, Hell Beasts, and even Apocalyptic Beasts.”

Meng Chao thought about it. Army Fist might be a beginner fist technique that millions of Red Dragon Army soldiers knew, but that was also its advantage: There were a lot of people who practiced it, which meant that it had built up a large database. There was feedback from people using it in real fights, which meant that there were various ways to use the fist technique against most monsters. It was modified nonstop to cover up its weaknesses, and new skills were developed from it.

In contrast, when an ultimate technique was only available to Deity Realm elites, it inevitably had little data about its usage in real fights. It might have a fatal weakness that did not mean anything against 99% of the superbeasts, but would be deadly against one type of superbeasts.

Because of this, Army Fist was definitely not the strongest fist technique, but it was definitely the steadiest fist technique.

When monsters will start mutating madly, the old way of fighting and going to war would become outdated, and steadiness would become incredibly important.

“But you still need dreams. After all, what if you do manage to achieve it?” After thinking about it, Meng Chao continued. “Don’t give up on becoming a mighty general, and I’ll do my best to help you. Of course, we can’t go dreaming too big and hope to reach the top in one go. Let’s set a small goal first.

“How about this? Let’s not be in a hurry to fight against those who are stronger than us. Let’s start with the peers who are in Spirit Tattoo Realm! If we work together in the northern offense, we’ll definitely become the strongest one-star superhumans in Dragon City. Then, we’ll reach two stars in a brilliant manner!

“That way, I can make the Ultimate Style shine, and you can suppress your female squad leader so that she can see your manliness!”

When Chu Feixiong heard this, he could not help giggling.

He laughed for a while until his face turned a little red, and he whispered, “I don’t have a problem with practicing the Ultimate Style, but forget about suppressing the female squad leader. You don’t know about Shao Jianqing’s origins, do you? She’s a legendary specially recruited student.”

Meng Chao snorted. “Her dad is a general. There’s nothing special about her being a specially recruited student.”

“That’s where you’re wrong. Even though I despise the woman’s evil ways, as it stands, she’s so strong that she doesn’t need General Shao pulling strings for her.”

Chu Feixiong actually started defending the female squad leader. “Also, General Shao is known for being unbiased and not adhering to logic. He won’t just pull strings for his relatives and children. He’s the type who’s a prude when it comes to morals. He’s afraid of people talking bad about him, so he’s especially strict when he treats his relatives and children.

“General Shao has a total of seven sons and three daughters. Aside from one son and daughter who have not become adults just yet, after his other children graduated, he sent them to the harshest and most dangerous squads. He doesn’t give them special treatment. Instead, they have to face the most difficult trials, and they get promoted slower than their peers.

“He has been leading the army for years, and he has already sent three sons and one daughter to their deaths in the wild. The other generals and his former subordinates could not bear to watch it and tried to persuade him to stop sending his children to such dangerous places, but General Shao could not be convinced.

“He said that he can’t show love when he commands his soldiers. As a general, he’s supposed to use the deaths of his soldiers to gain the greatest benefit. If he’s unwilling to send his children to their deaths, why should he have the right to send other people’s children to their deaths?”

Meng Chao fell silent.

Thunder God Shao Zhengyang was not a general who created miracles like a magician. He was not skilled in using a small number of soldiers to win against a large number of enemies.

His strategies could be described as a thunderbolt. They were simple, crude, and fierce. He was skilled in fighting against powerful enemies in the most difficult and bloody battles.

Out of the ten expeditions that the Red Dragon Army had ever launched, the three he led gained the greatest success.

But at the same time, the number of soldiers and elites lost was also the highest.

A lot of people in the Red Dragon Army, Supernatural Tower, and the Survival Committee criticized him, which prevented him from being promoted further. Otherwise, with his grand achievements during the three expeditions, he would have long since been promoted to the rank of a field marshal.

He was ruthless to other soldiers, but he was even more ruthless to his own children. If that was how Thunder God Shao Zhengyang behaved, it was indeed quite impossible for him to pull strings for his daughter to become a specially recruited student.

