

Oh My God 221

### **Chapter 221: The Traitor Runs**

Lu Siya might have been an ambitious woman, and at the prospect that could bring her 300% profit, she did not mind trampling on all the laws set by Dragon City, but she was not a bloodthirsty lunatic.

Unless it was absolutely necessary, she did not want to fight against Shen Yulong, especially when she was not certain whether she could take the e victory.

Unfortunately for them, their goal was the same.

They had experienced mine explorers, and their exploration equipment and skills were about the same.

If they went down the same spirit energy ley line, it was only natural that they would often chance upon the other team in the dark maze.

The groups were incredibly frustrated because of the spirit energy magnetic field interference, and they were exhausted because the exploration was above their limits. They also had to be constantly on guard to not be ambushed by the other party. They were so wary that even their own shadows were treated as enemies.

This was especially so since Shen Yulong had a four-star gunslinger in his group.

Lu Siya had considered the complicated environment in the dark underground and thought that it would not allow guns to show their full power, so she did not get a professional sharpshooter in her mine exploration team.

It was not until they met Shen Yulong that she learned that she had made a miscalculation. She could constantly sense other people watching them from the dark. It felt as if needles were pricking their backs, and they drained their energy nonstop.

“Shen Yulong, that bastard. He knows that the underground creatures have never seen humans, so they aren’t afraid of guns and there’s no reason to bring a gunslinger,” Lu Siya cursed. “This guy planned ahead and intended to fight against his competitors. He hired a Heaven Realm gunslinger to intimidate the other humans!”

The realization came way too late.

Since they did not have someone skilled in long-distance attacks and defense, they could only spread out their sentries as widely as possible to widen their defense zone.

This method might ensure their safety for the time being, but it drained their sentries incredibly quickly.

Soon, Sharp Blade members could not handle the pressure and began to grumble.

Lin Chuan said nothing and took over most of the reconnaissance and guard duties.

He was like a machine that knew no fatigue and could work at a stable pace. He ran back and forth and climbed up and down to explore the zones where dangers lurked everywhere. He found cracks filled with pests and led the group around etherealized plants and fungus that looked like the Stone Statue Fungi and were also incredibly dangerous.

Meng Chao noticed that his vitality magnetic field was beginning to turn chaotic again, which meant he was at the verge of a breakdown.

His eyes became brighter on his pale face, and they burned with an overly excited spark.

Meng Chao wanted to persuade Lin Chuan to rest, but the Universe Corporation mine exploration team and Frenzied Saber members as well as Qin Hu occasionally popped up, which didn't give them any chance to catch their breath.

It was a fight of wills, and their nerves were strained. They could practically hear them snapping. But no one knew which side would be the first to falter.

Fortunately, twelve hours after they ran into Shen Yulong, Lu Siya's mine exploration team discovered the first Red Radiance Jade mine.

"This is..."

They dropped down thirty meters along a newly formed underground crack and noticed a crack horizontally.

They lowered their bodies and crawled into it. There was a wide space inside, which felt like another universe. It was a colorful, crystalline underground "palace".

And in the northwest corner of the "palace" was a bump that looked like a raging dragon baring its teeth. It shone with light that looked like a reflection on a lake. It was the Red Radiance Jade that the group had been dreaming of locating!

The group was so happy that they cried and cheered.

They felt that all their sacrifices and torment were worth it.

They were also filled with respect and admiration for Lu Siya, because she discovered the Red Radiance Jade mine. They even forgot their grudge toward her for acting like a dictator.

Zhang Weiyan led a few mine explorers forward and carved a few runic symbols on the red stones to stabilize the spirit energy.

Then, they began carefully gathering samples.

The Red Radiance Jade raw ores gave off a dark light, so they looked like red amber. They did not shine as brilliantly as refined Red Radiance Jades, but it was still filled with a power that could capture souls.

However...

"8.2%, 7.5%, 9.1%... These raw ores don't have a lot of Red Radiance Jade in them!" Zhang Weiya frowned.

They had already switched spots eight times to gather samples, but the raw ores they gathered all had less than 10% Red Radiance Jade. This figure caused the group, who had been really excited when they discovered the Red Radiance Jade mine, to falter.

Lin Chuan told Meng Chao that since the rights to mine a place meant extraordinary profit, the requirements to verify that someone had located a mine were very strict. They had to mine three raw ores with more than 10% of a certain ore in the same mine, but the locations in which the three raw ores were mined had to be a set distance away from each other. It was only then that they could be considered to have discovered a certain crystal's mine.

Otherwise, if they mined a normal stone with only a little bit of crystals and were considered to have discovered all the mines within a circular area of fifty kilometers, that would make absolutely no sense.

Now, they could only be considered to have captured the tail of the Red Radiance Jade mine. They had yet to seize the right to mine the place first in their hands.

"It's fine. We're already very close to victory. This is definitely a fragment of a branch of the Red Radiance Jade mine. If we move along this branch, we will definitely find the main mine!"

Compared to the moment before she entered the underground mine, Lu Siya had now shrunk up, but she was even more excited than Lin Chuan. She continued motivating the people at the top of her voice. "Everyone, let's work a little harder! We can't let our efforts go to waste!"

The group did want to press onward, but their bodies did not allow them to do so.

They had been moving with willpower alone for some time, and when they thought that they seized the right to mine the place first, many people sat down on the ground and their minds relaxed. They could no longer get up.

"Siya, let's rest for a while." When Lin Chuan saw the others, he could not help but say, "It has been three days and nights since we set out, and many people have not shut their eyes for even a minute. Even if their bodies were made of steel, they'd be about to turn into scrap metal.

"I'm going to be a little crass and say this. With our current situation, even if we discover the main Red Radiance Jade mine but are ambushed by Shen Yulong and his group, there's no way anyone would have the strength to fight back."

Lu Siya was stunned for a brief moment. Then, a contemplative expression appeared on her face.

"Makes sense. Then, we'll rest for... three hours. Everyone, seize the time to eat some food and enter deep meditation. Then, check your weapons and equipment."

Lu Siya observed the terrain around her. A thought sprung up in her mind and she said, "But we will set up two camps. The mine explorers will rest here, and the hunters will rest at the corners.

"Lin Chuan, Scimitar, both of you set up a defense formation in a secretive location. Make sure that when Shen Yulong ambushes us, we can launch a beautiful counterattack!"

Lin Chuan nodded. "Got it."

Very soon, the camp was split into two.

They appeared to be unguarded. The mine explorers snored away with their limbs splayed.

In the meantime, the hunters from Sharp Blade lurked in the dark and remained wary as they waited for Shen Yulong's mine exploration team to walk into their trap.

But even after more than two hours passed, Shen Yulong did not appear.

They did not know whether it was because he did not notice the crack that led to the Red Radiance Jade mine or that he found some other crack that could lead him straight to the main Red Radiance Jade mine.

Ever since Meng Chao returned to the past, it was the first time he had joined such a difficult mission. Even if he could quickly repair his body by spending thousands of contribution points in exchange for two Initial Stage Healing Skills, he could only heal the damage to his body. He could not repair his mind, which was so tense that it was about to snap.

He sat down in a meditative position in his tent and entered a deep meditative state. He had a few nightmares while resting.

In one of his nightmares, he dreamed that he and Lin Chuan had turned into two lizards living in a dark hell.

As for Lu Siya, she turned into a beautiful female serpent that commanded them to fight against another group of venomous snakes and lizards.

Lin Chuan continued shouting at the lizards across from them that they were the same kind of people.

But the lizards across them did not care. At the command of a venomous snake that had Shen Yulong's head, they tore Lin Chuan to shreds until he was unrecognisable.

Red tentacles then crawled out of Lin Chuan's mangled body and pieced his corpse into a deformed and ugly monster.

Lin Chuan returned from the dead, and under the light of his Undying Bird, he smiled with savageness.

It turned out that he had been infested by a Blood Flower a long time ago and now turned into an undead.

Meng Chao was shocked awake.

Then, he heard Lin Chuan's shout outside the tent.

He could not care about wiping off the cold sweat on his brow. He grabbed his chain sabers and crawled out of his tent. Everyone had jumped up as if they were facing a great enemy.

"What's going on?!"

"Is it an enemy ambush?"

"Lin Chuan, what did you discover?"

Lin Chuan's expression was dark as he returned from the distance. A few fresh lacerations were on his body.

He made his flesh squirm and forced out a few bits of stones from his wound. "Someone ran, and I chased after them, but I was ambushed outside the crack. It was dark around us, and the spirit energy magnetic field interference was too strong. I didn't manage to see who it was clearly, but he should be someone from Sharp Blade.

"I was worried about being surrounded by Heaven Realm fighters, so I didn't dare to continue chasing. I could only retreat."

"Someone... ran?" Lu Siya was silent for a while. Then, her gaze turned sharp. She turned to Zhang Weiyan and Scimitar and said hurriedly, "Hurry up and do a headcount of your team!"

Scimitar soon finished his headcount. There was not a single person missing from Sharp Blade.

From the other group, one Sky Pillar Corporation mine explorer was absent.

They were also missing a sample of the Red Radiance Jade raw ore they had just mined. A set of the exploration trajectory records and a tablet recording their exploration data were also gone.

"It's Hu Peng," Zhang Weiyan said in a regretful tone. "This guy is a good mine explorer, but he's a gambling addict. I heard that he lost a lot of money last year in an underground gambling den and was taught a severe lesson by his family. I thought that he had turned over a new leaf and would be an honest man this year. I didn't expect..."

"No way." Lin Chuan's expression was full of surprise. "Are you saying that this Hu Peng is a corporate spy bought by Universe? And now, Shen Yulong got to know about our discoveries? Damn it, if that's really the case, I should have stopped him even at the cost of my own life!"

"Forget it. I was the one who picked him. It's an oversight on my part, and you're not to be blamed." Lu Siya narrowed her eyes and said through gritted teeth, "Yu Shenlong loves playing these sort of tricks, but they won't change the ending. Let's go. Even if we die, we'll die in the Red Radiance Jade mine!"

The fleeing of a corporate spy was like a huge stone full of spikes that pressed down on the group's heart.

When they set out, the terrain became even more dangerous. The air became thinner, and just after a few steps, they found themselves feeling faint. It was difficult to breathe.

They could only advance carefully while on guard against danger that could come from anywhere.

But no matter how careful they were, they did not manage to spot the enemy ambush.

Boom!

When they were passing by a steep wall, a huge stone suddenly broke off and came falling on their heads .

## **Chapter 222: Collapse**

"Careful!"

The three Heaven Realm elites jumped up at the same time. Their weapons flashed, and together with the Undying Bird, they formed a defensive shield from spirit energy. It cut through the rock, which had a diameter of more than one meter long.

But even if the rock was reduced to fist-sized stones, there were many of them, and they came down on the group like a storm.

Caught off guard, many people were struck.

Even with the superhumans' powerful bodies, they were hit to the point that they bled.

A lot of the exploratory equipment was also destroyed and buried under stones.

"Look!" An observant person pointed at a white figure that shot past a wall. "There's someone over there!"

"The entire wall is about to collapse, run!" Lin Chuan shouted fiercely. "Lu Fengying, protect the lady! Scimitar, pay attention to the area! I'll go up and look!"

He had the Undying Bird and the best aerial skills among the three Heaven Realm fighters, so he should be the one who went up to check.

His beast soul turned into a pair of blood-red wings and bounced away the stones that kept falling on them.

Lin Chuan shot like lightning above the wall.

Unfortunately, at that moment, the entire wall collapsed and stirred up a lot of dust. Lin Chuan and the white shadow vanished. The group could only hear the sounds of fierce fighting and see the ripples from spirit energy surging forward like waves.

Boom! Rumble!

The entire wall collapsed, blocking off the path they took to come over.

Fortunately, Lin Chuan had alerted them in time, which was why they escaped the disaster itself, even if just barely.

However, the thigh of one of the mine explorers was squashed to a bloody pulp, and he suffered a comminuted fracture.

Even after the dust settled, everyone still felt shocked.

Lin Chuan flew over with a piece of shattered stone in his hand. It had a runic symbol. He handed it to Lu Siya and Zhang Weiyan.

"I didn't manage to see the man's face clearly, but I think it was Frenzied Saber's Nie Kuang. I wanted to make sure, but I sensed an incredibly sharp gaze trained on my heart. It had to be Li Xin, the gunslinger, so I didn't dare to be careless and just grabbed this stone and came back," he explained.

“The runic symbol on this stone is one of the most commonly used ones among mine explorers.” Zhang Weiyan’s expression changed the moment he saw it. “It can turn sturdy granite into gravel, and it’s used to clear tunnels or destroy walls. It’s meant for construction work.”

“So, this wasn’t an accident.” Lin Chuan analyzed the situation with a dark expression. “The other party carved these runic symbols on the weakest part of the wall and carefully mixed runic ink before pouring it in. They estimated the time we’ll take to reach this place and activated the spirit energy so the wall would collapse and bury us here.”

“Shen Yulong, you mad dog!” Lu Siya was furious. “From now on, we’re mortal enemies, and I won’t stop fighting you until I die!”

Meng Chao took a step forward and cast a fleeting glance at Lin Chuan before he said hesitantly, “Big Sis Ya, are you saying that we’re going to be taking the initiative to attack Universe’s mine exploration team?”

