

Oh My God 271

Chapter 271: Biochemical Modification

“No. Spirit Creation has basically stopped drilling holes into spines and injecting medicine or implanting chips there. That technology is out-of-date. This is a method from around twenty years ago. Now, we mainly use molecule infiltration methods and project the medicine into the subject’s organs.”

Xie Xiaolei regained some degree of his elegance and said with a smile, “Come, I’ll let you observe our modification labs.”

On the surface, Spirit Creation was just an inconspicuous seven-floor building, and it was even just an auxiliary.

But it had a large underground lab.

Aside from canine-type and feline-type biochemical pets, Giant Sandworms, which were more than thirty meters long, were also modified here. They had man-made hormone sacs and control chips implanted into them.

“Don’t worry, Giant Sandworms are really gentle guys.” When Xie Xiaolei saw Meng Chao staring at the modification platform and at the rows of sharp teeth covering the Giant Sandworms’ mouths, Xie Xiaolei smiled. “In truth, low grade monsters are also low on the difficulty scale no matter how monstrous and terrifying they appear to be.

“They don’t think, don’t have any consciousness, and don’t even know what they’re doing. In fact, they have a hard time telling the difference between humans, monsters, etherealized plants, stones, and fortresses. They are guided by their instincts and just care about eating, eating, and eating.

“So, as long as we release unique bioelectricity or hormones to stimulate their nerve bundles, we’re able to control them and make them serve us.

“They’re just like machines of flesh and blood. They won’t hurt their owners.”

Meng Chao nodded.

He remembered it now: President Xie was a genius in advertisement and promotions.

When Spirit Creation was just set up, he had personally taken part in a very famous advertisement to prove the safety of the biochemical beasts.

He had stepped into the mouth of a Giant Sandworm with a smile and, in an elegant manner, raised a glass of wine while speaking about the superiority of genetic modifications. Moments later, he even used an electric stick to stimulate the mouth of the Giant Sandworm.

The creature just opened its mouth wider but not once did it try to eat him.

This advertisement stirred up a hot discussion, and it opened up the market for Spirit Creation.

However, Meng Chao’s focus was not on the Giant Sandworms, but on the small and medium-sized biochemical pets kept in houses.

“This way, please. The three biochemical pets that went wild this time were our third generation products. They have a certain degree of fighting strength and great intelligence. Hence, we pay special attention to making sure that they’re safe,” Xie Xiaolei said.

“When we modified this batch, we separated the process into three main steps. First, we used genetically modified nuclei, which are CRISPR, to perform double strand breaks at specific sites in the genetic groups. This would induce the organisms to go through non-homologous end joining or homologous recombination to repair the double strand break.

“It’s very easy for the repairing process to go wrong and cause targeted mutation. This sort of targeted mutation then turns into gene editing.

“Through gene editing, we combine the traits of dozens of canine-type monsters and get rid of the gene segments that control their desires to hunt and kill. Then, we implant the genes of herbivorous monsters that are rather gentle in nature, and through repeated tests, we create biochemical beasts that are like pet dogs. They are loyal to their masters and suited to living in human society.”

“Hmm...” Meng Chao thought about it. “It sounds really complicated. Wouldn’t it be really unstable?”

“No way. This is a very well-developed technology. If even elementary school students have begun conducting gene knockout experiments on Earth, why should we shy away from it while we live in a new world that is filled with spirit energy and is constantly changing? In just a short half a century, our progress in exploring the secrets of genes have become five hundred years more advanced than the genetics on Earth!

“Besides, the genes of the monsters in the Other World are... How should I put this? We discovered a lot of signs of gene tailoring, knockouts, and the sealing of genes in the genetic chains of many wild monsters. They don’t seem like pure wild beasts, but products of a lab. Of course, this happened a long time ago, and it might have come from labs that were around billions of years ago.”

“What?”

Xie Xiaolei shrugged. “The Other World had a very advanced ancient civilization in the past. This isn’t some major secret. If humans can think about using genetic technology to discover the greatest potential of plants, there’s no reason why the ancient civilization couldn’t have thought about this as well.

“We’ll leave the historians and archaeologists to slowly discover the truth about this. I only want to tell you that monsters have always been creatures that were easily modified. Otherwise, how do you think Agricultural University’s monster controller course would have come to creating so many fierce fighting-type biochemical beasts?

“Of course, gene editing is just our first procedure. Next, when the biochemical beasts are conceived in their mothers’ womb, we inject all sorts of hormones and medicines into them to ensure that their brains grow faster. Cranial capacity isn’t our main focus. The problem lies in the sulci.

“Science has proven that cranial capacity is not the key that decides intellect. The number of sulci and neural circuits are what decides intelligence. The canine-type biochemical beasts that have been modified by us have a 300% increase of neural circuits compared to wild canine-type monsters. It’s

enough to make them possess the intellect of a seven or eight-year-old child. They can understand simple commands from their masters, and of course, they know to choose to live comfortably in human society.

“We don’t just inject the drug once, though. Instead, during the entire process of the modification, we inject the drugs nineteen times. Aside from promoting the growth of their brains, there is also an inhibiting hormone in it that will maximize our capability for limiting its practically non-existent violence. After this, the biochemical beasts are even more harmless than pet dogs.”

After saying that, Xie Xiaolei paused for a moment.