“Speaking of it, though, we can’t say that General Shao has absolutely nothing to do with Shao Jianqing becoming a specially recruited student,” Chu Feixiong said. “There is a tradition in the Shao family that during the winter holidays before the children of the Shao family go for their national college examinations, General Shao sends them into the wild. He only gives them a dagger and a bottle of freshwater before telling them to survive on their own for three days and three nights. This is considered their coming-of-age ceremony.”

Meng Chao remembered the Bloody Moon Wolf King he encountered in the wild and gasped. “Isn’t that a little too crazy?!”

“I didn’t say it wasn’t. I think General Shao would send someone to protect them in the dark, but no matter what, the children are just normal teenagers who have not awakened to supernatural abilities yet. If they really ran into danger, even the bodyguards might not be able to protect them in time,” Chu Feixiong said.

“And just as everyone thought, when it was Shao Jianqing’s turn for her coming-of-age ceremony, her luck was especially bad. She ran into a Grade Three Nightmarish Beast called Lightning Dragon, which is a very fast beast. She was taken away and vanished after entering a crack in the ground. Its end could not be seen.

“When Shao Jianqing was dragged underground by the Lightning Dragon, everyone thought that she would definitely die. The Shao family even began preparing for her funeral, but she discovered a huge, incomplete, and mottled sword in the dragon’s nest. She also awakened the power that had been lying dormant in it for twenty years. She obtained the acknowledgement of the heroic spirit in there and killed seven Lightning Dragons in the nest in one go to carve a bloody way out of the underground!”

Meng Chao was dumbfounded.

Lightning Dragons were the kings among Nightmarish Beasts. They were just one step away from Apocalyptic Beasts and were much stronger than Bloody Moon Wolf Kings.

He had thought that he could boast about his feat of killing a Bloody Moon Wolf King during the national college examination for at least a year, but Shao Jianqing killed seven Lightning Dragons during her winter holidays, and she even kept a low profile about it. The world did not even know about it.

Seriously, she showed no respect to him, a returnee!

“If you knew who formerly owned the sword she picked up in the dragon’s nest and whose heroic spirit she awakened, you wouldn’t find this strange or ridiculous.” Before Meng Chao could say anything, Chu Feixiong was unable to stop himself from revealing the mystery. “Didn’t I tell you just now that her heroic spirit is called the Female Battle God?”

A thought arose in Meng Chao’s mind, and he was so shocked that goosebumps broke all over his skin. “The Female Battle God Su Jianqing?”

The last fifty years, there were all sorts of amazing people in Dragon City. Numerous peerless fighters showed up, but there was only one person who had the right to be known as the Battle God, and that was Lei Zongchao, a nine-star superhuman who stood at the peak of Deity Realm.

As the Battle God’s name rang through Dragon City and all other powerful fighters could only stare at him in awe, Su Jianqing gained the title of Female Battle God and obtained Lei Zongchao’s acknowledgement. Since the Dragon Citizens were willing to print her title into their textbooks, it should be clear just how strong she was.

Among the superhumans who were lost during the fifty-year bloody war in Dragon City, Su Jianqing’s cultivation realm was the highest, and she was the one who sacrificed herself in the most heroic manner.

The last of the ten expeditions was held in Chaotic Dreams, a river located to the west of Dragon City. With two broadswords, Violet Fang and Lightning Slayer, Su Jianqing killed three Apocalyptic Beasts and more than fifty Hell Beasts, creating the best chance for the Red Dragon Army to attack. Once they chipped down three mountaintops that served as gathering spots for monsters, Su Jianqing died after running out of strength, and her corpse was dragged underground by some monsters.

The Earthlings’ might was displayed in that battle, and it made the remaining Apocalyptic Beasts residing deep within the Monster Mountain Range shudder. In the next twenty years, they did not dare to invade Dragon City, and their fear turned into a steady shield in the beginning of the Great Construction Era.