“It’s Universe who attacked us first! If Lin Chuan hadn’t warned us, many of us would have died here already!” Lu Siya’s anger burned hotly, and she swung her hand. “You don’t understand. Since Shen Yulong has chosen to attack us, he will definitely not allow any of us to leave this place alive.

“Otherwise, once his crime was exposed, he would have to face the fury of Sky Pillar Corporation and the Supernatural Tower. The whole Universe Corporation would be dragged down because of him.

“That’s why he has come to the decision to kill us as quickly as possible.

“If we don’t counterattack, we will become corpses in the deepest parts of this dark underground, and no one will ever discover us!”

Lu Siya wanted to push Meng Chao away, but he stood his ground. “Since we already have evidence of Shen Yulong’s criminal acts in our hands, shouldn’t we just get rid of the stones blocking our path with a blast and return from where we came?”

“We can then go to the Supernatural Tower and accuse him of this. Since he used such a despicable method to launch a destructive competition, even if he really finds the Red Radiance Jade mine ahead of us, he won’t be able to get the right to mine it first. Otherwise, we would be living in a lawless society.”

“What you said is right, but how can we prove that he’s the one who did it?” Lu Siya asked with a sneer. “We don’t have concrete proof about the corporate spy and the collapse of the wall. I know that we have a stone with a runic symbol carved into it right now, but it’s a commonly seen one, and practically every mine explorer knows how to carve it. If he refuses to admit on the pain of death and says that we were putting up a show, what should we do, then?”

As she spoke, she moved past Meng Chao, drew a shortsword, and cut a stone by the side.

“Everyone, we will never give up on the Red Radiance Jade mine. Not only does this concern our interests and lives, it will also affect our reputation!” she said fiercely.

“Everyone has more or less experienced this sort of thing before. The one who wins has the law behind them, understand? In situations like this, the ones who survive and walk out by taking the initiative have

the right of final explanation. And since the dead can't talk, the living get to smear their name as much as they like.

"Even if we manage to escape, if Shen Yulong discovers the Red Radiance Jade mine first, his status will change, and he will be the great contributor who calmed down the extreme weather and won the northern offense. He will become a hero! At that time, we'll be the despicable cowards who fled. Who do you think the masses will trust then?"

"So, we have no other choice but to continue onward. From this moment on, as long as you see anyone from Universe's mine exploration team, no matter who they are, kill without mercy.

"The other party has already made up their mind to kill us, and if we continue to be merciful, we will just be asking for our own deaths. We should prefer to face the judges from the court and even the Supernatural Tower, because Sky Pillar Corporation will naturally hire the best lawyers in Dragon City to defend us. That is better than lying down in the cold boxes of the morgues, where we won't even be able to tell the forensic doctors our grievances.

"Oh, I almost forgot. We'd be dying in this stupid place, where we don't even have the right to meet the forensic doctor!"

The breathing of the mine explorers and hunters became heavy.

Their greed toward the Red Radiance Jade mine, anger toward their competitors' despicable methods, fear toward death, numbness toward their fatigue, and all other intersecting emotions along with the continuous spirit energy magnetic field interference made their faces as savage as those of demons. Their teeth and bones started making cracking sounds.

"I hereby announce that if we complete the mission smoothly, I will increase your wages by 30%, and that will be based on your wages after you receive your bonuses!"

Lu Siya seized the chance and added, "If we really run into Shen Yulong and his bastards, whoever kills one of them will get an additional 10%, and if they kill two, they will get 20%. There is no limit to this increase. Whoever kills Shen Yulong will get double their wages. Sky Pillar Corporation will definitely support you till the end!"

Once she said those words, the hunters from Sharp Blade gulped. The light in their eyes became as bright as that of a monster who just saw fresh meat.

"Let's go. We have to locate the Red Radiance Jade mine ahead of Shen Yulong. If we set up a defensive formation over there, we will be undefeatable."

Lu Siya withdrew her shortsword from the crack and put it back into her knee-length combat boots. Then, she strode forward into the darkness.

Perhaps it was because bliss always came after a period of misfortune or perhaps it was because anger had turned into a driving force, but two hours after the wall collapsed, they found a brand new cave filled with spirit energy.

That underground space was the size of five soccer fields. Its walls were hidden by black fog.

Even if they turned on their searchlights to the maximum, the light could not pierce the fog and allow them to see the walls.

The height difference of the floor was incredibly great. It was like a giant flight of stairs that continued heading down until it reached the heart of the Other World.

The air was incredibly humid. There were colorful fungi growing all over the place, and all sorts of pests which were not afraid of human voices and light moved about them. Even when they were shone upon by searchlights, they remained dumbly in their spots.

The underground ecosystem was rather well developed. The mine explorers estimated that there should have been an ancient subsurface stream that after billions of years of flowing through the area formed a “staircase” that headed down by creating a cliff.

Due to the rock fragmentation later on, the subsurface stream changed paths. Water flowed down the crack, and that was why there was a damp river bed.

“Look, subsurface plasma!”

Subsurface plasma was not a plant or fungus. It was a phenomenon unique to the Other World.

When the spores from etherealized plants and glowing microorganisms gathered together, spirit energy would stimulate them, and they would form thick, glowing fog. It gathered underground and did not disperse.

Based on the types of spores and microorganisms, the subsurface plasma might contain slightly poisonous, corrosive, or hallucinogenic properties.

Even if it did not have any poisonous side effects, it still affected human vision and was even more annoying than fog.

Lu Siya tested the subsurface plasma, and after she was sure that it did not contain highly poisonous or corrosive properties, she did not hesitate. She asked everyone to jump down the stairs and head into the subsurface plasma.

“I can sense the Red Radiance Jade mine somewhere near the last few steps of this staircase. There’s a very strong spirit energy fluctuation coming from there.

“Besides, if Shen Yulong could predict the time we passed through and create the collapse, it means that he has a way to locate us. They’re in the shadows, and we’re exposed. He might be observing us even now.

“Don’t forget. Beside him is the solo gunslinger Li Xin. He’s a four-star superhuman, and he has the ability to kill people with one shot.

“We have three Heaven Realm elites with us, and we can’t lose any of them. If even one of them is killed by Li Xin, we’ll be in an extremely disadvantageous situation.

“It’d be better to enter the subsurface plasma and use the fog created by the spores and glowing microorganisms to hide our tracks. It’ll take away the two greatest advantages Shen Yulong has over us, and we’ll be able to engage him in melee combat.

“It’ll be better than being sitting ducks here. We might get shot by that gunslinger at any moment!”

Once she said this, everyone felt a chill at the center of their eyebrows. It was as if there was really a gunslinger with a 100% shooting accuracy lurking in the shadows, and a bullet might kiss their brains at any moment.

They shoved each other to be the first to jump down to the “step” that was more than ten meters below the cliff.

Meng Chao glanced at Lin Chuan’s back and jumped down as well.

They jumped down three cliffs. The further down they went, the thicker the subsurface plasma became, and soon, they could not even see their fingers.

“Ah!”

Someone suddenly screamed in surprise and was yanked back by a companion.

The “step” below them was one hundred meters down from where they stood. They were before a true underground cliff. If they leaned over to look, they could not see just what dangers hid at the bottom.

### **Chapter 223: Clash**

Right now, even without the use of a Spirit Sensor, everyone could sense the spirit energy ripples. It washed over their main and branch meridians like waves.

The source of the spirit energy was at the bottom of the cliff, where the subsurface plasma was at its thickest.

But the bottom was too far away. The spirit energy magnetic field interference was strong as well. When the superhumans activated their spirit flames, they swayed and were hard to control. Even Lin Chuan, who had the best flying abilities, did not dare to recklessly go down to investigate.

They could only search the edge of the cliff in hopes of a flight of stairs or a spot where the spirit energy magnetic field interference was not that strong. If they could find a rock stratum that was rather stable, they could lower down ropes or foldable ladders to climb down in a safer manner.

They were in the subsurface plasma, and most of the group was hidden from sight. The mine explorers could only see the backs of their teammates’ heads and the side profiles of their teammates to their sides. All they heard was their heavy breathing and their rapid heartbeats.

If they were the slightest bit careless, they would be split up and find themselves alone in the silent underground world.

The spirit energy magnetic field interference affected their optical and auditory nerves, so quite a number of people began to hallucinate and hear things. Sometimes, when they accidentally turned their heads, they saw their teammates’ faces turning pale because of the torment they went through in the subsurface plasma. They looked strange and unfamiliar, as if they were not a teammate they were familiar with, but a ghost that came from underground.

While enduring the fear of the unknown, the group moved through the subsurface plasma for five minutes. Then, suddenly, someone discovered that something was off.

There were more people.

They were supposed to be a team of around ten people.

But now, they heard dozens of people's breaths and heartbeats around them.

It was as if there were two mine exploration teams moving in the subsurface plasma at the same time, and they were moving in the opposite direction of each other. But at some unknown point in time, they had mixed together.

This discovery caused quite a number of people to feel chills down their spines, and they instinctively screamed.

Their voices were infectious and spread through the mine exploration team like lightning.

Among the rising and falling screams, nearly half belonged to unfamiliar voices.

No one knew who was the first to attack.

They couldn't even tell whether they had really seen their real enemy.

Everyone just drew their weapons and went to attack the seemingly unfamiliar people who had suddenly appeared in the subsurface plasma.

With a growl, one of the hunters from Sharp Blade attacked the chest of a hunter from Frenzied Blade with his saber and broke three of that person's ribs.

That person pushed against the Sharp Blade hunter's abdomen and fired all the bullets from his mini-submachine gun in one go.

They were spirit energy bullets mixed with superbeast bone powder and embedded with crystal fragments. They left holes in the Sharp Blade hunter's nano fighting suit and his organs, and he fell in a bloody mess.

One of the mine explorers from Sky Pillar Corporation had just used a foldable mine chisel to stab through a Universe Corporation mine explorer's temple when another Universe Corporation mine explorer used a flamethrower to turn him into a burning fireball.

These devastating scenes were imprinted in the eyes of the hesitant mine explorers. Now, even if they did not want to fight against other humans, they had no choice. They could only use the tools designed to crush stones to crush other human skulls.

The area descended into madness.

Due to the stimulation provided by the astronomical profit from the Red Radiance Jade mine, the new and old grudges adding fuel to the fire, and the threat of dying without a grave, everyone from the mine exploration teams from Sky Pillar Corporation and Universe Corporation went mad.

Their rationality was gone. Their civilized disguises fell away. They tossed the thought of being judged by morality and the law to the back of their minds and unleashed their desire to murder and destroy. In an instant, humans turned into monsters in human skin. They were even crazier than monsters.

It seemed like only one person maintained his final bit of rationality in the crazed slaughter.

Meng Chao cradled his head desperately and dug his teeth into his lip. He used the pain to fight against the effects of the crystals.

Helplessness and grief rose in his heart.

He really wanted to fly into the air and shout at the top of his lungs for them to stop, because they were fighting among themselves, and if they continued, no one would be able to get the Red Radiance Jade mine. In fact, they would cause the northern offense to end in failure. The plan to develop the new area would go up in smoke, and tens of millions of Dragon Citizens would die in the future!

But both sides had already gone berserk because of the slaughter. Forget about whether they would believe in his words, even if anyone stopped and listened to him, their heads would be cut off the moment their attention wandered.

'How did things end up like this? Must we fight against each other? Can't I do anything even if I came back from the future?

'That's not right. There's something wrong. This clash happened too strangely...'

Meng Chao was dazed.

Suddenly, someone shoved him.

It was Lin Chuan.

His face was covered in blood, and he gasped like a monster. He shoved a packed military-grade backpack into Meng Chao's arms.

"Listen, the mine explorers from Universe Corporation are too strong. We'll all probably die here. You're just in Spirit Tattoo Realm, so even without you, nothing will change."

Lin Chuan grabbed Meng Chao's collar and said fiercely, "Don't forget about the thing you promised me. You have to protect your own life. Run while everything is in chaos.

"I've collected survival and mine exploration tools into this bag. There are mini crystal explosives here that can blast away stones, compressed MRE that you can eat for three days, and the most detailed map here.

"Take this bag, bypass the cliff, and look for a place to climb up. Return from where we came from. Find the place where the wall collapsed and see whether there is a crack. Then, climb over it or use those bombs to blast open a path."

When Meng Chao saw that Lin Chuan had already prepared everything beforehand, he shuddered.

He stared at Lin Chuan. "Big Brother Lin..."

Lin Chuan misunderstood his meaning and punched his chest. "I'm not asking you to run from the battlefield. I'm giving you a very difficult task. You have to live and escape from the underground. Go to the Supernatural Tower to report all that happened here. You have to tell the truth. It's Universe's Shen Yulong who attacked us first. We had no other choice and were forced to fight back.

"This way, even if Shen Yulong manages to get the upper hand for the time being, he will definitely be judged by the law. You, and all the family members of those who will die here will gain benefits when they get the right to mine the place first.

"Do you understand? Don't stand around in a daze, hurry up and go! If you don't, it'll be too late!"

Lin Chuan sounded really honest. He even had a sincere look on his face, as if he treated Meng Chao like a brother he really loved.

Meng Chao gulped and said, "Big Brother Lin, if I leave, what will happen to you?"