Clearly, he had been working himself down to the bone over the past two days, and his mood was not as good as his expression showed.

When he saw that the people, who were from Agricultural University and thus, stood on his side, were beside him, he could not help but make a sarcastic remark. “Honestly, I’m going to say something that someone in my position shouldn’t say. Even the pet dogs on Earth have injured people a lot of times, but there has never been cases of people wanting all dogs to be killed just because of one case of a dog going out of control, right?”

Meng Chao narrowed his eyes. “President Xie, are you saying that there is still a possibility that a creation of Spirit Creation would have gone out of control?”

Xie Xiaolei’s face turned red, and he quickly defended himself by saying, “No, I’m just saying that we can’t give up on biochemical pets because of fear. Biochemical technology is the key in us colonizing the Other World. After all, the failure rate of machines is too high in this world, and as our main source of energy, spirit energy is still too unstable. I think we’re making an arbitrary decision if we get rid of all hope to modify monsters just because of one accident.

“Besides, it’s not as if there have never been accidents with runic symbol machines either. When we built Subway No.6, the explosion caused a cave in, and a building above it collapsed entirely, leading to hundreds of casualties.

“In the end, investigation showed that the manufacturers of the construction machines didn’t check the power hidden in an ancient runic symbol properly, which resulted in two different spirit energy magnetic fields clashing against each other. It then led to the tragedy. We didn’t seize the chance to cause trouble and said that runic symbol technology is a dangerous product that can threaten the whole civilization!

“... I’m sorry, I’ve gone off topic. Meng Chao, please look, this is the third modification in the procedure, and it’s the last safety measure. We implant a chip into the central nervous system of the biochemical pet that can constantly monitor its hormone levels.

“When the chip detects that the biochemical pet’s hormone level is rising to abnormal levels and it’s about to go berserk, it will automatically release a very strong bioelectricity current that will deliver a shock to the biochemical pet, causing it great pain.

“If it still won’t calm down, the current will continue increasing, and in the end, it might even burn their central nervous system.

“Please come to this lab. We will personally witness the power of the control chip.”

As Xie Xiaolei spoke, he brought Meng Chao and Ning Shewo before a French window.

Behind the window was a dog kennel. Locked in it was a biochemical pet that was of the same species as the biochemical pets that went out of control.

This biochemical pet had an internal codename, and it was Contest Tiger. It did indeed have an appearance of a beautiful tiger cub and looked incredibly mighty.

It had a long and streamlined body. Its golden pelt was glossy and shone. Even so, it could not hide the feeling of explosive power when it bulged up its muscles. It usually hid its fangs and claws, but when it fought, they would reveal themselves like daggers.

If the biochemical pet faced normal monsters, it could fight against them for a while, and if its master was stuck under rubble, it could dig them out as quickly as a drilling machine.

On Earth, when humans chose their pet dogs, they usually picked small ones, since they were exquisite and charming.

But Dragon City was alone in a foreign land. They had fought hundreds of battles, and all the citizens had lived through a war. Their future also held only endless fighting.

In this ruthless society where fighting ruled, when people kept pets, they preferred large dogs. They were mighty, cool, and had a certain level of fighting power.

There were also some people who did not like fighting dogs, so they reared carnivorous reptile-type monsters, which were even fiercer. This was lately becoming the trend.

Contest Tiger was a hot-selling creature from Spirit Creations. Meng Chao had seen a lot of them on the streets, and all of them looked honest and dumb. They gave off a feeling of safety.

But the Contest Tiger in front of them had bloodshot eyes and was drooling. Its head was spasming as if it had gone mad. Its fangs and claws were retracting and extending, which made it look incredibly fierce.

Xie Xiaolei told Meng Chao that to test the danger level of the Contest Tiger, they had been conducting a lot of experiments over the past two days. The biochemical pet before their eyes had already absorbed a lot of stimulating gas and had been injected with virus-laced drugs that would stir up its violent tendencies. It was about to regain the violent tendencies of a monster.

“If you inject violence-inducing drugs, you can make originally docile biochemical beasts regain their violent tendencies?” Meng Chao fell into deep thought.

“Of course. No matter what, it’s just a beast,” Xie Xiaolei said. “Forget about biochemical pets. Even when humans are injected with zombie-virus-laced drugs, they will turn into zombies who will bare their teeth and won’t recognize their family. This has nothing to do with the safety of our creations.”

As he spoke, a bloody piece of raw meat was thrown into the room.

A fierce light shone in the biochemical pet’s eyes, and it immediately pounced on the meat.

Chapter 272: A Disabled Person

But before the creature could land on the piece of raw meat, it looked as if it was whipped by an invisible whip, and it fell down mid-pounce. It was in so much pain that it started rolling on the ground and whining.

The violent spark in its eyes had yet to fade away and it staggered to its feet, but its head was shuddering, and it could not walk in a straight line. It was in too much pain.

In the end, blood started oozing out of its orifices, and it started foaming in pink bubbles. Clearly, it had suffered pretty significant organic damage to its brain.

“Look, if our creations wanted to harm their masters, they would end up like this,” Xie Xiaolei said. “Of course, under most circumstances, our biochemical beasts won’t end up in such a frenzy. At most, with just one or two shocks, they will become obedient again.