Many of the citizens idolized and missed Female Battle God Su Jianqing dearly. Many years after her death, Jianqing became the most common name for newly born girls in Dragon City. Shao Jianqing’s name was also deliberately given to her because Thunder God Shao Zhengyang wanted to commemorate the deceased Female Battle God.

Of course, aside from the name, many people also longed to locate Su Jianqing’s fragmented soul so that they could slowly nourish it and turn it into a heroic spirit, which would then lead to them being able to inherit her power.

But there were many conditions required for the birth of a heroic spirit, and all sorts of unique circumstances had to be met. It did not mean that if a person’s cultivation realm was high, their soul would be stronger, and because of it, they would definitely turn into a heroic spirit.

If the conditions were met, even a normal person like Xu Wanshan could turn into a heroic spirit.

But if a person was fighting fiercely before their death, all sorts of spirit energy magnetic fields clashed into each other, which could stir up a spirit energy storm. If that happened, no matter how strong a soul was, it would scatter and be completely destroyed.

There were also cases like Meng Chao's former principal, Sun Daxing. For the sake of protecting his students, he stimulated his brainwaves and burned his own life so that his soul would turn into a dazzling torch. His life was completely extinguished like that, so it was difficult for him to turn into a heroic spirit.

Female Battle God Su Jianqing fit the latter two categories that could prevent her from becoming a heroic spirit

To kill three Apocalyptic Beasts and more than fifty Hell Beasts, she had to burn away her own life, just like Principal Sun, and when the Apocalyptic Beasts delivered violent attacks while at their death, her soul was damaged badly and torn to shreds.

Besides, her corpse was dragged underground, so her weapons, armor, and accessories—all things that might carry fragments of her soul—fell underground as well.

Trying to search for her fragmented soul in the endless uncultivated land was the same as searching for a needle in a haystack.

Twenty years had passed, and everyone had given up on hope, thinking that even if Su Jianqing had left behind a shred of her brainwaves and her vitality magnetic field when she died, it would have long since been blown away and completely destroyed by the planet's magnetic field, the radiation from the stars, and the spirit energy from underground.

But to their shock, Shao Jianqing was able to find Su Jianqing's broken swords in a dragon's nest, and she inherited the Female Battle God's power!

Chapter 169: Soldier

Meng Chao gasped in amazement. "Then, your female squad leader rose to power in one go, right? It's no wonder why she can kill seven Lightning Dragons in one breath. Has she already reached Heaven Realm?"

"No. Even though Female Battle God Su Jianqing was one of the best fighters in Dragon City, she died tragically, and the power that remained in her soul isn't much. She has also been exposed to the elements and all sorts of radiation in the wild for twenty years. When she was awakened by Shao Jianqing, she was so weak that she was basically a candle in the wind. She was about to disappear at any moment," Chu Feixiong explained.

"Also, when Shao Jianqing was first possessed by the heroic spirit, she killed seven Lightning Dragons, which, as you know, are the kings of Nightmarish Beasts. It drained her heroic spirit. It'd be the same as you suddenly releasing an explosive power and killing the Bloody Moon Wolf King. She created a miracle, but it's one she cannot reproduce, and she suffered a lot of terrible consequences because of it.

“Right now, Shao Jianqing is still a one-star superhuman. Of course, she’s definitely at the peak of Spirit Tattoo Realm. Perhaps when she’s in a bad mood someday, she’ll explode and become a two-star superhuman.

“Also, no matter what, she has obtained the Female Battle God’s legacy. Even if we don’t talk about her strength, her potential in cultivating and fighting are both first class. Her speed of improvement is also much higher than that of a normal superhuman.

“As long as she continues getting in touch with the people Su Jianqing was close with, her disciples, her items, the environment she once immersed herself in, and continues down the path Su Jianqing took, her soul will resonate with Su Jianqing, and she’ll have a high chance of reaching Heaven Realm or even Deity Realm.”

“I see.” Meng Chao nodded, then frowned. “Why haven’t I heard about such shocking news before? Logically speaking, if the Female Battle God’s heroic spirit found a successor, it would definitely attract the media and the Internet. This would be a hot topic for a few months, wouldn’t it?”