Lin Chuan smiled heartily. "Don't worry, I'll be fine. Don't forget. My beast soul is the Undying Bird. I've been in countless fights where I danced at the line between life and death in the wild. There are even a few times where I had one leg in my coffin, but I managed to get out.

"Shen Yulong is just a good-for-nothing rich man's son. He isn't strong enough to take my life. Enough with the nonsense. Go. Otherwise, I'm going to disown you!"

Meng Chao gritted his teeth and came to a decision.

"Alright. Big Brother Lin, please listen to one last thing from me, and I'll immediately go." He stared into Lin Chuan's eyes and spoke rapidly. "The fungus that spews out that sticky liquid after it's injured is known as Stone Statue Fungus. It's named after the fact that its liquid can turn its victims into unmovable statues.

"The arthropod-type monsters that lurk in the depths of the Stone Statue Fungus troop are known as Ten Thousand Blade Flying Spiders. Just as their name suggests, their spider webs are like thousands of invisible blades.

"As for the largest creature, it's a spider that has a Stone Statue Fungus growing on its back. It's known as Demonic Stone Statue Spider. It's a rarely seen evolved creature, and it's the leader of the Stone Statue Fungi and Ten Thousand Blade Flying Spiders.

"This is knowledge that I once saw on the monster forum. You have to remember it!"

Lin Chuan was stunned, and he said in puzzlement, "... Alright, I'll remember it. But why did you suddenly mention this?"

Meng Chao felt as if his throat was stuffed full of ice, and his voice instantly became colder. "It's nothing."

Without batting an eyelid, he tightened his grip over his chain sabers and adjusted all the muscle fibers on his fingers to ensure that they were at the perfect state to execute power.

Gunshots rang out around them.

Bullets traveled even faster than the sound. One arrived in front of them like a fierce bolt of lightning.

This was from the opponent's four-star superhuman, solo gunslinger Li Xin!

"Move!"

Lin Chuan's pupils swiftly shrank until they were only two dots. He endured the pain, and his Undying Bird instantly grew to its largest. It opened its burning, bloody wings and formed an arc-shaped energy shield to protect Meng Chao.

Boom!

The crystal bullet was filled with Li Xin's powerful energy. It clashed fiercely against Lin Chuan's Undying Bird, and blinding sparks rose from it.

Both of them were four-star superhumans and Heaven Realm elites.

Li Xin had been lurking for a long time while observing them, forming his plans, and locking down on them.

But Lin Chuan had to protect Meng Chao, who was only a one-star superhuman. He was caught off guard, and he suffered for it.

He coughed up a mouthful of blood, and his face instantly turned stark pale. Even his Undying Bird's bloody wings turned dark.

"Why aren't you gone yet?!" Lin Chuan roared at Meng Chao.

His expression was so fierce that he looked like a savage demon who had crawled out of the depths of hell. Then, he turned his back to Meng Chao and pounced at his greatest speed in the direction of the gunshot to close the distance between him and Li Xin.

While Meng Chao hesitated for a moment, Lin Chuan and Li Xin disappeared in the depths of the subsurface plasma.

It was a fight to the death between Heaven Realm elites, and his current self was not strong enough to do anything about it.

He could only watch dumbly as Lin Chuan's back vanished from his sight. With trembling fingers, he pressed against his eyeballs with everything that he had so that he could try and rub away the notification that Kindling gave him at the top of his vision.

[Special citizen Lin Chuan received your guidance, and his understanding toward unidentified monsters increased. Increased contribution points by 1.]

'I knew it.'

Meng Chao's heart clenched in pain.

Lin Chuan, his neighbor, senior brother, and idol had turned from a pseudo heroic citizen to a special citizen!

**Chapter 224: Idiot**

He could not think too much about it. A powerful gust of wind came at his head.

Meng Chao felt as if electricity had just run through every single strand of his hair, and all of them trembled. He fell forward in a straight line and used his hands as support to kick back with his legs.

His ambusher screamed in pain. His fibula was shattered by Meng Chao's kick, and he instantly knelt on the ground.

When Meng Chao turned his head around to look, he found that it was an unfamiliar mine explorer. Universe Corporation's emblem was sewn on his sleeve.

Based on the intensity of the spirit flames surrounding him, he should be a two-star superhuman.

However, mine explorers were supporters. Most of them were like Meng Chao and trained their branch meridians. However, when it came to the circulation of their spirit energy, their spirit energy circulated in slowly, and they did not pay attention to delivering instantaneous bursts of energy.

They could change the structure of a rock or turn stones into gravel within ten minutes, but they could not have their spirit energy burst out of them in a fraction of a second to crush their enemy's skull.

It was just like how large and powerful herbivorous animals were usually not the opponent of fierce but small carnivorous animals who had all sorts of offensive methods.

Hence, even though the miner's cultivation realm was higher, Meng Chao pounced on him without hesitation.

The mine explorer had fought to the point where he was in a frenzy, and his mental strength index had fallen below 50%. He was about to suffer a mental breakdown.

The pain of his fibula breaking caused his mind to clear a little.

And when Meng Chao punched his face and nearly rammed his nasal bone into his brain, it completely destroyed his ferocity.

He wanted to continue struggling, but a saber appeared horizontally over his neck, and killing intent pierced his blood vessels, muscles, trachea, and spine.

"Don't move, or you'll die!"

Meng Chao pinned the Universe Corporation mine explorer against the ground and lay down as well so the subsurface plasma would hide their figures.

He drew closer to the person's ear and whispered, "Tell me, did Hu Peng go to your side? Did you make a wall collapse in an attempt to kill us?"

The mine explorer's eyes went wide, and he looked confused. He could not understand what Meng Chao meant at all.

"Tell me, or I'll kill you!" Meng Chao gritted his teeth in exasperation. "Did you take the initiative to attack us? What did Shen Yulong tell you?"

The mine explorer let out hissing sounds from his throat and waved his hands to show that he could not breathe because of Meng Chao, much less speak.

“Alright, I’m going to let go of you a little, but you have to answer me honestly. This is very important to you and I. In fact, it’s very important to everyone here. We can’t continue fighting against each other, understand?!”

Meng Chao moved Bloody Flame away from the man. He also moved his knee away from that person’s back.

The mine explorer sat on his knees and supported himself with his elbows. He sucked in a deep breath.

Then, he shouted hysterically. “You idiot!”

Meng Chao was exasperated, and he quickly used his chains to lock down the person’s throat.

But a gorgeous figure who looked as fierce as a tiger had already shot out from the subsurface plasma ahead of them. A gust of wind arrived in front of Meng Chao and pierced his eyes so badly that he could not open them.

Bang!

Their weapons clashed. Sparks flew against their faces, and they could feel pain, as if there were needles piercing into them.

Meng Chao took three steps back and knelt down on one knee. Both of his chain sabers were like venomous snakes lurking in bushes. The chains trembled soundlessly.

The other person’s momentum did not reduce in the slightest. It just increased. The saber slashes let out the faint sounds of tiger roars. His moustache was stained with blood, and he chuckled darkly.

Meng Chao’s heart sank.

It was a person he did not want to face the most from Universe Corporation’s mine exploration team.

Qin Hu, the vice captain of Frenzied Saber, the boss of Prosperous Resource Recovery Company, a veteran hunter whom he had once humiliated fiercely, and an elite at the peak of Earth Realm!

“Bastard, the world is really small, eh? You probably never even dreamed that such a day would arrive, did you?” Qin Hu smiled fiercely.

Meng Chao braced himself and said, “Mr.... Mr. Hu, we can deal with the grudge between us someday later. Let’s not fight right now. We have to make things clear!”

Qin Hu was slightly stunned. He did not expect that Meng Chao would make himself so humble.

He looked around and understood what he meant. His smile grew even more mocking. “What’s wrong? You found out that Lin Chuan is being held back by my captain and can’t save you now? You’re scared because you know that you’re about to die, so you’re going to kneel down and beg for your life, is it?”

“Heh, it’s too late. Even if you beg for your life now, it’s useless!”

"It's never too late to beg for my life!" Meng Chao immediately made his decision and said readily, "Mr. Hu, everything that happened in the past was my fault. I admired you a lot since I was very young. I've listened to tales of your heroic deeds from my father over the years, and I'm really sorry about the misunderstanding between us.

"I've always been thinking late at night about how to apologize to you sincerely, but since I respect your great power, I never dared to visit you.

"Compared to a hero who fights for his life and Dragon City in the wild, I'm just a child, and if God forgives the sins of children, you're an adult, and you should be generous. Could you just pretend that I farted in your face and that's it? Can we sit down and drink some tea while we talk to understand each other?!"

Qin Hu was dumbfounded.

His moustache trembled, and he said hesitantly, "Boy, what are you?"

Suddenly, he seemed to have come to some sort of understanding. He shouted and swung his saber.

"No way!" Meng Chao wanted to cry. "I already begged for my life, and you're still attacking me?"

"Duh, with your personality, it's impossible for you to beg for your life. But you're suddenly putting up such a humble stance. You definitely have some sort of nefarious plot cooking up in your head and some scheme boiling in your heart. You want to harm me, right?"

Qin Hu swung his saber repeatedly. He looked smug and angry as he said, "Last time, you pretended to be a harmless sheep and scammed us of the Golden Spirit's etherealized neurosphere. You turned me into a laughing stock within my circle for a few months. You're infamous for being full of schemes. This time, I won't fall for it!"

Meng Chao really wanted to faint. "Mr. Hu, aren't you just smart?!"

"Of course I have to be." Qin Hu felt really smug. "Everyone in the field knows that even though I look buff, I like using my head the most!"

"Alright, I'll ask you to use your brilliant mind now. Please stop fighting for a moment or fight slower. You can listen to me while you fight, okay?!"

Meng Chao was forced backward as Qin Hu continued cutting at him. He felt that his arms were so numb that he lost feeling in them. He had to use his eyes to be certain that they were still attached to his shoulders.

But he refused to give up. He wanted to talk to Qin Hu and get a sense of the entire thing.

Qin Hu narrowed his eyes and slowed down a little. He said in disdain, "You're afraid of dying, boy? You're not fit to be a superhuman at all."

"I'm not afraid of death, but if I die, I should die meaningfully, not like this, where I become a corpse in the dark underground without even knowing what's going on." Meng Chao gasped for breath. "Mr. Hu, this is what happened..."

Halfway through his speech, Qin Hu's attack speed suddenly increased. His saber, which weighed dozens of kilograms, suddenly became a metal block that weighed thousands of kilograms, and came charging at his head

Meng Chao was caught off guard. He was sent flying by Qin Hu and fell heavily on the ground.

Fortunately, he practiced the Ultimate Style, and he could control his muscle fibers and even his hair at will.

He did not need to use his limbs. With the movements of his back muscles, he could slither forward half a meter like a python.

Boom!

Qin Hu's saber crashed heavily between Meng Chao's legs, and the blade sank deep into the ground. Shattered stones flew and hit Meng Chao's leg. It stung with burning pain.

Meng Chao's eyes went wide, and he broke out in cold sweat.

If he had not dodged in time, that slash would have cut him in half from between his legs.

"Qin Hu, you idiot!" Meng Chao shouted angrily.

"If I listen to another word you say, I'd be the real idiot." Qin Hu licked his blood-stained lips and smiled savagely. "Quit your yammering. I hate cowards like you who are afraid of dying and will kneel down to beg for their lives. You were a normal person in the past, so I couldn't be bothered to deal with you. Now, we're all superhumans, so why bother with all the talk? Let's settle the grudge between us in the most satisfying way!"

His arms trembled.

The heavy saber in the ground caused the earth to shatter as it trembled rapidly, and countless shattered stones shot out from it.

The shattered stones were controlled by Qin Hu's vitality magnetic field, and they shot at Meng Chao's face like bullets.

Meng Chao could only keep retreating.

But the anger in his heart continued burning.

As he faced Qin Hu's blockheaded idiocy, he lost the confidence to convince him, because he refused to listen to anything.

And as he faced the merciless chained attacks from this elite at the peak of Earth Realm, he did not even have any room to speak.

He could only gather all his strength and swing his chain sabers like two tornadoes that devoured all the shattered stones. He reduced the stones to powder and flung them back at Qin Hu in hopes to confuse him so the chain sabers could move to the back of his head and stab him.

But Qin Hu was a veteran hunter. He would not leave such an opening.

Even with his eyes shut, he could locate Meng Chao. Each of his slashes looked as if they could drain the air and even distort space. They were so powerful that they made Meng Chao retreat repeatedly. He did not have the room to control his chain sabers accurately.

Meng Chao groaned.

It was only at this moment that he learned of the true strength of someone at the peak of Earth Realm.

Thinking about using the Ultimate Style to flip him over was just like thinking about using a shovel to fight against a tiger. Theoretically, it was possible, but the difference between theory and reality was as great as the distance between heaven and earth.

Every slash Qin Hu delivered did not just hit his saber, but also sent vicious blows to his arms, chest, heart, and vitality life field as well.

If it were not for the long-lasting endurance provided to his branch meridians by the Ultimate Style so his recovery speed and fighting endurance were ten times higher than that of a normal one-star superhuman, Qin Hu would have thrown him off his feet with just five slashes, and he would be a fish up for slaughter.

Even now, aside from enduring it with great difficulty and passively getting hit, Meng Chao could do nothing else.