“Besides, the chips are connected wirelessly to the masters’ handphones or watches. The masters can control the frequency of the electric shocks and the intensity. Usually, with just a wave of the hand, the biochemical pets will become obedient, because it’s impossible for them to withstand the great pain to their brains and tear their masters to shreds.”

Meng Chao looked at the biochemical beast that was still struggling on its deathbed. “I seem to recall that it’s very easy to interfere with the various types of control chips using spirit energy magnetic fields.”

“There are situations where the chips will face interference, but think about it,” Xie Xiaolei said. “On the same night, the control chips of three biochemical pets created by Spirit Creations were tampered with in a residential area, and it’s at this moment that they went violent to the point that they couldn’t even recognize their owners. But all the biochemical pets created by other companies in the same residential area all remained harmless. Can such a coincidence exist?”

Meng Chao fell into deep contemplation.

“It’s indeed a little strange,” Ning Shewo said.

“But because of it, the possibility of someone intentionally controlling these pets isn’t that high,” Meng Chao said. “If this was done via human means, they would have had to inject something similar to violence-inducing drugs into the originally docile biochemical pets and tamper with their control chips, but somehow leave no trace of it. Is this possible?”

“Of course it is. Heavenly Works Machines’ control chip technology is far above that of Spirit Creation Creatures. Their experts would definitely have a way to seize and even take control of the control chips that we implanted into our biochemical pets, which would allow them to turn the pets we modified into killing machines!”

The piercing voice that reminded of metal scratching against glass came from behind the trio.

Meng Chao turned his head around and was shocked.

The person who spoke... was really ugly.

It looked as if he had been ripped to shreds by a monster and sewn back. His organs were not where they should be, his spine was bent to the shape of a lobster, and he was curled up into a ball.

His left leg was deformed, and his right leg was crooked. He had to use his arms, which were as thin as reed stems, to push his wheelchair forward.

His left eye was gone, but he did not wear an eyepatch or use an electronic prosthetic eye. Instead, he stubbornly exposed his black eye socket to the world and only looked with his large right eye. It shone with an even more brilliant spark than most people's two eyes.

He was dressed in a clean and smooth white coat, but compared to the researchers in the labs, he looked like a scientific monstrosity that had been created in a lab.

When Xie Xiaolei saw who had arrived, he forced himself to smile and say, "Gao Ye, why are you here? I told you that I'll handle this matter..."

"Mr. Ning is here, so why can't I come over to meet him?"

The ugly monster was known as Gao Ye. He pushed his wheelchair forward arduously and arrived in front of Ning Shewo. He squeezed out a smile on his gloomy face while he extended his hand, which looked like a chicken claw. "Mr. Ning, it's been a long while."

Ning Shewo extended his hand. "Gao Ye, it's been a long while. How are you?"

"Not good. Not good at all."

Gao Ye and Ning Shewo shook hands, and he said in a straightforward manner, "This is something I produced with my blood, sweat, and tears for decades, and it's trampled on like this. Anyone in my place wouldn't feel good."

"The biochemical beasts I modified are definitely the safest. Even if someone was cut into pieces and thrown into the biochemical pets' mouths, without their owners' permission, they wouldn't even chew on them!"

Xie Xiaolei looked a little troubled. "Gao Ye..."

Ning Shewo was used to the way Gao Ye spoke. He did not mind it and introduced him to Meng Chao. "Gao Ye and Xiaolei were Agricultural University students. They were really talented and stood out. After graduation, they created Spirit Creation Creatures together."

"They split their tasks. Xiaolei is in charge of dealing with the public, managing the overall operations of the company, and promotions. Gao Ye is in charge of internal affairs. He's tasked with biochemical modifications and the research and development of new creations. Since they both made best use of their talents and their teamwork was great, their company has only continued growing."

"Gao Ye must be facing even greater pressure compared to Xiaolei because of this accident. After all, he's the person-in-charge of the research. It's only normal that he's not in a good mood."

Meng Chao nodded.

He observed Gao Ye's wheelchair with mild curiosity.

He found it rather puzzling. The runic symbol technology and mechanical prosthetic technology in Dragon City was pretty well developed. The creator of Spirit Creation Creatures did not seem to be

lacking money to go through treatment either, so why didn't he get himself a set of prosthetic limbs that could be controlled by brainwaves and insisted on using such an ancient wheelchair?

Xu Sheng was a good example of the opposite. This specially recruited fighting course student from the University of Technology had a distinct lack of limbs and could not move at all, but with the mechanical prosthetics he created, he could even fight on the battlefield.

Gao Ye, however, chose to be curled up in a ball in his wheelchair. Aside from not being able to move as he wished, he also had to feel uncomfortable. So why then?

"I don't like prosthetic limbs." Perhaps because Meng Chao's gaze had stayed on the wheelchair for too long, Gao Ye seemed to have understood the questions in his heart. "When I put on those cold metal prosthetics, I feel like I'm about to be devoured by machines, and I'm no longer a human with flesh and blood. Instead, I've become a slave to machines, and I'll forever be a criminal trapped in a metal coffin.

"My body might be incomplete and ugly, and it constantly gives me great pain, but this pain lets me experience the meaning of life and makes me believe that I am still of flesh and blood, and am a real human, understand?"

Meng Chao's face turned red. He felt that he was a little too rude by staring at someone else's disabilities.