“It’s because General Shao intentionally suppressed the news. I already told you, he’s a prude when it comes to morals. Also, I heard that he doesn’t have a good time in the Red Dragon Army. Many people criticize him by saying that his fighting style is too fierce and he doesn’t know how to change.

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“If he kills one thousand enemies, he loses five hundred of his own soldiers. There’s an endless supply of monsters, so Dragon City can’t afford to give him groups of five hundred soldiers to sacrifice,” Chu Feixiong pursed his lips. “I don’t really agree with the general’s fighting style either. Even Shao Jianqing criticizes him at times, and she’s his daughter!”

“Wait...” Meng Chao was pensive. “Since General Shao intentionally suppressed the news, why do you know so much about it? You even know the details of her picking up a rusty, mottled, and broken sword to kill seven Lightning Dragons. You also know about her criticizing General Shao sometimes? What? Did she talk about her father in front of you? There’s something going on here!”

Chu Feixiong’s face turned red.

Even if three layers of his skin were peeled off because after being exposed to the sun, his dark tone could not hide the dark flush.

“Where was I? Oh, yes, there might be some difficulty in Shao Jianqing becoming the strongest one-star superhuman and becoming a two-star superhuman in a grand fashion. Right now, all the strongest Spirit Tattoo Realm people among our peers are monsters like Shao Jianqing.”

Chu Feixiong coughed dryly and quickly changed the topic of conversation. “I went about asking for information, but I won’t talk about those in Dragon City University. Let’s just talk about the ones in the alliance of the five universities. Did you know that there are already four among us who are specially recruited to enter the fighting occupations?”

“I talked about Shao Jianqing just now. You have Wu Wu from Agricultural University’s monster controller course. I heard that she’s the Panther Girl who grew up in the wild. You must know her better than I do, so I won’t go into detail about her.

“Then, there’s another monster in the military school’s martial arts course. His father is an ace sharpshooter in the Red Dragon Army, and his mother is a weapons specialist who specializes in developing new guns.

“He inherited his parents’ talent, and shooting a target accurately while he’s one hundred steps away or delivering a headshot while he’s eight hundred meters away are all basic skills for him. They’re not worthy of being mentioned at all. His greatest skill is controlling more than one hundred bullets to hit more than one hundred targets at the same time, and all of them will hit bullseye!”

“That’s...” Meng Chao believed that his shooting was first class, but even he found it impossible to believe what he heard. “Getting bullseye out of all one hundred shots isn’t hard, the problem is doing it at the same time. That’s impossible!”

“I heard that he awakened to a supernatural ability that allows him to control metal. I don’t know the details or the principle behind this, but it seems like he uses his vitality magnetic field to surround the bullets. He can turn more than one hundred bullets into micro missiles in some sense.

“Under this monster’s leadership, the martial arts course this year has actually managed to fight on equal grounds with the heroic spirit course during our few tournaments.

“He is known as the future star of the Gun Fighting Style. When he arrived in Shattered Starlake, he shot through countless monsters’ eyeballs and brains. He has even been chosen twice as the Daily Star!”

Chu Feixiong stopped talking for a moment. “But this guy has run into quite a few opponents. Our Shao Jianqing is definitely one of them, and there’s also a guy from the University of Technology’s machine course.

“His parents are machine masters for a mining company. Twenty years ago, when they were exploring a mine, they got exposed to an unidentified crystal that released high amounts of radiation for a long time. At that time, his mother didn’t know that she was pregnant.

“In the end, the adults were fine, but the baby, which was born later, did not have legs and a right arm. He only had a left arm.

“Logically speaking, with a handicap like this, it should have been very difficult for him to survive in the tough and despair-inducing environment in Dragon City.

“But not only did he inherit his parents’ talents, he seemed to have been enlightened by the radiation from the mysterious crystals, for he’s a genius mechanic. When he was in the upper levels of elementary school, he was influenced by his parents’ actions and built himself a mechanical arm and a pair of mechanical legs.