Suddenly, he felt a coolness behind him, and he could no longer find any place to stand.

He had been pushed to the edge of the cliff by Qin Hu. If he stepped back, he would fall into the abyss, right into an even darker world underground.

With his great skills, Qin Hu saw Meng Chao swaying.

His eyes lit up, and he lifted his saber high up.

'Oh no.' Meng Chao thought and dodged.

But against his expectations, Qin Hu's slash was just a feint. The veteran hunter had long since gathered a large amount of spirit energy to his right leg and now stomped viciously on the ground. Two cracks appeared, and they traveled straight toward Meng Chao's feet.

The edge of the cliff where Meng Chao stood instantly crumbled.

He lost his balance, and the ground under his feet disappeared.

It was at that moment that Qin Hu roared loudly. He swung his saber horizontally and swept at Meng Chao while ten meters away from the cliff.

At that critical moment, Meng Chao finally flung the chains of his Bloody Flame, which he had not used all this while.

Qin Hu swung his arm to cut it up.

The chain was chosen meticulously by Lin Chuan, so it was a good item made of superbeast materials and super alloy. It was not so easily cut into two.

Meng Chao's fingers trembled rapidly, as if he was plucking zither strings.

The chain moved like a snake and jumped up agilely. With the strength Qin Hu used to cut it, it turned a corner, and from an amazing angle, it wrapped itself around his ankle.

Sizzzzllleee!

Offensive runic symbols were carved into the chain. They activated because of spirit energy, and fire and electrical arcs burned Qin Hu's ankle until it was a mess.

The chain from Blood Flame wrapped itself around Qin Hu's ankle several times and tangled it up in a very ingenious fashion. No one could easily break out of it. The blade stabbed itself into Qin Hu's calf as well, and the dozens of runic symbols on it shone as well. Wisps of light crawled into Qin Hu's calf, causing him to continuously lose blood.

Qin Hu did not expect that Meng Chao's weapon would be so bizarre, even though he was just at Spirit Tattoo Realm. He was caught off guard and screamed in pain.

Meng Chao did not have the ability to use maglev to fly. So, he could only yank his chain saber in the hopes of using Qin Hu's strength to return to the cliff.

He did not expect that the edge of the cliff would still be collapsing, and when he yanked at Qin Hu, the man lost his balance. He fell off the cliff as well.

Both of them fell into the endless darkness.

## **Chapter 225: Walking Corpse**

Meng Chao plummeted.

He flung his arms all over the place, but there was nothing he could grab onto.

He did not know what was waiting for him at the bottom of the dark underground, but fortunately, he still had one more chain saber.

He threw his Surging Lightning into a wall more than ten meters away from him.

He yanked at the chains viciously, and they turned into straight lines at the same time. Surging Lightning left behind a series of sparks on the wall, but Meng Chao slowed down.

Qin Hu was still bound by Bloody Flame, and he fell even further away from the wall. He could not grab onto it.

"Bastard, I won't let you go even if I turn into a ghost!" Qin Hu howled in the dark.

But his scream soon faded away in the thick subsurface plasma.

Bang!

Meng Chao crashed against the ground and coughed up blood. He felt as if all his bones had shattered.

He did not hesitate. He immediately cheated.

[Used 1,755 contribution points in exchange for one Initial Stage Healing Skill. Healing progress: 97%]

As Kindling burned, Meng Chao heard faint, cracking sounds within his body. It was as if his bones, tendons, and flesh were rapidly growing, squirming, and healing.

One Initial Stage Healing Skill could push his healing progress up between 8% and 10%. If he used it one more time, it would be a waste.

But this was not the time for him to fuss over this. Meng Chao did not even bat his eyelid and used another 1,767 contribution points to push his health to 100%. When there was no way he could push it any further, he sighed in relief.

The price for rapid healing was a large amount of energy burnt. Meng Chao immediately felt hungry. It felt as if his stomach and intestines were about to be burned through by acid.

Fortunately, he had the backpack Lin Chuan gave him.

He opened it and found a lot of high-calorie compressed food inside, along with mine exploration and survival tools. All of them were packed neatly and fixed in place in a unique method to make sure that no matter how a person tumbled or crawled around, it would not turn into a mess and be squashed out of shape.

Meng Chao felt a stab in his heart once more.

But his face remained expressionless. He tore open a few of the compressed food packages and forced himself to eat them.

Right when he felt the discomfort in his stomach and intestines ease up, he heard the shrill howl that reminded him of an injured monster.

“Bastard, come out! Fight me to the death!”

“Bastard, you’re shameless and despicable! You have the guts to provoke me, but you don’t have the guts to come out and die?!”

“Come out! Get your ass out here! I’ll rip you to shreds!”

Meng Chao clicked his tongue.

‘Did this idiot use up all the spirit energy for his brain on his muscles? His tenacity is really great. How can he jump around in such a lively manner when he just fell off a cliff that is at least 150 meters?’

Meng Chao looked over.

But he could not see more than ten meters because of the surging subsurface plasma. He could not see the situation on the cliff, and he could not hear a single sound coming from it.

The area on the cliff and below it were two different worlds. The cliff was hell filled with slaughter and bloodshed, but this place was a silent hell.

And thank goodness, because the subsurface plasma was really thick. It absorbed all soundwaves and light, so Qin Hu was unable to discover his whereabouts immediately.

Suddenly, the chain wrapped around Meng Chao’s left arm trembled.

He was struck with surprise and fear, and it was only at that moment that he remembered that Bloody Flame was still wrapped around Qin Hu's ankle.

If that guy followed the chain, he would naturally arrive in front of him.

Meng Chao quickly yanked the chain and withdrew his chain saber.

But it was already too late.

A saber glare that was ten times more vicious than before shot forward.

Boom!

It caused the stones beside him to fly, and air surged forward like waves.

Meng Chao's cheek was cut by the saber glare.

Qin Hu was close to him.

But he did not scream nor counterattack. Instead, he stopped breathing and calmed his heartbeat. With the cover provided by the subsurface plasma, he bent his back and retreated bit by bit until he was next to the wall.

Even if Qin Hu was an elite at the peak of Earth Realm, his senses were still affected. He had fallen off a cliff that was nearly 200 meters off the ground and thrown off kilter. He was also affected by the crystal mine, and now, he was even in a really thick subsurface plasma. He would not be able to locate Meng Chao immediately.

Qin Hu was so angry that he started causing a ruckus. He swung his saber madly in an attempt to frighten Meng Chao and force him to come out.

There were a few times where the saber glare grazed Meng Chao's body and even cut a few strands of his hair.

But Meng Chao gritted his teeth and did not make a single sound. He intended to carry out his strategy and lie in wait until the end.

The shock from the threat of death caused a familiar stab in the depths of his mind.

A few of the memory fragments from his previous life shone, and like shards of glass, they scratched his cerebral cortex.

'This is...'

Meng Chao widened his eyes. He did not expect that he would remember something from his previous life at such a crucial moment.

In his daze, he saw the black skull instructor who had pretended to slit his throat in the past.

This time, they were in a dark classroom.

Precise human nervous system diagrams and spirit energy circulation diagrams were drawn on the board. The 108 main meridians and 1,024 branch meridians could all be seen. There were also dozens of other more mysterious and complicated spirit energy meridians.

Meng Chao heard the black skull instructor say darkly, “The army’s strategy is scrap metal now. To hell with their steel army and using heavy artillery to get rid of all enemies. It’s all just a bunch of bull.

“During the battle at Bloody Eagle Valley, the enemy just sent a few Seven-ring Magicians to summon a destructive Fire Meteor Shower, and they got rid of our fully-armored armor masters!

“We don’t have that many fully-armored armor masters in Dragon City to go through this sort of torment.

“We’re too small. Even if we have great technology and a lot of skills, the Other World’s civilization also has a lot of unfathomable abilities. If we face them head-on, we will definitely end up dead.

“But there are conflicts that have lasted for thousands of years between the different factions of power of the Other World’s civilization. We can make them split up and stir up their conflicts to the maximum degree. Then, there’ll be a war between the races of the Other World. After that, Earthlings can use our status as outsiders to become offshore balancers. We can take advantage of the chaos and win!

“Hmph, the Red Dragon Army is filled with foolishly brave warriors who only think about how to fight with airplanes and artillery. They will naturally not be able to do this. If we want to save Dragon City, we’ll have to rely on ourselves, the Ghost Tribe.

“Remember this. We are not soldiers. In fact, we don’t exist. We don’t need to obey any of the rules or limits set by the soldiers. We can ambush, poison, lurk, disguise ourselves, cause conflict, and do whatever it is to create chaos. As long as it’s to weaken the Other World’s civilization, you’re encouraged to use whatever methods are necessary.

“And the basis of all these methods are the Walking Corpse and Bizarre Stab. Today, we will talk about Walking Corpse.

“Walking Corpse is a lurking technique created by the zombie research center. It’s a combination of the specialities of how zombies move, how the Ultimate Style controls muscles fibers and the hair on our bodies, the assassination technique from Blood Elves, and the lurking technique from Dark Shadow Casters.

“Just like the name suggests, after you practice all your breathing techniques, meditation techniques, body movements, and ways to control your organs, Walking Corpse will minimize your breathing, heartbeat, the heat released by your pores, the brainwaves released by your brain, and even the movement of your organs. This is to lower the possibility of enemies discovering you.

“In the most extreme situations, Walking Corpse can cut off your vital signs completely, turning you into a cold corpse, but you will retain your thoughts and your ability to fight. You can move as fast as zombies, act as fiercely as Blood Elves, use the mysteriousness of Dark Shadow Casters, and quietly kill your target.

“This is the initial construction model of the spirit energy magnetic field you will form when you cast Walking Corpse. Later on, it will change in more than one hundred ways. You need to examine it and familiarize yourself with it.

“Remember this. When you carry out your missions in the future, Walking Corpse will become a very practical skill. It can lower your metabolism and the activity of your organs as well reduce all the unnecessary energy consumption.

“It will help you escape the pursuit of a powerful enemy and repress your emotions so that you can stop thinking of unnecessary things. You will then become a stable and reliable killing machine which will lay out a bloody road for the future of Dragon City and Earth’s civilization!

“Next, I will talk about the secrets of Walking Corpse in detail...”

Meng Chao was about to suffocate

When the nightmarish memories from his previous life finally became dark and the black skull instructor vanished once more, Kindling branded a new skill into his cerebral cortex.

[Walking Corpse: Normal Level.

[Skillfulness: 9%]

‘Is it because I’m at the border of life and death and am facing the threat of death that I remembered some of the ways to protect my life?’

Meng Chao did not have the time to think about it. He immediately threw thousands of contribution points to increase Walking Corpse’s Skillfulness.

But he could not increase his Skillfulness with Walking Corpse as quickly as he could with Basic Gun Technique or One Hundred Saber Techniques. Even after he threw thousands of contribution points into it, it did not increase significantly.

Meng Chao gritted his teeth and threw around fifteen thousand contribution points into it. Finally, Walking Corpse rose to Specialist Level.

But even if he threw his life into it, he might not be able to push it from Specialist Level to Master Level.

This proved his guess.

Walking Corpse was a relatively high-grade skill, and it was not something that he should master now.

On his normal cultivation path, he would not have activated this particular memory from his past life.

It was only released to him beforehand because he was facing the threat of death and wanted to live.

‘So, if I want to increase my power at the fastest speed possible, I have to constantly wander at the line between life and death so that I can remember more things?’

He would think about it slowly later.

When he sensed Qin Hu’s raging flames getting closer to him, Meng Chao activated Walking Corpse.

In an instant, all color drained from his face, and his skin turned pale and ashen.

His breathing and heartbeat slowed, and even the speed at which his blood flowed and his spirit energy circulated slowed down.

He was just like a cold corpse that fused together with the cold wall.

Qin Hu walked eight meters past him with his saber in hand, but it was as if he could not see Meng Chao. Instead, he shouted into the depths of the subsurface plasma. "Come out, bastard! I saw you! Come out and die! I'll give you an easy death!"

Meng Chao narrowed his eyes and quickly calculated his chances of winning if he used Bloody Flame to ambush Qin Hu from the back.

Unfortunately, Walking Corpse was just a lurking skill. He had to add it together with the assassination skill Bizarre Stab to use it to the fullest.

And the memories he had just activated did not provide him with the details of the spirit energy magnetic field and principles for Bizarre Stab.

Just as he was wondering whether he should attack, Qin Hu suddenly shouted excitedly and slashed at a spot in the depths of the subsurface plasma. "Die!"

He cut into a soft object.

But the thing that gushed out of his target was not blood. Instead, it was a highly corrosive acid.

Numerous huge black shadows started squirming in the subsurface plasma.

### **Chapter 226: Spoiler**

Qin Hu was caught off guard. The acid hit his left eye, and white smoke immediately rose up. His eye sizzled, and it hurt him so much that he wanted to die.

One of the black shadows that popped out of the subsurface plasma opened its mouth and went to bite his head.

It was a worm the size of a python.

The place where its head should be opened up in four directions to reveal a terrifying mouthpiece covered in fangs. It was like a blossoming man-eating flower.

The creature was a Grade Two superbear, Slit-mouthed Anaconda.

Qin Hu instantly turned from a hunter into a prey.