But he also thought that Gao Ye's personality was a little strange. It was no wonder why Xie Xiaolei was the only one who would show up even when people talked about the two creators of Spirit Creation Creatures. As time went by, few people even remembered Gao Ye's name.

"Mr. Ning, I can't move about as I like, so you must help me figure out the truth," Gao Ye said stiffly. "This matter doesn't just concern the future of Spirit Creation Creatures, but also the future of the entire Dragon City!

"Everyone knows that the substances and energy in the Other World are more unstable than on Earth, and it's impossible for us to replicate the use of machines in our civilization. Even if we use runic symbol technology to create those crude and clumsy steel monsters, if we consider things in terms of capital, pollution, and work efficiency, they can't compare to beasts of flesh and blood.

"There is no future for machine technology, while biochemical technology is the future of Dragon City. We're bound to walk down a completely different path from Earth civilization and blend our city with nature. We need to use all sorts of creatures to replace machines since it's the only way we can conquer all of the Other World and push our reborn civilization to its limits!

"But now, once those despicable machine masters found that they can't win against us, they're using all sorts of lowly methods to attack us. Last time, they targeted our sandworms, and this time, they targeted our pets..."

Xie Xiaolei coughed by the side.

"What do you mean by sandworms?" Meng Chao asked curiously.

"More than half a month ago, the breed of Giant Sandworms we created for getting rid of trash also ran into... a small accident," Xie Xiaolei said with a rather stiff expression. "But the accident happened at the

trash treatment center, so no one was injured. The Giant Sandworms didn't become violent, but some of them ran away, so it's not a huge problem."

Meng Chao was slightly stunned. "They ran away?"

"Yes. Giant Sandworms are used to living in rather shady and quiet places underground. They're very sensitive to temperature and sound," Xie Xiaolei explained. "It's inevitable that there will be methane gathering in trash treatment centers, and its temperature is slightly higher than the outside world. When trash is poured inside and squashed, it also creates noise and tremors. It's not the sort of environment that Giant Sandworms like the most. But after we modified them, these beasts of labor can stay there for long periods of time.

"But around half a month ago, for some unknown reason, three of the Giant Sandworms who had been working in our company suddenly went out of control and gave up on eating trash. Instead, they dug underground and disappeared."

"You haven't managed to find them?" Meng Chao asked.

"No. They might be large, but Giant Sandworms have great flexibility, and they are experts at digging holes and crawling into cracks," Xie Xiaolei said. "They can crawl into holes that are one-third of their diameter. Besides, underground cracks are very complicated, and even when Giant Sandworms regain their wild nature, they aren't aggressive, so we gave up on chasing after them.

"This was just a small matter. After all, there are a lot of crystal mines beneath Dragon City, and the spirit energy magnetic field interference is usually ten times stronger than on the surface. Giant Sandworms going out of control is the same as runic symbol machines experiencing errors. It's unavoidable.

"But Gao Ye is bothered by it. He believes that Heavenly Works Machines and the other competitors have done something to them. Their goal is to show our target client that biochemical beasts are not safe."

"I'm not bothered by it; I'm very certain of it. There's no way the biochemical beasts I modified would ever go out of control."

Gao Ye's voice was as sharp and harsh as an ice pillar. "The people from Heavenly Works definitely did it! I swear on my life!"

"We're all on the same side here. No one wants your life." Xie Xiaolei did not know whether he should laugh or cry. He cast a glance at his very expensive watch and said, "It's late now. Gao Ye, stay here and take charge of the situation. I'll go to the monster research center with Elder Ning and Meng Chao to monitor the examination of the carcasses of the three biochemical beasts that went out of control. Don't worry. If anyone has really done something, we'll definitely find them!"

Chapter 273: Dissecting the Biochemical Pets

The carcasses of the three biochemical pets were sealed and stored in the examination center, which was under the jurisdiction of the monster research center.

In the beginning, Xie Xiaolei wanted someone from Spirit Creations to be in charge of investigating the problem.

But this request had naturally been rejected by Heavenly Works Machines, which had a victim from its company.

Heavenly Works Machines had wished to hire their own experts to dissect and examine the biochemical pets, but Spirit Creations rejected it.

The reason they gave was that the modification of the biochemical pets contained a series of business secrets.

But the true reason was naturally because they were worried that Heavenly Works would do something.

In the end, as the ones whose interests were related to this, both sides decided to have the three biochemical pets sent to the examination center of the monster research center.

This unit had been working for a long period of time with the police and the Supernatural Tower, so their authority and fairness was not to be questioned.

Besides, Agricultural University and the University of Technology, which were behind these two companies, also hoped to get firsthand information, which was why they asked Ning Shewo, a guest lecturer, to observe the process.

On their way to the monster research center, Meng Chao asked about Gao Ye.

“Gao Ye is a true monster expert, and he’s a genius through and through,” Ning Shewo said. “Many people only join this field because of profit, but Gao Ye... is truly passionate about all sorts of strange-looking monsters.

“I know that it’s strange to say this, but Gao Ye is just like that. He treats monster genetics as a very interesting puzzle. He hopes to gather the strengths of all monsters together and create the perfect monster that would be loyal and serve well.

“To achieve this goal, he has been working nonstop for twenty years, and he’s practically living in his lab. He’s so full of life that even three groups of assistants that take turns helping him can’t catch up to his rhythm.