“When he reached middle school, not a single person in his age group was his opponent in the robotics competitions. When he reached high school, he looked down on attending high school competitions. Instead, he joined his parents’ mining company and mingled around with real, experienced machine masters.

“Now, he installed the best technology from strengthened exoskeletons, maglev technology, and automatic fire control systems into his mechanical arm and legs. They have been upgraded more than ten times.

“The fighting strength in the newest version is very shocking. He can even control dozens of unmanned fighting vehicles and intelligent fighting vehicles at the same time. He is a tactical assault squad on his own. He has ‘soldiers’ all around him, and he’s incredibly awesome!”

Meng Chao narrowed his eyes and thought about it for a long time.

“Wait, what did you say just now?” He gave his best friend a profound look. “Did you just say OUR Shao Jianqing?”

Chu Feixiong looked at him gloomily. “Will you pay attention to the main point? Is the main point my grudge with that woman? The main point is that having good grades during the national college examination is nothing. At most, you’re just a normal genius. The ones who don’t need to take part in the national college examination and have the universities offer them all sorts of great conditions to join them are the real geniuses!

“I heard that you did pretty well during the admission test of Agricultural University’s martial arts course and suppressed the Four Great Kings with brute force, right? That’s awesome, but I have to say, you don’t have the right to be called strong just because you scored high during your national college examination.

“Shao Jianqing, Wu Wu, the future star of the martial arts course’s gun fighting style, and the machine maniac from the University of Technology’s machine course are the real Four Great Kings of the alliance of five universities!”

“Are they?” Meng Chao asked with a frown. “Are Shao Jianqing and the rest really as good as Wu Wu?”

Chu Feixiong nodded. “I don’t know how strong the monster controller course’s Wu Wu is, but since they’re all specially recruited for the fighting courses, they should be about the same strength, right?”

“That’s good.” Meng Chao’s frown disappeared. “If they’re really powerful enemies who are about the same level as Wu Wu, I won’t be so lonely walking down my path of a superhuman.”

Chu Feixiong looked at him as if he had something to say. Then, he stood up and started walking outside.

Meng Chao was a little stunned. “Where are you going? Aren’t you going to eat?”

“I can’t eat while looking at you,” Chu Feixiong said. “It’s better if I use every single second I have to hunt Three-eyed Spirit Cats to prove to that Shao Jianqing that the Army Fist can kill nimble monsters.”

“Alright, give me your tactical communications number. We’ll meet up at night. Get a few more boys from the military school, and we can criticize the Ultimate Style together.”

Meng Chao and Chu Feixiong exchanged temporary contact information.

“Stupid Soldier, we’re leaving!” Chu Feixiong sighed and glanced at the faint green humanoid-shaped spirit floating dumbly behind him. “Forget about ‘becoming the strongest among those in the Spirit

Tattoo Realm and suppressing the female squad leader'. We should just work hard and become stronger. Even if we become the second weakest heroic spirit and heroic spirit user, at least it won't be as embarrassing as it was in the past, right?"

Xu Wanshan seemed to be able to understand his heroic spirit user's words.

He did not seem to have any sort of displeasure toward being called Stupid Soldier. A matter-of-fact expression appeared on his rather blurry face, as if this was the name that he was supposed to have. He trailed behind Chu Feixiong quietly as if he was following his former squad leader in the past.

"Hang on," Meng Chao said when they were about to disappear. "Is your heroic spirit really called Stupid Soldier?"

A heroic spirit born from fragments was a different thing compared to a powerful fighter when they were alive.

Heroic spirits were not ghosts, but neither were they people. They were powerful determination and a brand of will. They were like psychological pictures and videos.

A powerful fighter's fragmented soul could be divided to form multiple heroic spirits.

And when countless fighters' fragmented souls shared the same wish, mindset, and determination, they could gather together to form a heroic spirit.

Hence, heroic spirits were usually not known by their original name. Instead, they had a nickname that represented their characteristic, origin, or wish.