He swung his saber instinctively and had his spirit flames surge. His blade swiftly cut off the Slit-mouthed Anaconda's mouthpiece.

But another Slit-mouthed Anaconda tore off a piece of flesh and bone from his shoulder.

His blood splashed everywhere in the dark area.

After sensing fresh blood, more Slit-mouthed Anacondas crawled out of the subsurface plasma. They looked up and opened their mouths wide to “smile” hideously.

Qin Hu covered his wound with a pale face.

‘This idiot.’ Meng Chao stuck to the wall like a living corpse. He laughed coldly in his heart. ‘He knew that there was a Red Radiance Jade mine nearby, which is why the spirit energy here is rich, so it was obvious that the monsters here would be nourished to the point they evolved and mutated. Even if there were no high-grade superbeasts here, a lot of low-grade superbeasts or even normal monsters can give a hard time to someone at the peak of Earth Realm.

‘Subsurface plasma is the product of the spores from etherealized plants and glowing microorganisms fusing together. Hence, when there is subsurface plasma, there is definitely a large ecosystem in the area, so one has to be extremely careful of monsters and superbeasts.

‘Yet he didn’t explore the area and look for the species around him, but just released his spirit flames carelessly. He’s like a torch in the dark, so it’s only par for the course that all sorts of monsters come at him!

‘Slit-mouthed Anacondas are just Grade Two superbeasts, so they should not pose any threat to him, who is at the peak of Earth Realm, but with the nourishment provided by the Red Radiance Jade mine, they are especially huge and brutal.

‘As for him, he has been fighting for some time, and he even fell off a cliff. He’s exhausted, and he’s temporarily blinded in one as well. He might not even be able to bring out 30% of his fighting power.

‘He brought this on himself. Fighting against so many Slit-mouthed Anacondas alone is certain death!’

Just as Meng Chao expected, when more than ten Slit-mouthed Anacondas charged over, Qin Hu, who had been full off bluff and bluster, was immediately dragged into a vortex of death.

He did his best and killed two Slit-mouthed Anacondas, but more than ten wounds appeared on his body.

His blood gushed out, and when one wound stopped bleeding, ghastly white broken bones could be seen.

But he did not seem to notice it. He fought like a crazed tiger.

Since he was facing monsters, he temporarily forgot about Meng Chao’s existence. He acted on his instincts of a hunter and activated his vitality magnetic field to the max.

“Come on, you monsters! Whoever wants to eat me, come up and try!”

Qin Hu’s remaining eye shone with a brutal light. He laughed loudly and refused to retreat. He pounced into the midst of the Slit-mouthed Anacondas like a hungry tiger, and even with terrifying wounds on his body, he insisted on swinging his saber to make the monsters pay a terrifying price.

His nano fighting suit was swiftly torn to pieces by the Slit-mouthed Anaconda’s fangs.

Blood continued pouring over his arms. It made his saber hilt wet, and it became a little slippery.

He decided to just remove his shirt, which revealed his refined and strong body. He then used the torn shirt to bind his injured arm and saber tightly together.

The Slit-mouthed Anacondas were shocked by his momentum. They surrounded him and did not dare attack him for a moment.

Even Meng Chao was shocked for a brief moment as he watched him.

Regardless of whether it was in his previous life or his current life, he did not like Prosperous Resource Recovery Company's boss. Qin Hu was just too crude, unreasonable, domineering, stupid, and indulgent of rascals.

But Meng Chao had to admit it that if he ignored the man's identity as Qin Hu, the man in front of him was someone who would fight even when drenched in blood and would rather die than retreat. He had the unyielding attitude of powerful humans.

'Why isn't he asking for my help though? He should know that I'm hiding nearby and am coldly watching him fight against these monsters.

'... Well, makes sense. He knows that even if he asks for help, I won't help. Our grudge runs deep, and he has been calling me a "bastard" throughout the whole fight. He even tried to kill me. There's no way I would help him! And he claims himself to be a hero, so he would be ashamed to ask for help.'

Meng Chao was still in the status of a living corpse. His mind was affected by Walking Corpse, and a cold sneer formed on his lips.

He decided to just watch the fight.

In any case, Qin Hu had mistaken a Slit-mouthed Anaconda for him and swung his saber at it. That was how he had provoked the monsters. He deserved to be damned.

Meng watched coldly as the Slit-mouthed Anacondas pounced on Qin Hu once more.

He watched coldly as Qin Hu roared and cut the Slit-mouthed Anacondas until they were a bloody mess. His wounds continued accumulating, and burning blood flowed down the lines of his bulging muscles. It spilled all over the cold ground.

He watched coldly as a Slit-mouthed Anaconda shot forward and bound Qin Hu's thigh. The hunter drove his saber into its gaping mouth, and his spirit flames surged forward. They tore through the monster's upper body.

He watched coldly as Qin Hu killed in a frenzy and stuffed a Slit-mouthed Anaconda's still squirming flesh into his mouth. While chewing on it, he laughed. "You want to eat me?! Well, I'm going to taste you first!"

Meng Chao thought coldly, 'I shouldn't help that idiot. Besides, I'm just a one-star superhuman. Slit-mouthed Anacondas are Grade Two superbeasts, and there are a lot of them. If I go, I'll just be asking for my own death.'

'Besides, this idiot is the type that takes his revenge for even the pettiest of things. Even if I go and help him chase away all the Slit-mouthed Anacondas, he might not appreciate it. He might even end up stabbing me.

'Also, there's a high possibility that he'll push me to the Slit-mouthed Anacondas and run away.

'I won't save him. He called me a bastard really happily just now. Why didn't he consider that he might end up like this? I won't save him. It's not as if I can save him, anyway!

At that moment, Qin Hu's arm was grabbed by a Slit-mouthed Anaconda. He flung it, and the creature landed around four meters in front of Meng Chao.

Qin Hu's vitality magnetic field was now incredibly chaotic. His mind was burning as if a volcano was erupting in his brain. Naturally, he did not notice that Meng Chao was nearby.

But Meng Chao's heart leapt to his throat.

Qin Hu staggered over and spat out a mouthful of blood mixed with teeth and flesh. Then, he swung his saber at the Slit-mouthed Anacondas.

This scene made it seem as if he was stepping forward bravely to protect Meng Chao behind him.

Meng Chao's eyelids and lips twitched.

For some reason, the black skull instructor's words rose in his mind.

"It's only when you get rid of all unnecessary emotions and thoughts that you can turn yourself into a loyal and reliable killing machine. Then, you'll be able to pave a bloody road for the survival of Earth's civilization!"

When the apocalypse arrived, Meng Chao had carved those words deep into his soul.

But the eighteen-year-old Meng Chao rejected them instinctively.

Because of it, he could no longer remain a living corpse. His heartbeat instantly beat like a war drum.

A few Slit-mouthed Anacondas immediately noticed his presence.

At the same time as some pounced at Qin Hu, a few opened their mouths to attack Meng Chao as well.

He yelped and crawled on the ground like a human-shaped gecko. He only barely managed to avoid the attack.

His movement meant that he joined Qin Hu and was surrounded by Slit-mouthed Anacondas.

'Oh no!' Meng Chao groaned. 'I'm really going to die because of this idiot!'

"Bastard, you were hiding so close by and acted like a rat who wouldn't even make a squeak? I just knew you're a coward afraid of dying!"

Qin Hu was shocked and angry. He wanted to continue yelling at Meng Chao, but eight Slit-mouthed Anacondas attacked them at the same time.

They could not bother with fighting against each other. They anxiously swung their sabers in different directions.

With Meng Chao helping to deal with the enemies behind him, Qin Hu only needed to fight against those in front of him. His saber glare instantly grew, and he smoothly cut a Slit-mouthed Anaconda which was more than half a meter in diameter in half.

Meng Chao's chain saber bound a Slit-mouthed Anaconda's mouthpiece tightly. His spirit energy surged through the carved lines of the runic symbol, and as if he was slicing beancurd, he cut off the four flaps around its mouthpiece. Now, the Slit-mouthed Anaconda was left with only a bare body, and it trashed around as if it was mad.

Since they were facing incredibly fierce monsters, the two men had to pay full attention to their fight. Gradually, they forgot about the other person's existence and only focused on fighting together until their backs touched each other.

As if they were electrocuted, they jumped away from each other.

They turned their heads around and saw the surprised and disgusted expressions on each other's faces.

They instinctively lifted their sabers to attack the other.

But they saw Slit-mouthed Anacondas jumping at the other's back.

Both of them swung their sabers over each other's shoulders and cut the monster behind them.

After more than ten mangled carcasses lay on the ground, the Slit-mouthed Anacondas finally left.

They slowly squirmed into the depths of the subsurface plasma while letting out rustling sounds.

The two humans were covered in wounds and gasping for breath. They were exhausted and knelt on one knee.

Even so, they held their sabers tightly and stared at each other like trapped beasts. They did not dare to lower their guard in the slightest.

Qin Hu was much more injured. After the stalemate lasted for a long time, he was finally unable to hold himself back and asked, "B-Bastard, do you reckon these Slit-mouthed Anacondas crawled far away? How many monsters are left in the subsurface plasma?"

"Qin Hu, if you friggin' call me a bastard one more time, I swear that even if there are monsters around us, I'm going to kill you and then myself!" Meng Chao said fiercely.

"... Son of a gun, do you think I grew up being afraid of other people? I'd be humiliated if I stop calling you names just because you asked." Qin Hu glared at him.

Meng Chao cackled. "Is there a difference between 'son of a gun' and 'bastard'?"

"... Brat is fine, right? This is my limit. I won't relent more than this!" Qin Hu spat out another mouthful of blood, but he did not have the strength to spit it far away, so his moustache was a mess.

Meng Chao snorted coldly. “The Slit-mouthed Anacondas have never suffered such a major loss here. Of course they won’t go far. So, what do you want to do?”

Qin Hu gritted his teeth and hissed. “I want to kill you. If you didn’t drag me here, how would I have ended in this state?”

“I want to kill you too. Then, I’ll split your skull open like a harvester and see whether your stupid brain is as big as a walnut. If you had talked to me calmly up there, we wouldn’t have ended up in this state.”

Meng Chao flicked his chain sabers. “So, are we going to attack now, or are we going to rest for three minutes before we kill each other?”

Qin Hu’s eyes shone with a fierce light.

When the killing intent from the two people rose, the rustling sounds in the subsurface plasma became grating to the ears.

Qin Hu narrowed his eyes. With great reluctance, he quelled his killing intent. “You want to kill me, and I want to kill you too, but we know that humans don’t always get to fulfill every single one of their wishes.

“I want to become a Deity Realm elite and reach the peak of Supernatural Tower. I even want to become a superhero that is respected by millions of Dragon Citizens! But I can’t do it now, so I don’t need to be bothered by it. It’s the same thing as me wanting to kill you, so I shouldn’t be bothered by it, right?”

#### **Chapter 227: Mr. Hu Treasures His Dignity**

“Yeah...” Meng Chao said tentatively. “If we’re going to kill each other some other day, it’s better if we go to the wall and rest. At least, we won’t have to worry about being surrounded by enemies there.

“We were lucky just now that we didn’t run into Hell Beasts and that the Slit-mouthed Anacondas aren’t infested by Blood Flowers, but good luck won’t side with us forever. What do you think?”

“I think you make sense. We’ll settle our score some other day. Now, let’s think of a way to leave this stupid place before anything else.”

Qin Hu looked at the bizarre shadows squirming in the subsurface plasma and then at his open wounds. He also saw the ghastly white bones within them. He smiled bitterly and grudgingly accepted the truce.

With his saber supporting his swaying body, he maintained a wary distance of five meters from Meng Chao while he walked to the wall. He left a bloody trail behind him.

Both of them sat down cross-legged and sighed at the same time. They moaned having just escaped death.

Meng Chao spent nearly two thousand contribution points to perform a major treatment on himself. He then found the backpack he left by the wall and brought out some nice-smelling compressed food.

Qin Hu stared at it intently, but he found it too embarrassing to ask for food, so he gritted his teeth and vented his rage by punching his stomach. It tore a wound open, and the pain made him bare his teeth.

Meng Chao wanted to laugh, but he also felt a little conflicted.

When he thought about how he did not know the situation on the cliff and that Qin Hu might be the crucial piece that could change the situation, since he was at the peak of Earth Realm, Meng Chao made his decision. He pinched his nose and tossed a few high-calorie compressed food packets, a few vials of genetic medicine, and an emergency medical kit.

Qin Hu was stunned for a moment. Then, his moustache-covered face turned red. Without a single word, he took the gene medicine. Then, with familiar movements, he stitched his wounds and wrapped them up.

After he exercised his breathing for a while, his vitality magnetic field stabilized, and some color returned to his face. He said falteringly and really reluctantly, "Brat, I owe you one. Now, the grudge between us is gone. Once we're back in Dragon City, as long as you and your father don't appear in front of me, I won't cause trouble for you!"

Meng Chao could not help but laugh, and he imitated Qin Hu's way of speaking and said, "Are you really going to settle this grudge just like this because you said so? Then I'd be really embarrassed!"

"You—"

It was rare for Qin Hu to humble himself to this point, and he did not think that someone younger would look down on him this way. He felt a little angry and embarrassed. "Since you don't intend to call a truce, why did you jump out to save me just now?"