“By the way, in the beginning, Gao Ye didn’t look like this. When he just graduated, he was more than 1.9m tall, so he was tall and handsome. When he was in the arena, many martial arts course students couldn’t even hope to win against him.”

“What?” Meng Chao was shocked. “Then, how did he...”

“How did he turn out like this?” Ning Shewo sighed. “Genetic modification itself is not dangerous to the human body, but during the experiments, he often has to come into contact with subjects like the Naked Rat. You should know what they are, right?”

Meng Chao nodded. “Yes.”

Naked Rats were naturally not rats that did not wear clothes.

Instead, they were mutated mice that were born without a thymus.

Since they did not have a thymus, it meant that they had a lack of T cells and were a type of animal without an immunity system. They were easily infected with all sorts of viruses, so they were often used for all sorts of virus and genetic research.

Naked Rats were the best subjects in the Other World since it was a world where viruses and bacteria mutated at crazy speeds. But they were also the most dangerous biochemical bombs.

“During Gao Ye’s experiments, he was infected with viruses a few times, and a lot of the invasive properties of viruses toward the human body are far worse than the infamous zombie virus. Even though he managed to survive, he lost his limbs, his body became hunched, and his features became twisted. That is the price he had to pay. Even so, he never lost his will. It’s as if he doesn’t mind his face being contorted as long as he can continue experimenting,” Ning Shewo said with a sigh.

“Perhaps this is what you call not being able to achieve anything if you don’t go mad. Only people like Gao Ye can continuously create miracles!

“Honestly, if Xie Xiaolei had been the only one who promised me that Spirit Creations is not the problem, I wouldn’t have believed him fully, but since even Gao Ye said that the biochemical pets he modified wouldn’t go out of control, then I choose to believe them.

“Of course, don’t be affected by me. You have to make your own judgment. I’m old now, and I can’t catch up to the pace of the endless mutations that create brand new monsters. I asked you here because I want a youngster’s judgment.”

As they spoke, they reached the monster research center.

Meng Chao was not unfamiliar with this place.

He had the practical test of his national college examination for postsecondary vocational colleges over here.

On the surface, this place was attractive with its flowers and birds. It was a park that looked like a botanical garden located at the center of the city.

But as they moved through long corridors and went through a few disinfection procedures before they had to put on airtight suits with their very own oxygen tanks, the atmosphere instantly became grave.

The person managing the examination was an expert from monster research center. He was also an expert in the harvesting circle. He was Sun Yufeng, known as the Shadowless Blade.

Meng Chao had met this veteran a few times when Ning Shewo invited him to a few high-end material trading fairs. Both of them nodded at each other with smiles, and the atmosphere was very harmonious between them.

According to Ning Shewo, Mr. Sun was famous in his field for being just and honorable. If there was really something strange about the biochemical pets, he would definitely show no mercy.

Naturally, they also saw the representative from Heavenly Works Machines, along with a few people from the University of Technology who shared a similar observer status to that of Ning Shewo.

They were both from the alliance of the five universities, and not long ago, they had fought alongside each other on the northern frontlines, so there was no hostility between them when they met. The veteran machine masters even smiled and gave Meng Chao a few encouraging words, praising him by saying that his performance at the northern frontlines had been pretty good, and they hoped that he would continue to work hard to bring glory to Agricultural University, the alliance of the five universities, and all of Dragon City.

But when the representatives from Heavenly Works Machines saw Xie Xiaolei and the others from Spirit Creations Creatures, they immediately caused trouble and stated aggressively that they wanted Spirit Creations to be responsible. They even mentioned that they would definitely bring this matter to the news outlets so that Spirit Creations would pay the price.

But as Meng Chao observed the situation, he found that they were not really seeking a fight to the death with Spirit Creations. They were just full of bravado while making wild speculations and were implying that Spirit Creations should make a concession for the bidding of the construction of the underground tunnel and give them a huge slice of the pie.

This puzzled Meng Chao. He could not be certain whether this matter was really just a pure accident or whether there was something wrong with Spirit Creations' modification technology. There could also be an even more sinister plot that they were yet to grasp.

But no matter what the truth was, they would only be able to learn it once the biochemical pets were dissected.

When both sides were present, the unique harvesting and injury examination session immediately started.

The carcasses of the three biochemical pets were brought out of the mithril-based solution maintained at negative 18 degrees Celsius.

The mithril-based solution could limit and suppress the growth of bacteria in the biochemical pets' carcasses, so they would remain in the state of when they had just been killed.

Even though the three carcasses had been crushed and mangled, Meng Chao could still tell from their ridiculously protruded fangs and claws just how fierce they had been before their death.

However, the main character on that day was not him. It was the Shadowless Blade Sun Yufeng.

"This is the true strength of a veteran in the field. Learn from him," Ning Shewo whispered while nudging Meng Chao with his elbow.

Meng Chao nodded. He opened his eyes wide and focused.

Sun Yufeng was a man with graying hair. He had a cordial presence, but when he stood in front of the dissection table, that cordial presence turned into an aggressive air.

As he mumbled, his wrinkly fingers immediately filled up and started shining as if they were jades. Spirit tattoos rose on his skin to form rows of complicated and profound runic symbols. They then broke free of his physical body and rose into the air to fly toward the dozens of lancet knives that were placed in front of the three dissection tables.