Shao Jianqing's heroic spirit was not known as Su Jianqing, but Female Battle God.

"It's fine," Chu Feixiong said nonchalantly. "Xu Wanshan's former squad leader and comrades called him this in the past."

"Would you be the same as his former squad leader and comrades?" Meng Chao asked. "Even if he was just a logistics officer when he died, he still joined the army earlier than you, and based on the rules of the army, he's your senior, right? Don't go looking down on him because he's weak. I think he's pretty unlucky to get a heroic spirit user like you.

"Besides, once you start practicing the Ultimate Style and become stronger, you'll be improving by leaps and bounds. When you become a war hero, the media and citizens will be cheering for you. Other heroic spirit users will say their heroic spirits are Thunder God, Female Battle God, Black Guardian God, and whatnot, which are awe-inspiring and grand names, but you will say Stupid Soldier? Who do you think will be embarrassing who at that time?"

"Makes sense. Looks like I should give him a proper name." Chu Feixiong scratched his head and stared at his heroic spirit for a long time before he sighed. "Honestly, I've thought of it before. After I inherited the will of a powerful fighter, I would give it the name of Lightning General, Grand Marshal, Guardian Vanguard or something that sounds really domineering, but if I use them on him, it'll be wrong, and people will laugh at him.

"You've only been a foot soldier your entire life, and I don't think I'll have the chance of becoming a general so... I'll call you Soldier!"

Soldier was very satisfied with his new name.

The spirit flames gathered together to form a huge, honest, and pure smile.

It was as if he had just received the best name in the world.

Chu Feixiong could only smile in resignation. He clenched his fists tightly and stepped on the mysterious battlefield with Soldier.

Chapter 170: Unnamed Lake, A Fierce Fight Begins!

Unnamed Lake No. 421 seemed to have been formed when two meteorites fell during ancient times. The two craters were of different sizes but right next to each other. They created a shape that resembled a gourd.

At first glance, the water sparkled and no waves could be found. Even the lush aquatic plants around the lake appeared harmless aside from their slightly red tips. The area looked calm and peaceful.

But when artillery shells tore through the air and landed in the unnamed lake, the illusion of harmony was shattered.

Boom! Crack! Splash!

As water pillars rose into the air, a number of strange fish with savage faces and sharp teeth were thrown off-kilter and started biting each other.

A few reptile-type monsters who had shells as sturdy as those of a crocodile but could move as fast as leopards started crawling toward the bushes of the bank.

The bushes were then struck by a few artillery shells, and mini-sized boar-like monsters with thorns all over them appeared and ran into the distance helter-skelter.

With the two brutal carnivorous monsters leading the escape, all the monsters around the lake were alerted to the attack, and more than one thousand monsters started fleeing in all directions.

Some of the monsters were mortal enemies with each other, and as they fled, they noticed each other. Their desire to hunt the other overwhelmed their awareness of danger. They pounced on their enemies and tore into them.

Some of the etherealized plants, which pretended to be normal weeds, swung their branches, which looked like poisonous snakes, and bound a lot of the monsters who had started fleeing. They dragged them into the bushes, and in an instant, bone-chilling slurps rose into the air.

The area, in truth, was partially a swamp. When the artillery shells landed on the ground, they sank deep into the loose mud, which diminished their power.

Dragon City only had a limited number of resources, so it could not carpet-bomb the area numerous times.

Also, Shattered Starlake was to be the most important high-tech agricultural area of Dragon City. The leadership planned to plant plants with spirit energy so that the Dragon Citizens of the next generation could be stronger. It would be for the best if everyone could awaken to supernatural abilities.

But if they carpet-bombed the area and completely leveled Shattered Starlake to the ground, the soil filled with valuable nutrients would be reduced to ashes, and they would destroy their future plans.

The artillery attack lasted for three minutes, but it only terrified the monsters and forced them out of the bushes that were about half a man's height.

After the artillery attack, a large number of multi-limbed fighting vehicles with thin metal limbs that were as sharp as blades and looked like spiders that had been magnified a hundred times their original size surrounded the area from three directions.