Meng Chao snorted coldly. "Don't misunderstand. I never thought about saving you. I was only going to watch as you were torn to shreds by that Slit-mouthed Anaconda and die without a grave. This is something you deserve, and your death wouldn't be regrettable.

"But alas, I have yet to perfect my lurking skill, so I was discovered by the Slit-mouthed Anaconda. That's why I was forced to appear. It has nothing to do with you."

Qin Hu was stunned. He stroked his moustache and said, "You didn't have to tell me the truth. You could have just said that you wanted to return our grudge with kindness and decided to help. You would have been able to gain my favor."

"Why would I want to gain your favor? You're not some peerless elite or Deity Realm elite," Meng Chao said stiffly. "Besides, didn't you just claim that you're really smart and that you can see through my schemes with just one look? What if you think I have ulterior motives because I'm trying to gain your favor and just draw your saber to cut me down without caring about anything else? After all, that's what you did on the cliff!"

Qin Hu felt embarrassed and angry. His face flushed red. "Let's make things clear, brat. It's true that I really want to cut you down, but if you weren't the ones who attacked first, I wouldn't have done that. What do you think I am, mad? If I kill someone carelessly, I'm going to be judged by the Supernatural Tower!"

Meng Chao scowled. "What?!"

"You can choose to believe me or not, it's up to you." Qin Hu spat out a mouthful of bloody phlegm and said in a tone full of despair, "Brat, you're really lucky. You managed to ally yourself with Thunderbolt, Yan Organization, Soul Breaking Saber Luo Wu, and you're even a student from Agricultural University's

martial arts course. All the forces of power siding with you are people I cannot afford to offend. How would I ever dare to attack you?"

Meng Chao sank into contemplative silence. "You can kill me and throw me into the depths of the underground. Whatever my fate, no one will be able to find me. No evidence will be left."

"What nonsense are you yammering about?" Qin Hu asked. "Even if the Supernatural Tower can't find any evidence to judge me, do you think those ruthless people from Yan Organization, Soul Breaking Saber Luo Wu, and Thunderbolt will care about proof and respect the law?"

"You and I share a major grudge, and we appeared in opposing mine exploration teams in a fierce competition. Then, you disappeared out of the blue. If someone decides to accuse me of killing you, regardless of whether I did it or not, I could only open my mouth and obediently admit that I did it."

"I've been fighting for years in Dragon City and I'm pretty famous. I have a family and a business. Why should I fight against you because of a momentary impulse?"

"If I did it, I'd have to face Thunderbolt, Yan Organization, Soul Breaking Saber Luo Wu, and Agricultural University's martial arts course's wrath. My whole family might end up destroyed because of that. I'd need a few screws loose in my head to do something like that!"

Meng Chao was dumbfounded. "When we ran into each other underground, you were really fierce and even threatened me. You said that I'm lucky, otherwise, you'd kill me..."

"We're all working in society and we care about our dignity, you know?" Qin Hu said shamelessly. "There were a lot of people around us, including Weeping Reaper Lin Chuan, and he's an internet celebrity. What was I supposed to do? Show weakness to you in front of the crowd?"

"Even if I can't kill you, I can still say a few words to scare you. It's all normal proceedings in the real world. What? Were you really terrified by me? Hahahaha!"

He laughed as if he had discovered a new continent.

And he laughed so much that his wound tore again. It hurt so much that he sucked in a sharp breath.

A cold look settled on Meng Chao's face.

As he pondered over Qin Hu's words, his pupils suddenly narrowed into two small dots. "You said that we're the ones who attacked first, which is why you decided to kill us?"

"Duh. I couldn't be bothered to attack you, but you're the ones who went asking for your own death, so don't go blaming me for that." Qin Hu narrowed his eyes and said fiercely, "You killed Yan Ping, which was the signal for a full-on war. In that sort of situation, even if I cut you down in front of Soul Breaking Saber Luo Wu and the case was brought to the Supernatural Tower, I couldn't be faulted for it."

"Wait, who is Yan Ping?" Meng Chao felt that he had found the key.

"You have the guts to kill, but don't have the guts to admit it?" Qin Hu sneered coldly and said, "Yesterday, your lot snuck into our camp to steal the sample of the Red Radiance Jade and exploratory data, but were discovered by our sentries. When you fled, you killed our sentry by slitting his throat. His name was Yan Ping, and he died a tragic death!"

“Of course, judging by your expression, you were kept in the dark. But that makes sense too. You’re just a one-star superhuman. Why are you in the mix here? Lu Siya is a cunning and devious woman. Even if she did these tricks, she wouldn’t tell you. She wants to make you die here without even knowing the cause! Poor guy!”

Meng Chao narrowed his eyes and enunciated his words clearly, “So, that’s why you made the wall collapse? To take revenge on us?”

Qin Hu could not understand what he said. “What wall?”

Meng Chao gave a simple account of the corporate spy and the collapse of the wall.

“Shen Yulong actually did something like this behind our backs?” Qin Hu was a little shocked. He thought about it and shook his head. “Impossible. Shen Yulong was with our captain all the time. He didn’t have the time to come up with such a scheme. Don’t you think that calculating the time and making the wall collapse is too complicated?”

“You’d have to make sure that you calculate the time for the wall to collapse right down to the second. How would we know when you’d pass through the place?”

“If we really had that ability, we might as well have just parked our four-star gunslinger at the wall. The moment we blew one of the Heaven Realm fighter’s brains off, we’d have a solid win without suffering any losses.

“As for that corporate spy you’re saying, I’ve never even heard of him. We drew a lot of maps over the past few days and explored dozens of mines. We even have a Red Radiance Jade sample that has less than 10% Red Radiance Jade in it. We have everything, so there’s no need for us to try and scheme against you!”

“Are you sure?” Meng Chao stared at Qin Hu to find any sign of him lying on his face. “Would your captain and Shen Yulong be blinded by their interests and work together to deceive you, which would end up in them bringing all of you to get involved in this fight where both parties will only end up being severely injured?”

Qin Hu disagreed and said, “That’s impossible. Frenzied Saber and Shen Yulong only share an employer-employee relationship. Even if we managed to locate the Red Radiance Jade mine, the ones who would get the right to mine it first would be Universe Corporation. They get to eat the meat, while we get to drink the soup. There’s no need for us to do something that the whole world believes is wrong and offend Sky Pillar Corporation and the Supernatural Tower.”

Once he said it, he froze.

He thought about it for a moment, and his moustache trembled.

“We didn’t collapse the wall, and you didn’t kill our sentry. Then... who did it?”

“Now, do you understand why I didn’t want to fight against you on the cliff?” Meng Chao asked coldly. “We were both drawn into a scheme, and it doesn’t just concern our lives and deaths. It also concerns the success and failure of the northern offense and will even affect the future of Dragon City!”

“Your wife and children will be staying in Dragon City for years in the future. You share a good relationship with your wife, and you wouldn’t want to see millions of monsters rush into Dragon City and tear her into shreds, right?”

Qin Hu was amazed. “How did you know that I have a good relationship with my wife?”

“If you didn’t love your wife, why would you just watch your brother-in-law turn your company into such a bad place to work in and do nothing about it?” Meng Chao asked in annoyance.

Qin Hu’s face turned red. He defended himself by saying, “We’re an old married couple, and when you’re married for as long as I have, you don’t talk about love anymore. But my wife was with me when I had nothing. At that time, I was young and filled with vigor. When I was bitten to shreds by monsters, the doctors even said that even if they managed to save me, I’d end up useless.

“But she stayed by my side and took care of me for ten days and nights. She dragged me back from Death’s door and said that it’s fine even if I don’t end up as a superhuman. She would become a harvester with me, and we’d be able to feed ourselves somehow.

“I don’t have any other strengths, but I friggin’ value my relationships. I know that Shen Rongfa is a good-for-nothing, useless son of a gun, but my wife is good. Even if my brother-in-law is a dog, I’ll pinch my nose and bear with it.

“Seriously, brat, if you suffered under Shen Rongfa, you could have told me in secret. Do you think that I’m seriously that stupid as to not be able to differentiate right from wrong and would make my ace worker suffer?”

“But you just had to make things hard for me in public. What was I supposed to do at that time? I could only support my brother-in-law to the very end, or else, I’d be embarrassed!”

### **Chapter 228: Only Survivor**

Meng Chao sneered coldly. “So, are my dad and I supposed to apologize to you, Mr. Hu?”

Qin Hu pretended as if he did not hear the mocking tone in Meng Chao’s voice. He swung his hand and said, “Forget it. I’m a generous person. I won’t bother arguing with someone younger than I am. What happened is now in the past, and whoever mentions it is a twat. What is the most important thing right now is that we have to get out of this stupid place!”

He ate the last mouthful of the high-calorie compressed food and patted his stomach as if he had not had his fill just yet. He thought about it and beckoned Meng Chao over. “Come here, brat.”

Meng Chao instantly looked wary.

His chain sabers moved soundlessly like venomous snakes.

Qin Hu’s lips curled up, and he mumbled, “Aren’t you wary, brat?”

He removed his tactical watch and tossed it at Meng Chao while saying, “The map my team drew as we explored the place is inside. It includes a few of the cracks I found leading to the surface. If we crawl up along these cracks, we can escape.

“Transfer that data into your tactical map. If anything happens, we will have a few paths we can use to survive.”

Tactical watches were the most loyal companions of superhumans in the wild.

Not only did they show the time, they also showed various information like humidity, air pressure, height, depth, density of spirit energy, intensity of the spirit energy ripples, and other stuff.

They could also store a lot of data regarding monster weaknesses and the ways to fight them.

The watches were also carefully made using the sturdiest crystals and superbeast materials. They could endure powerful tremors, corrosion, and spirit energy magnetic field interference. It could be said that they were the most valuable equipment a superhuman owned.

Regardless of whether it was Lu Siya or Shen Yulong, they had thrown much of their money into the mine exploration, and both sides prepared the most advanced tactical watches for their team members.

Despite the fierce fight earlier, the tactical watches were undamaged.

Meng Chao pulled out the cable from Qin Hu’s tactical watch and connected it to his own watch. After he brought out the map and looked at it, he quirked his eyebrows. “So, you didn’t come here through the subsurface stream!”

“Yeah. This region has just gone through a major geographical change. The Red Radiance Jade mine rose from deep underground. The powerful spirit energy impact tore through the sturdy rock stratum and created countless cracks. Naturally, there isn’t just one path leading underground.”

Qin Hu told Meng Chao that there was a geologist in Shen Yulong’s mine exploration team as well. He brought them to the edge of Raging Waves and used a secret technique to locate a cave leading to the ore bed.

Unfortunately, there were a lot of superbeasts that were infected by Blood Flowers deep in the cave.

After a fierce fight, most of the superbeasts turned into the undead.

While they fought, they retreated and fled deeper underground. Then, they exploded the wall behind them and sealed that cave shut so that the undead were blocked outside.

This meant that there was no way for them to return up the same road. Even if they located the Red Radiance Jade mine, they could only find another exit.

Hence, Shen Yulong’s team spent an extra twenty-four hours to explore the cracks above them. They used ultrasound to test the flow of air and discovered a few paths they could use to escape.

“But unless it’s absolutely necessary, it’s better if we don’t crawl through them. I’d rather go to the subsurface stream you mentioned and face that raging Lion Dragon Fish,” Qin Hu said.

“Why?” Meng Chao did not understand.

“Because we’re already under Raging Waves. If we crawl up along the cracks above us, even if we get to the surface, we’ll be in Raging Waves,” Qin Hu said.

“And what do you think Raging Waves is? It’s the nest of an Apocalyptic Beast! The Deity Realm elites are currently fighting an earth-shattering battle against that Apocalyptic Beast right now, and if we’re unlucky, we’ll walk straight into our deaths. We’re just in Earth Realm, you know? The Apocalyptic Beast can kill us with a single kick!”

Meng Chao thought about it and agreed with Qin Hu.

Even if they managed to climb to Raging Waves, they would just be climbing from the eighteenth level of Hell to the seventeenth. There was no difference.

But when he thought further about it, he found that there was something off!

He had overlooked something really important.

Qin Hu was alive.

In the memories from his past life, when his father was injured and they sued Prosperous, then looked for Qin Hu for money after they won the lawsuit, Qin Hu was always the boss of Prosperous. It meant that he had lived for another five years at the least.

‘My God, that means that without me, the variable, Qin Hu had actually been lucky enough to escape this!’

Meng Chao’s eyes instantly lit up, and he thanked his lucky stars that he did not watch Qin Hu die just now.

This idiot was actually lucky enough to become one of the few survivors in this strange scheme. In fact, he might even be the only survivor!

But...

Meng Chao narrowed his eyes and endured the pain from the depths of his mind to recall more things.

In his previous life, after he became a harvester with his father, he seemed to recall meeting Qin Hu once.

At that time, Qin Hu was really temperamental and ruthless. Every single one of his pores released bloodthirst, and he looked like a monster in human skin. He left behind a really bad impression on Meng Chao.

After he returned to the past, during the few times they ran into each other, while Meng Chao still thought that Qin Hu was domineering, he did not seem to be as ruthless as he was in his past life.

Did his experience in the underground cause the drastic change in his personality?