An amazing sight appeared. Led by Sun Yufeng's spirit threads, the dozens of lancet knives floated in the air while swaying. It was as if they were controlled by three pairs of invisible hands. The next moment, they headed to the three biochemical pets' carcasses.

'He's controlling them remotely, and he's multitasking by working on all three pets at the same time!'

Meng Chao gasped in amazement.

The density of his spirit energy and his focus were all things worthy of being learned.

Sun Yufeng controlled the dissection knives remotely to perform harvests and injury examinations that were even more meticulous than embroidery. It was ten times harder than killing an enemy with a sword, which would look awesome, but would actually not be as hard as this.

Besides, to reduce the time required to perform the dissection and increase his accuracy, Sun Yufeng actually controlled dozens of dissection blades to perform harvests and injury examinations on the three carcasses at the same time.

Meng Chao felt that with a senior like this holding the fort, he should have nothing to do, so he should really just learn.

But even if he wanted to learn, it was not that easy to use one's vitality magnetic field to control dozens of dissection knives to move about in arcs as quickly as lightning but also cut into the carcasses as gently as feathers. Sun Yufeng was doing this difficult task as if it were something easy, and he did it smoothly too.

Meng Chao only saw a blur before his eyes, and Sun Yufeng cut open the hind legs of the three biochemical pets. He harvested their tendons without damaging them and showed it to the people.

The people who had the right to observe this injury examination were all superhumans with great spirit energy.

Quite a number of them had optical cells which were much stronger than those of a normal person. As they shrank or expanded their pupils, they could use their eyes as X-ray machines or electronic microscopes.

They immediately saw that the tendons in the hind legs of the three biochemical pets were covered in dense holes that looked like hornet nests. The color of the tendons was also clearly paler than a normal biochemical pet's color. There were also countless fine tears between the holes.

This showed that an explosive strength had burst out of the hind legs after the tendon was filled with spirit energy and the potential in its cells was drained dry.

This meant that the three biochemical pets had indeed entered combat mode before they died.

"Based on the Temporary Biochemical Pet Regulation Law set by the Survival Committee, when normal citizens rear biochemical pets, if there is no fog or when the master or other people are not in danger, the biochemical pets are not allowed to enter combat mode," Ning Shewo said with a frown. "There was no fog in Blessed Paradise or the area around it two days ago. How are they going to explain this?"

Xie Xiaolei's face was dark. He crossed his arms and said nothing.

Sun Yufeng worked as smoothly as a butcher cutting up a bull. His movements were smooth as he dissected the carcasses of the three biochemical pets.

Once he harvested the tendons of the four limbs, he went onto the organs.

When he extracted the mangled fragments of their lungs, many people sucked in sharp breaths.

The lungs of the three biochemical pets had patches on them. There were dark-purple lesions and black spots indicating bleeding points, which showed that the lungs were rotting. They no longer had the spongy quality of lungs, and when they were cut, there was a lot of discharge gushing out of the alveoli. There were also a lot of uneven tears.

It looked as if the lungs had burst before the biochemical pets had died.

Chapter 274: Mutated Virus

“The three biochemical pets were in a state of high excitement before they died. It’s like they were crystal fighting trucks that were driven at maximum speed. Even their ‘engines’ exploded,” Ning Shewo mumbled. “This doesn’t look like a normal case of going out of control...”

Meng Chao agreed with him.

He could imagine how those three biochemical pets looked before they died.

Their blood must have been boiling, and all of their cells must have been screaming, longing to get even more oxygen, and this longing must have transferred to the mitochondria as they generated energy, which led to them executing incredibly violent power.

What sort of thing could have caused them to lose control like that and make them go berserk... like an erupting volcano?

Sun Yufeng continued dissecting, and soon, he extracted the spines from the three biochemical pets.

Then, he moved upward and reached the brain. He clearly separated the cerebrum, cerebellum, and brainstem.

One of the skulls of the biochemical pets was smashed to pieces by a human’s fist.

But Sun Yufeng moved like a puzzle master. He patiently and meticulously pieced the brain together, and in just five minutes, he managed to mostly return to its original state.

His technique was practically a miracle, and Meng Chao gasped in amazement as he watched. He knew that he still had a very long way to go in the harvester circle.

Sun Yufeng used a ball of gentle spirit energy to envelope the separated cerebellum, medulla oblongata, and cerebrum. It spun around slowly as he showed it to the people.

The hippocampus of the brain was submerged in his spirit energy, and it shone a little, so they were able to see the fine damage on it.

Various parts of the brain showed different degrees of hyperemia, edema, and slight bleeding. There were also deep purple patches traveling in a line down the brain to the spine.

The hyperemia, edema, and slight bleeding were stereotypical pathological changes in the brain due to acute diffuse cerebrospinal meningitis, and the patches should be due to some sort of infection by a virus.

Sun Yufeng extracted samples from the three biochemical pets' brains, spines, and organs to send them for a bacterial test.

However, before the examination results came out, the experienced harvesters could already vaguely guess what happened due to the pathological changes.

“Mutated rabies?”

On Earth, rabies was a very stable rhabdoviridae. It was shaped like a bullet, while the nucleocapsid was shaped like a spiral. There was a viral envelope on its surface, and inside was a single-strand RNA. There were four types of subtypes, and it was not easy for it to go through mutation.