Shattered Starlake was filled with swamps and bogs. They had a lot of weeds that were incredibly sturdy, because they were filled with metal. Various liquids from the weeds also had highly corrosive properties, so it was not suitable for crawler armored trucks that weighed dozens of tons and had a low undercarriage to move through the place.

The failure rate of normal multi-limbed fighting vehicles would also increase by leaps and bounds if they were sent here.

To completely clear out Shattered Starlake, the army intentionally upgraded the multi-limbed fighting vehicles by increasing the height of their bladed limbs and turning them into a model called the Long-legged Spider. It was designed to be used in swamps and lakes.

They had runic symbols and runic ink carved into them, which made them look like they were etherealized and increased their durability and tenacity on a molecular level. However, the mechanical limbs in the Long-legged Spiders were still weak and not suited for carrying many weapons and lots of ammunition.

A single unit usually carried eight tactical cameras that could turn 360 degrees, detect objects far in the distance, and identify them very accurately. They also carried biothermal probes and spirit energy detectors, so their main purpose was scouting.

Aside from those things, they also carried a new crystal-powered battery with a high capacity. It allowed the fighting vehicles to provide energy for themselves and the unmanned fighting vehicles to temporarily land on their backs to quickly charge up. They only needed to "rest" for a short five minutes before being able to perform high-intensity work for more than thirty minutes.

Whoosh! Whoosh! Whoosh! Whoosh!

Dozens of Long-legged Spiders and hundreds of cameras as well as biothermal probes instantly scanned the monsters that ran out.

Through the unmanned fighting vehicles levitating in the air, they sent the data to the data chain, from where it was sent to the tactical superbrain located at the base to the east.

The superbrain could instantly calculate the number of monsters, their level, and the danger they posed.

Then, by comparing them with those existing in the databank, it would figure out the monsters' weaknesses, the best way to fight against them, the number of materials they might contain, the spots they would favor to build their nests, and even locate numerous videos showing the classical way to fight such monsters.

After that, through the signal tower and the communication drones, the data would be sent back to the battlefield, or more accurately, it would be sent to the helmets of the Agricultural University's freshmen who were fully equipped and stood at the edge of the battlefield as they eagerly waited for their chance to join the fight.

There were two monitors installed in the helmets of the Agricultural University freshmen. They showed large amounts of data from the battlefield while monitoring their physiological parameters. They could also share their team members' vision.

The functions of the helmet were much more varied and better than those of the helmets and communicators that the students had used during their national college examination.

[Wolf Crocodile, an amphibian-type monster. It has incredibly strong bite strength, and once it closes its jaws over its prey, it usually uses the death spiral to tear off its limbs. The creature has some imitative abilities and loves lurking at the edges of lakes and bushes. As of current, 87 of them have been detected.

[Ghost-arrow Pig, an artiodactyla-type monster. It's a distant cousin of the Demonic Halberd Pig, but it chose to evolve into a small, nimble creature. Even though it is less than half a meter tall, it possesses the brutality, fierceness, and fearlessness of boars.

[Pay attention to the sturdy, fine hair on its body. They contain neurological poison that can deliver unbearable pain to those that touch them. If necessary, Ghost-arrow Pig will even curl up like an armadillo and stick up its poison needles while it jumps at its target. If hundreds of poison needles pierce the victim's face, there is a high possibility that they will suffer from disabilities or be blinded. As of current, 243 of them have been detected.

[Hundred-eyed Toad, an amphibian-type monster. It is large and has astonishing jumping capabilities. It has more than one hundred poisonous sacs on its body, and when it is in midair, it can spray extremely corrosive acid in a large area. It deals some damage to metal and machines. If you are equipped with strengthened exoskeletons, you must pay attention to the Hundred-eyed Toad's attacks. As of current, more than 1,000 of them have been detected.

[These three types of monsters pose the largest threat. Aside from them, there are at least fifty other types of monsters that possess a certain degree of offensive abilities near Unnamed Lake No.421. This is the monster list.