‘That’s right. Right now, Qin Hu is the vice captain of Frenzied Saber. But based on what I remember, Qin Hu was a solo hunter in my previous life.

‘He handed the daily affairs of Prosperous to Shen Rongfa while he stayed in the wild all the time to chase some powerful monster.

'After we won the lawsuit, we tried going to Qin Hu for the money a few times, but he never showed up. He was either in isolated training or hunting in the wild.

'Back then, my sister and I thought that Qin Hu didn't want to give us the money, which is why he intentionally hid himself from us.

'But now that I think about it, with Qin Hu's power, there was no reason for him to hide from the two of us, because we're just normal people.

'This matter became an important reason behind why Jiacao turned into the Dark Witch.'

Even now, Meng Chao could still remember Bai Jiacao's indignant words at that time.

"He went to the wild to hunt that White Spirit again?! What a joke! Qin Hu is just a five-star superhuman! He hasn't even reached the peak of Heaven Realm! But the White Spirit is one of the Nine Great Supernatural Entities. Even those in Deity Realm might not be able to handle it, so how can he possibly kill the White Spirit?

"Excuses! They're all lousy excuses! He's actually using such ridiculous lies to send us away?

"The law only protects powerful people like Qin Hu, the rich, and those who stand at the top. It does not protect our interests! I swear that from this moment on, I won't believe in those stupid laws anymore. I'll rely on my own power to take back what belongs to us!"

Meng Chao widened his eyes.

He was shocked by the memory fragments that rose to the forefront of his mind.

Then, he sank into puzzlement.

'What's this White Spirit? What are the Nine Great Supernatural Entities? Even the Deity Realm fighters might not be able to win against them? Wouldn't that mean that they're even stronger than Apocalyptic Beasts?!

'Why did Qin Hu insist on hunting one of the Nine Great Supernatural Entities when they're even stronger than Apocalyptic Beasts?

'Also, right now, Qin Hu is just a three-star superhuman. He's already a middle-aged man, so after fighting for so many years in the wild, he has a lot of hidden injuries accumulating in his body. His spirit meridians have already stagnated, and his cultivation base has stopped progressing.

'How could then he get to Heaven Realm in just a few short years and reach Spirit Gaze Realm?

'Did he run into some sort of fortuitous event?'

Meng Chao's thoughts raced as quickly as lightning.

"Brat, what's wrong with you?" Qin Hu asked in puzzlement.

"It's nothing." Meng Chao sucked in a deep breath and decided to bet everything. He threw his backpack to Qin Hu and said, "You aren't full yet, right? Your stamina and spirit energy haven't recovered to their peak. There's still some food and medicine here. Do whatever you want with them."

“You’re giving them to me?” Qin Hu widened his eyes. “Then what’s going to happen to you?”

“I... can’t last anymore.”

Meng Chao decided to bet everything on Qin Hu, but he was still worried that he would turn his back on him, so he wanted to test him one more time.

So, he activated Walking Corpse and reduced his body functions. He slowed down his heartbeat, breathing, and movements of organs so that his face turned pale and he looked really weak.

“I’m suffering from internal injuries. The Slit-mouthed Anacondas just now crashed into me really violently, and they tore my organs, so I’m bleeding internally right now,” Meng Chao said weakly. “I give you everything since you’re at the peak of Earth Realm, so recover your strength as much as possible and save me.”

At the same time, he discreetly circulated his spirit energy and created a spirit energy magnetic field. He also adjusted his muscle fibers.

If Qin Hu put on a savage face the moment he got the backpack, Meng Chao would attack and strike a fatal hit.

But Qin Hu did not betray him. In fact, he did not even take the backpack.

Instead, he scratched his moustache for a long time and pursed his lips before he said, “Your acting sucks.”

“Huh?”

“Brat, you just fell off a really high cliff and jumped around like some cockroach. Yet you’re saying that your organs are bleeding badly because of a few knocks from the Slit-mouthed Anacondas? Who’d believe that?”

“Um...”

Qin Hu continued, “Besides, aren’t you practicing that Ultimate Style? It claims that it can clear 1,024 branch meridians, provide great protection to your organs, and give you great endurance?”

“Well...”

Qin Hu continued yet again, “Also, I read an article in the official website of Agricultural University’s martial arts course. It’s called Records of the Birth of the Ultimate Style. It has a statement about a unique talent you have. It states that you have incredibly great healing abilities, which is why you could handle the initial stages of the Ultimate Style. Even if the wrong medicine formula caused major tears in the body, you could still go through more than ten incredibly painful experiments every day.

“After a night’s worth of sleep, all your pain was gone. You’re practically a monster, which is why you’re the number one contributor to the birth of the Ultimate Style. Gu Jianbo wrote it, and I think he’s your personal tutor. He wasn’t lying, was he?”

“No...”

“One more thing, I saw you using your pinky to hook on your chain saber.”

“Oh...”

Qin Hu then went for the final blow. “So, what’s the meaning of this? You don’t trust me and are testing me? If you don’t trust me, you can just say it. We can split up right now. There’s no need for you to beat around the bush like that. You can’t even act well and I saw through it with one look. I feel embarrassed for you!”

Meng Chao could only apologize after that. “Mr. Hu, I was wrong. My thoughts are too dark, and I suspected a good man who values relationships such as yourself. From now on, I will definitely trust you. Let’s work together and break this scheme so that we can get out of this stupid place!”

### **Chapter 229: Fully Equipped**

It was only then that Qin Hu was satisfied. He dragged the backpack over and sat down in a meditative position before he started shoving food down his throat.

While he ate, he spoke in a muffled voice. “Brad, I’m goin’ do uze half an ‘our to regulade my breading. Den I’ll restore around fifyd perzend of my bower. Bud now, the bigges’ problem is ‘ow we’re going up.”

Meng Chao walked along the wall for a while. The cliff was more than one hundred meters tall and it was washed by the subsurface stream in the past so much that it was as smooth as a mirror. Slippery moss grew on the rock as well, so there were very few spots they could use as a platform.

If they climbed up barehanded, it would be very difficult for them to make it to the top.

And spirit energy ripples of different frequencies came from the crystal mine in the depths of the cave. They surged forward and filled the space with unseen torrents. They were just like the legendary wind force.

Even Heaven Realm deities who had mastered maglev technology would have a hard time flying in a stable manner while they faced the interference from wind force.

Meng Chao tried a few times to use the Ultimate Style to accurately control his muscles so that he could climb the wall like a gecko.

But at most, he made it only slightly over ten meters before he slid down.

If he fell while he was more than one hundred meters up, the consequences would be really severe.

‘We need to use some kind of tool...’

As a harvester, Meng Chao instinctively thought of the Slit-mouthed Anacondas, the Grade Two superbeasts they had just killed.

He dragged the incomplete carcasses of the Slit-mouthed Anacondas to Qin Hu.

Then, he knelt down on one knee and tore off the four flaps covering the Slit-mouthed Anaconda’s teeth-covered mouthpiece.

Then, he swung Bloody Flame. The thin, short, and dynamic saber perfectly separated the mantle on the Slit-mouthed Anaconda’s body. Then, he cut it into moderate-sized squares.

Mantles were the skins of mollusca. They had even greater stretchability compared to pelts and shells. They could absorb micronutrients from stones, turning them into sturdy shells resembling limestone. They could be said to be natural ingredients for protective suits that could turn sturdy or soft at will.

Meng Chao brought out a few mining needles from the backpack Lin Chuan had given him, and with his harvesting tools, he quickly pierced rows of neat holes at the edges of the Slit-mouthed Anaconda's mantles.

After that, he brought out the meridians from the Slit-mouthed Anaconda's mouthpiece, which were the softest parts in their bodies, and tore them into four bundles. He bound them together and moved them through the holes in the mantles. He turned them into stretchable ropes and connected them together. The Slit-mouthed Anaconda's skin became two crude leather armors.

Meng Chao put the leather armor on his body.

He did not even need to tighten his tendons and meridians. The leather armor shrank by itself and fit him perfectly. It would not bother him while he fought.

Meng Chao nodded in satisfaction and threw the larger leather armor to the sitting man.

Qin Hu had watched him move his hands so quickly that they looked like two balls of gray fog. He had worked for ten minutes before he turned the Slit-mouthed Anaconda's mantle into the strange armor. He could not help but ask, "What's this? They couldn't even withstand one slash from me!"

"That's not for you to fend against enemy slashes," Meng Chao said. "The biggest problem we face when we fight around crystal mines is the spirit energy magnetic field interference. The interference is strongest around the Red Radiance Jade mine we want to search.

"But all things in the world counter each other. There is definitely an antidote to the poison of a venomous creature within seven steps of where it lives.

"Since the Slit-mouthed Anacondas can stay so close to the Red Radiance Jade mine, are so huge, and possess such great offensive power, it shows that their organs don't face a lot of negative effects from an overexposure to spirit energy radiation. I believe that there must be something strange about their mantles.

"They might be natural anti-radiation coats. If we wear them, we can reduce the effects of spirit energy magnetic field interference and bring out greater fighting power."

Qin Hu did not quite believe him, but he still put on the leather armor Meng Chao sewed and quietly circulated his spirit energy. Suddenly, he widened his eyes and said in surprise, "You're right. I feel much better than before. I can create my spirit energy magnetic fields faster, more accurately, and they're more stable. The pain in my spirit energy meridians also is not so bad anymore!"

Meng Chao smiled faintly and continued with his work. He brought out a few bloody things that looked like rubber from his personal storage bag.

He harvested a few of the acid glands from the Slit-mouthed Anacondas and poured acid over them.

Bubbles appeared on the surface of the rubber-like material, and it soon softened into sticky liquid.

Meng Chao stuck the four flaps of the Slit-mouthed Anaconda's mouthpiece on the soles of his shoes and his forearms with the sticky liquid. At first glance, it looked as if he had four rows of sharp teeth growing on his limbs.

He then pressed his arms and tips of his feet against the wall to test things.

This time, he felt as if he was wearing track spikes and walking on ice. When the teeth dug into the stone, he had a firmer grip on the wall.

Qin Hu stared at him. "What's that?"

"Sticky liquid from Stone Statue Fungus," Meng Chao explained patiently. "Stone Statue Fungi are what you ran into earlier. They're the fungi that spat out sticky liquid when injured, which then became as sturdy as reinforced concrete after solidifying.

"That liquid is not afraid of anything, but when it touches acid, it softens again. Coincidentally, Slit-mouthed Anacondas are monsters that love spitting acid.

"I killed a Slit-mouthed Anaconda while we were on the surface and harvested its acid gland. Once I discovered that the liquid from Stone Statue Fungus solidifies, I realized that it's a really powerful and convenient glue stick, so I collected some, and they did indeed proved to be useful!

"I used the sticky liquid from Stone Statue Fungus to stick the Slit-mouthed Anaconda's fangs on my leather armor and combat boots, which increased my friction. Like this, we can climb this smooth wall. When we return to the cliff, our fighting strength will be reduced to at most 50% because of the anti-radiation armor, while the Heaven Realm fighters will have their fighting strength reduced to barely 20% or 30%. Mr. Hu, when you round off the numbers, your chances of winning will be pretty good."

Qin Hu scratched his moustache and mumbled, "Brat, you sure know a lot of deviant tricks."

Meng Chao grinned. "Are you regretting being too indulgent of your brother-in-law's wilfulness now? With such a genius harvester like me around, Prosperous might have become really powerful and climbed to great heights."

Qin Hu cackled and said smugly, "That's where you're wrong. Even though I find it a slight pity, I don't regret my actions at all. Even if that bastard Shen Rongfa really causes Prosperous to go bankrupt, I won't care."

Meng Chao was dumbfounded. "Why?"

"You don't understand. My wife knows her brother's character. The more trouble Shen Rongfa causes, the more she will feel as if she let me down, and she'll be gentler to me!"

Qin Hu looked at him smugly. "For years, my wife had the say in my house, and it has been especially so during the past two years, when she went through her menopause. Those days were hell.

"But over the past half a year, it was revealed that her brother had created a foul atmosphere in the company. She knows that he's in the wrong, so I became in control of the house again, and now, I can stand up straight in front of her.

“Anyway, harvesting is just my part-time job. My main job is still taking missions and killing monsters. Using a measly company to get harmony in the family is such a good deal that you don’t know how worthwhile it is. I’m living the best of my life right now, so why should I regret it?”

“...” Meng Chao sucked in a deep breath and said, “You’ve stated multiple times in the harvesting circle that you’re in a terrible fix because of me and my dad and that your company is suffering major losses. You even said that you want to kill us. What’s with that?”

“Duh. If I didn’t say that, how would my wife know just how many problems her brother caused me? How would she be as gentle to me as she was when she was seventeen?”

The more Qin Hu spoke, the more vigorous he became. “Besides, if I make it sound like the company’s financial situation is really bad, my wife will know that we’re going through harsh times, and she won’t buy handbags on a whim all the time!

“Anyway, this is the survival wisdom that middle-aged men gain. You don’t understand it, do you? Hahahaha!”

Meng Chao fell silent. He buried his head and continued to work.

Soon, he created two more anti-radiation leather pieces that were covered by the Slit-mouthed Anaconda’s sharp teeth.

Qin Hu jumped up full of life.

At that moment, they heard an explosion above their heads.

Boom!