But as thousands of canines were brought from Earth to the Other World, some viruses were naturally lurking in certain sick dogs, and the rabies on Earth clashed against the zombie virus on the Other World as well as hundreds of other viruses. It also faced interference from the spirit energy magnetic fields, which allowed it to break through the viral envelopes and nucleocapsids and mutate without end.

99% of the mutations resulted in fatal damage to the virus itself.

But the remaining 1% of the possible mutations, such as the fusion of rabies with influenza virus made rabies upgrade continuously, and it became one hundred times more terrifying than the rabies on Earth. It did not just spread among mammals, but reptilian-type monsters and shell-type monsters as well.

“Based on the deep purple patches on the spine and my personal, primary deductions, this is Type-9 Mutated Rabies. This virus mostly exists in glires-type monsters, which makes the monster's aggressiveness increase by leaps and bounds, and by biting and clawing, it can use saliva and blood as a medium to spread to various types of mammal-type monsters,” Sun Yufeng said expressionlessly.

“Type-9 Mutated Rabies require only a short time to show effect after infecting a being. Usually, its incubation period is no more than 48 hours. Once it breaks out, mammal-type monsters go mad. They twitch neurotically and attack all living beings within their sights. It's one of the fiercest subtypes of rabies, and it is also known as the Reaper's Dance. It's even more dangerous than the zombie virus.”

The people nodded.

When a living being was infected with the zombie virus, it might not be able to cause the mitochondria in the cells to instantly release all the energy in the body.

Many of the zombies moved slowly and just staggered forward. As a lot of viruses propagated in their bodies, they let out whistling sounds as they breathed out, which ensured that the “body” could be used for a longer period of time.

But Type-9 Mutated Rabies would instantly stimulate all of the mitochondria in the cells of the host to release the most violent energy, which turned the host into a biochemical napalm bomb. It would kill the prey while burning its life.

If the biochemical pets were really infected with mutated rabies, then no one could blame Spirit Creations Creature for a flaw in their modification process for the biochemical pets going out of control.

Hence, Xie Xiaolei said happily, "Three days ago, there was indeed a small-scale fog near Blessed Paradise. A wave of rats invaded the place through the space-time rift.

"Even though the rat horde was soon destroyed, it's inevitable that a few rampaging rats hid underground. Then, through the water pipes, they crawled into Blessed Paradise and transferred the mutated rabies in their bodies to the three biochemical pets."

This theory was discussed by the people, and they felt that the possibility was high.

But the representative from Heavenly Works Machines still had a frosty look on his face. "Even if it's really mutated rabies, don't you inject vaccines into the biochemical pets you modify in your company?"

"Of course we administer the strictest quarantine inspections and administer vaccine shots to my company's creations. In fact, during the embryo stage, we eradicate the possibility of most virus infections through gene editing.

"But the Other World is incredibly unstable and everything is mutating and evolving at crazy speeds. Rabies alone has mutated into dozens of different subtypes, and these are the ones that humans have managed to find. Many of the vaccines lose their effects after they're used for some time, so no one can be certain that once they receive a vaccine, they'll be able to resist all forms of infections from that virus.

"Even humans face the possibility of getting infected by the zombie virus and turning into human-shaped monsters. Were we supposed to stay locked in our houses and be unable to live normally before the zombie virus vaccine was developed?"

"Well..." The representative was rendered momentarily speechless.

While both of them were busy arguing, Ning Shewo quietly tugged Meng Chao to a corner.

"Meng Chao, did you see any signs of a needle hole on the three biochemical pets?" Ning Shewo asked in a whisper.

Meng Chao's mind raced, and he said, "Elder Ning, are you suspecting that someone intentionally injected the mutated rabies into the three biochemical pets and caused them to lose control and become violent?"

Ning Shewo nodded. "Since we're here, we have to naturally consider all possibilities. Gao Ye insisted that this is a scheme, so we should investigate it so that can give him an answer."

"Makes sense. Elder Ning, you should have told Elder Sun about it just now. I'm just here to learn, so I'm fine with whatever."

Ning Shewo coughed. "So... go and tell him."

"What?" Meng Chao asked,

“No matter what, I’m highly reputable in the circle, and if I do anything, I’ll be involving all sorts of factions, understand?”

“Got it. So I’m here to offend people and say the stuff that you or Spirit Creations can’t say. If necessary, I need to argue with people as well. I was wondering about it. With you and Elder Sun around, why would you need a pipsqueak like me as an observer?”

Ning Shewo’s face turned red, but he couldn’t say anything.

But Meng Chao was just making a quip. In truth, he really wanted to know the truth behind the biochemical pets losing control. He thought about it and took two steps forward. “Elder Sun, if the virus had really spread from the biochemical pets from rodent-type monsters, then there should be fine bites and claw marks on the carcasses of the three biochemical pets, right?”

“After all, the rat horde invasion happened three days ago. The incubation period for Type-9 Mutated Rabies is less than 48 hours as well, and the wounds wouldn’t heal so fast.”

Sun Yufeng cast a deep glance at Meng Chao, as if he saw through what he really wanted to ask.