[Aside from monsters, there is a carnivorous etherealized plant known as Water Monkey. It is shaped like a normal water reed. Its leaves are as sturdy as vines, and it can swing them at will. Its attack range is over three meters, and it can drag its prey under its roots, and by blocking the prey's airway and binding it, it can suffocate its prey.

[Based on the overall analysis, the level of danger in Unnamed Lake No.421 is at Code Yellow. One-star superhumans are allowed inside. Please fight bravely for the future of Dragon City, Earth, and human civilization. Go forth and contribute!]

Based on reconnaissance from the first few decades, Dragon City had set up a large database of the monsters in the north. They had a clear idea of the habitats of most of the monsters as well as their areas of influence. With that knowledge, they divided the battlefield into five different areas.

Green regions were areas where all the monsters had been eliminated, and even if one or two monsters popped up occasionally, they were just small fry that could be killed by normal people. These regions were absolutely safe and could be built up without having to worry about anything in the slightest.

Yellow regions had a lot of normal monsters and their nests. But aside from the occasional monster leaders, there were no superbeasts around them. Armies formed by normal people were enough to clear out such regions under the leadership of one-star to three-star Earth Realm elites.

Red regions had a lot of Nightmarish Beasts and their nests. They were not regions suitable for a normal army. Even if an Earth Realm elite entered the place, they had to consider the risks. If they ended up surrounded by a large number of Nightmarish Beasts, there was a high chance that they would die on the spot. An army led by Heaven Realm elites was required for this area, because it was only then that they could kill at ease.

Purple regions were full of Hell Beasts. Since the wild was the home of monsters, even if a Heaven Realm elite's raw power could suppress a Hell Beast at the same level, it was not advisable for Heaven Realm elites to enter such places alone. They were to either form parties of around twenty Earth Realm superhumans led by at least three Heaven Realm elites that had support from the rear by artillery and unmanned fighting vehicles or have a Deity Realm elite controlling the situation from a base that was not too far away so that their safety could be ensured.

The last was the most dangerous region, and it was given the black color. There was no need to even say what it represented. It covered the territories of the mightiest kings of thousands of monsters—the Apocalyptic Beasts!

After the fights that had lasted for most of the month, the electronic military maps the Agricultural University freshmen saw of Shattered Starlake were mostly yellow and green. The closer the areas were to the two tactical bases in the west and east, the greener the regions were, and it looked cute.

But there was a smattering of red near Graveyard Forest. It meant that there were Nightmarish Beasts appearing in those places.

The regions classified below black were also divided into different shades of their respective colors to differentiate the level of danger in those regions in greater detail.

Right then, Unnamed Lake No.421 was classified as a Deep Yellow Region. It meant that even though the creatures here were all normal monsters, the environment was complicated, and the monsters were all brutal and fierce. There was also a certain chance that a monster leader or a mutated monster would show up. They could break through the limits of their race and turn into Nightmarish Beasts.

It was not suitable for the Red Dragon Army to attack this sort of place on a large scale.

The fifty outstanding freshmen chosen from Agricultural University's martial arts course and monster controller course were all one-star superhumans. Even if they ran into Grade One Nightmarish Beasts, they would still have an advantage in terms of raw power. It made them suited for this place, and it could serve as the starting point for them to make a name for themselves.

"Understood. There're just thousands of normal monsters. We have fifty people here. If we divide them among ourselves, we'll only get dozens per person. We also have the Griffin Li Yingzi and the monster controller course's lecturer here. They're powerful Heaven Realm elites protecting us. We won't run into any danger, so we should just kill to our heart's content!"

For three days, everyone had been shut in the base to receive basic training before the battle. When they saw the other freshmen from the other universities reaping kills under their belts because they had come a few days earlier, they were so restless that even their bones were rearing to go.

At that moment, the new superhumans were dressed in biochemical fighting suits fitted with strengthened exoskeletons. In their hands they held military-grade sabers or swords that could cut even hair, and they felt every drop of their blood raging.