The sound of the earth-shattering explosion pierced through the layers of obstruction formed by the subsurface plasma and reached their ears. It sounded like a rumble of thunder during an afternoon in summer.

The two of them looked at each other, and they could see the shock in each other’s eyes.

Qin Hu mumbled, “They even used the crystal bombs to explode crystal mines? Aren’t they afraid of making the cave collapse or burning through all the oxygen? They’ll just make everyone die together!”

Thud! Thud! Thud!

Soon after the explosion, five burnt corpses fell from above and landed in the depths of the subsurface plasma.

They were all swept down by the explosion on the cliff.

The Slit-mouthed Anacondas which had been patrolling in the subsurface plasma immediately pounced forward and fought each other over the corpses. They tore them apart and ate them.

As they watched numerous Slit-mouthed Anacondas squirm around while they ate, Meng Chao and Qin Hu felt chills crawl down their spines.

Then, they thanked their lucky stars that they had not thought about fighting against each other. Otherwise, neither of them would have been able to escape becoming the Slit-mouthed Anacondas' food.

At that moment, another mutilated corpse fell down.

Meng Chao moved quickly once he saw it. He flung his chain saber forward and pulled the corpse in midair before the Slit-mouthed Anacondas—they were already looking up—could get it.

A few Slit-mouthed Anacondas opened their mouths at them in displeasure and hissed in a show of force.

“Damn it! Do you really think that I won't dare to cut all of you down, trash?!” Qin Hu glared at them and took a step forward. He brought his saw-toothed saber above his head and gave off a really fierce presence.

The Slit-mouthed Anacondas hesitated for a moment before they dragged the food they had obtained back into the subsurface plasma.

Qin Hu sighed in relief. He turned his head around and said, “He's dead, and a corpse is just a pile of foul-smelling flesh. There's no need for you to grab a corpse and stir up the fierce nature of so many Slit-mouthed Anacondas.”

Meng Chao nodded. “I know. Mr. Hu, look. Who is this?”

Qin Hu drew closer. He spat into his palm and rubbed the corpse's contorted face. Then, with a grave voice, he said, “Li Xin?”

That was right. The mutilated and badly battered corpse was the ace gunslinger Li Xin, who was a four-star superhuman.

He was dead.

Even if he had reached Heaven Realm, he was still cut in half at the waist and badly battered by the explosion. He was even swept off the cliff by the impact wave, which led to his organs spilling out. There was no way he could have survived that.

Even a Heaven Realm elite died in the dark world.

There were only a few who could survive the battle on the cliff.

Meng Chao couldn't care less about that right now.

He removed the Sam Brown Belt bound around Li Xin's chest and back to check how many guns and bullets he had in the rifle case made of tanned superbeast leather.

### **Chapter 230: Climb Up**

Due to the requirements to fight in a dark region with a bumpy ground, Li Xin did not bring any anti-material sniper rifles, heavy cannons, or any other major killing weapons.

Meng Chao found a mini Samopal vzor 61 and four cartridges with 28 bullets in them.

Mini submachine guns were not that much bigger than handguns, and they were a rare abnormality of guns designed to be crude and rough in Dragon City.

Even though they were small and exquisite, in half a second, they could form a bullet storm.

If one were slotted with cursed bullets, armor-piercing bullets, incendiary bullets, or freezing bullets embedded with crystals and carved with runic symbols, it would be very powerful.

Li Xin was holding onto an assault rifle. Unfortunately, the gun barrel was distorted during the explosion. Fortunately, the grenade launcher added to it was still in perfect shape.

Meng Chao found three fist-sized rifle grenades in Li Xin's Sam Brown Belt.

He inserted a rifle grenade into the grenade launcher, stuffed it into his trouser pocket, and used his dagger to cut a few intersecting lines at the bottom of the last rifle grenade so it would travel in an unstable manner. At a critical moment, if Meng Chao threw it at a stone, it would become a grenade.

"This is something that only the best special forces soldiers in the Red Dragon Army would do, and only those who have gone through hundreds of battles would think of." Qin Hu looked at Meng Chao with admiration in his eyes.

Meng Chao remembered how proud of himself he had been, and he did not say anything. He continued searching. He found a few stabilizing fluids that could increase the stability of sharpshooters in the rifle case, multi-purpose night-vision goggles, a scope for a sniper rifle, and a flexible periscope.

The last one was like a metal tube connected to the showers in bathrooms, but it could be twisted 360 degrees at the user's will. It could observe the enemy situation from different directions and angles. It could also be used at corners or extended into cracks.

Gunslingers loved using these sort of observation tools that could bend to reduce the risk of exposing themselves.

Meng Chao whistled and tossed the multi-purpose night-vision goggles to Qin Hu while he put away the scope and periscope.

At the end, he found a bumpy object at the spot above Li Xin's heart.

It was a strange-looking handgun.

It seemed to have been made by hand, and it was the amalgamation of a revolver and starting pistol. Only one huge bullet could be fitted into its cylinder.

The bullet was in a semi-transparent glass bottle, and it floated in a mithril-based stabilizing solution. It shone with a dark but dangerous light.

At first glance, it did not look like a bullet. Instead, it looked like a crystalline meteor fragment or the core of a high-grade superbeast.

But someone had carved a series of fine runic symbols on its surface, and they worked together with the mithril-based stabilizing fluid to control its destructive power.

Meng Chao put his ear to the glass bottle and heard hissing sounds; it sounded like the moans that came from the deepest parts of hell.

“Is this... a self-destruct gun?” Qin Hu sucked in a sharp breath and quickly said, “Brat, put it down! This isn’t something you can control!”

Meng Chao quirked his eyebrows.

When Qin Hu saw that Meng Chao was still staring at it, he thought that he was attracted by the bullet’s incredibly dangerous beauty and spoke louder. “Normal crystal bullets are made with only a bit of crystal or monster materials. When they’re released, they create powerful spirit energy ripples which impact the gunslinger’s brain. This is what you call recoil.

“And in the gunslinger circle, there is a thing called self-destruct guns. They’re not mass-produced. Instead, they’re only made when someone finds an incredibly rare crystal or superbeast material that has a shape suitable for a bullet. They then carve runic symbols into it and polish it a little. Then, based on the strange and unique shape of the bullet, they make a gun for it by hand.

“Do you understand now? This self-destruct gun is made for this bullet, and this bullet is either a meteorite fragment that fell from the sky in ancient times or a crystalized organ from a Hell Beast or even an Apocalyptic Beast. It has the power to destroy the world, so when it’s fired, you will definitely need to pay a price for it!

“The meaning behind the self-destruct gun’s name is that once a gunslinger uses it, there is a good chance that their brain and the target’s brain will explode at the same time.

“Look, Li Xin didn’t dare to use this self-destruct gun even when he died. He didn’t even dare to bring out the bullet from the mithril-based stabilizing fluid and stuff it into the bore. You can tell from this alone that it is a killing weapon that is incredibly powerful and has great side effects. It’s not something a puny Spirit Tattoo Realm superhuman can use.

“If you try to use this gun, I promise you that the moment you pull the trigger, the first thing you will see will be your own brains!”

“Thanks for the reminder, Mr. Hu.”

In his previous life, his fighting class was a gunslinger. Then, he received harsh military training in the Ghost Tribe, so there was no way he would not know just how dangerous a self-destruct gun was.

But Li Xin did not use his self-destruct gun, and he even died in such a tragic manner.

Meng Chao held the super bullet that seemed to be made of a meteor fragment loosely on his palm. Then, he stuffed the bullet and the self-destruct gun into the two trouser pockets at his thighs, because it was from where he could retrieve his items the easiest.

The two men cleared up their tracks.

Then, they went to the furthest corner of the wall, sucked in deep breath, and prepared to climb the wall.

Meng Chao reorganized all the things he could use one last time.

He had two chain sabers, two mini Samopal vzor 61, four cartridges, a grenade launcher, three rifle grenades, one self-destruct gun, and one incredibly dangerous super bullet.

He also had a scope, a periscope, night-vision goggles, anti-radiation armor, and one last solid block of Stone Statue Fungus liquid, along with one Slit-mouthed Anaconda acid gland that could make it soften and restore its sticky properties.

He also had around 27,000 contribution points, which meant that he could perform two full-body treatments. He could also push killing moves like Demon Subduing Slash or Thousand Moon Slash to another level.

Oh, and over the past two months or so, he had been sparring madly with the students in the base and killing monsters in Shattered Starlake. So, he had actually completed the second and third segment of the Fight for the Ultimate Style quest over its requirements.

When necessary, he could declare that he had completed the quest and get at least twenty thousand contribution points. There was also a chance that he could awaken the brand new techniques, Mind Lightning and Monster Blood Combustion.

'I will definitely survive and figure out the truth to change the future!'

Meng Chao exhaled slowly and pressed the Slit-mouthed Anaconda's teeth on his arms and soles against the wall. Then, like a gecko, he started crawling up.

The two men were superhumans, so their mobility far surpassed that of rock climbers on Earth. Since they had rows of sharp Slit-mouthed Anaconda teeth helping them as well, they soon climbed dozens of meters upward.

The higher they climbed, the more clearly they could hear intense fighting and explosions above. They could also sense the spirit energy ripples and shockwaves clashing and surging repeatedly.

The wall in front of them even let out cracking sounds. Quite a number of stones fell from above them, and some parts of the wall cracked into thin lines like spider webs.

This made them climb even faster.

But it also made their hearts sink.

The vitality magnetic fields of the humans surged madly. The chain crystal explosions also caused high-frequency shockwaves.

The vibration from different crystal mines affected each other, and the vibrations grew worse, which created a destructive cycle.

In spirit energy studies, this phenomenon was known as self-oscillation.

When self-oscillation reached the maximum, it became an unstoppable spirit energy tsunami.

Forget about the underground cave facing the possibility of collapsing, even the Deity Realm fighters and Apocalyptic Beast in Raging Waves would be severely affected by it.

“This doesn’t seem like the normal fights when you fight for the right to mine first.” Qin Hu narrowed his eyes and looked at the subsurface plasma-shrouded cliff. “Brat, who is the mole you suspect of instigating both sides to fight each other to the death?”

Meng Chao hesitated for a moment. He did not want to mention the name he respected and idolized to Qin Hu, a middle-aged man who was domineering, sleazy, and whom he bore a grudge with in his previous life.

Qin Hu snickered. “Even if you don’t say it, I know. It’s Lin Chuan, right?”

At that moment, Meng Chao was truly stunned. He could no longer care whether Qin Hu might be lying to him and blurted out, “How did you know?”

“You aren’t familiar with Lu Siya or anyone else from Sky Pillar Corporation, so there’s no way you’d figure out if they were the mole, and you have even less reason not to tell me their name,” Qin Hu said.

“Lin Chuan is your university mate. Recently, you have been together often, and you even became his assistant in his broadcasts. You should know him very well, which is why you might suspect him while also not wishing to tell me his name.”

Meng Chao admitted it in silence.

Qin Hu grabbed a crack that had just appeared and used his other hand to scratch his moustache.

“But here’s the strange part. Isn’t Lin Chuan’s Lu Siya’s guard dog? He’s bound tightly to the Lu family. If Lu Siya gets the right to mine the place first, he will also be able to enjoy a good life.

“If he forces both mine exploration teams to die together and kills Lu Siya and Shen Yulong, what sort of benefits will he get?”

“The only thing I can think of is the right to mine the place first, but the largest mining companies in Dragon City are Sky Pillar and Universe would oppose him. And with Lin Chuan’s ability alone, it’s impossible for him to occupy the Red Radiance Jade mine.

“Is he going to join some other force of power with the Red Radiance Jade mine? That’s crazy. After this happens, no matter which force of power wants to mine the Red Radiance Jade mine, they’ll have to face Sky Pillar and Universe’s wrath. No one would do something so stupid. The loss would outweigh the gains. What do you think?”

Meng Chao frowned and defended Lin Chuan seriously. “Big Brother Lin isn’t a guard dog.”

Qin Hu was stunned for a moment before he realized that the two of them were not on the same channel. “Alright, he’s not Lu Siya’s guard dog. Seriously though, I didn’t have any ill will in what I said. In the current era, relying on a woman to survive is also an ability. If I was as handsome as Lin Chuan, I wouldn’t come to this stupid place to risk my life—”

“Mr. Hu,” Meng Chao interrupted him, “please don’t destroy the teeny tiny bit of good impression I formed of you just now.”

Qin Hu tugged his moustache. “Forget it. I’m not interested in Lin Chuan’s personality. I’m curious about his motives.”

“I don’t know them. I just feel that Big Brother Lin is a man with great ambitions and is far above such low tastes. If he really plotted this entire scheme, he’s definitely not doing it for a vulgar goal like getting the right to mine the Red Radiance Jade mine first.”

Meng Chao was silent for a moment, then told Qin Hu what Lin Chuan had said about there being no monsters and humans, though he did away with all the unnecessary details. “Do you think his theory makes sense?”

“I don’t friggin’ care whether it makes sense or not!” Qin Hu shouted out. “I’ve long since passed the age where I have enough free time on my hands to come up with such stupid theories. What’s the point of just yammering about? I only want to earn money, resources, and train! Then, I’ll get more money and resources so that my wife, my children, and I can live comfortable and glorious lives!”