“I noticed more than one hundred tears on the three biochemical pets,” Sun Yufeng said expressionlessly. “It was either caused by them using too much force or humans. I didn’t find any signs of glires-type monsters’ bites or claw marks.

“But due to the three biochemical pets being beaten heavily, quite a number of their body parts are mangled or missing. I can’t guarantee whether those parts contain any signs of bites or claw marks.

He paused for a moment, then added. “Of course, I didn’t find any signs of marks left by injections either.”

His last sentence made the discussions become even more heated.

Many gazes landed on Meng Chao as if they could hear the underlying meaning behind his words.

Meng Chao’s face turned a little red, but since he had already asked the question, he did not mind what the other seniors in the field thought. He took another half a step forward and looked at Sun Yafeng before he asked seriously, “Elder Sun, did you... inspect the deepest part of their ear canal?”

Sun Yufeng was slightly stunned.

Meng Chao pointed at his own ear and said, “If you use a material with incredibly good flexibility to create a long needle that is as fine as hair, you can push it down the winding ear canal until it reaches the deepest part of the ear, which is near the eardrum. You only need a slight amount of drugs, and they will take effect straight on the central nervous system. The wound would be very small, and you’d have a difficult time discovering it even with the most advanced instruments.”

This was based on Meng Chao’s memories from his previous life. It was one of the assassination techniques of Bizarre Stab, which was taught by the black skull instructor.

It allowed them to kill without leaving any trace, and of course, it could help them make a biochemical pet lose control and become violent.

After his words, the gazes trained on Meng Chao turned cold or intense.

Sun Yufeng frowned deeply, as if he was not very pleased with him doubting his injury examination skills, but he said nothing and just examined the ear canals of the three biochemical pets.

The ear canals were winding tunnels. They were covered by fur and blocked by blood, so it was not easy to perform injury examination on them.

But Sun Yufeng had his own method. His spirit energy threads looked as if they possessed their own lives as they rushed inside.

He closed his eyes and focused. All his senses seemed to have been trained on the spirit energy threads as they crawled into the ears of the three biochemical pets.

Sweat drops the size of beads broke out on his forehead. It was clear that this operation, which could practically be said to be the same as turning himself into a human-shaped microscope, was incredibly draining to his mind.

Even after inspecting the ear canals for three full minutes, he did not open his eyes, but his expression turned grave.

It made the atmosphere in the room become stern. Gradually, no one made any noise, and all of them stared at his expression.

Five minutes later, Sun Yufeng finally opened his eyes, and with an extremely strange look, he observed Meng Chao for a long time.

Then, he said, "Two of the biochemical pets... do indeed have two incredibly small needle-shaped marks in the depths of their left ears."

Chapter 275: Current Progress, 1%

The crowd burst into a ruckus.

Xie Xiaolong's joy was reflected on his face, but he instantly squashed it down and whispered, "I knew it!"

Heavenly Works Machines' representative was dumbfounded. "That's impossible!"

The others stared at Meng Chao with great interest.

They did not expect that an injury that a veteran who had been in the circle for years had not been able to detect would be pointed out by a university student who was new in the field.

Even Ning Shewo himself did not expect that Meng Chao would be able to discover such a hidden sign. He could only be amazed and impressed by the Old Fire Relayer's personal disciple.

The virus examination results were not out yet, but the dissection had come to an end.

Since they had discovered clear signs of human marks in the ear, it was impossible for them to determine this as a simple accident or mistake. Instead, it was a malicious crime, and they had to hand the case over to the police or the adjudicator court in the Supernatural Tower.

The adjudicator court had a really long history. It had come into being even before the Supernatural Tower and the Survival Committee.

In the beginning, it was just an organization of arbitrators who settled disputes between different superhuman organizations. In the society where societal order had collapsed, where the city turned into a bloody forest, where humans who had just awakened to superhuman powers started acting according to the law of the jungle, and where everyone fought for power, they were the fires of civilization that insisted on shining in the dark.

As different superhuman organizations relied on violence to fight for their personal interests but ended up being horribly injured or dying with their opponents, the recently awakened superhumans gradually came to understand the importance of order.

In the end, Battle God Lei Zongcao made a suggestion. Seven of the largest superhuman organizations at that time were to unite and create an adjudicator court, which would be given a certain degree of authority to carry out the law and serve as arbitrators to settle the disputes among superhumans.

Order gradually recovered. When the Survival Committee was formed, the adjudicator court's authority and strength continued increasing. Now, they were a violent governmental organization that specialized in solving cases and judging superhuman criminals.

There were two major special features when it came to superhuman criminals.

First, superhumans usually possessed all sorts of incredibly unique abilities. They had incredibly mysterious ways to perform crimes, and it was not easy to capture them using normal crime investigation methods.

Second, superhumans possessed great destructive powers. When they were forced into a corner and decided to continue walking down the wrong path, even one-star superhumans could easily turn into moving human-shaped bombs that would severely hit innocent citizens.

Many tragedies had happened in the past.

One of the cases was a normal police squad being in charge of solving a case in which a superhuman had committed a crime. They managed to identify the criminal, but while they were in the process of capturing him, they made a mistake, and the criminal fled downtown. He made his vitality magnetic field surge to its limit, and at the cost of everyone in the area, he released dozens of killing moves while he entered spirit energy deviation.

When his body exploded, he took the lives of hundreds of innocent citizens and dealt severe financial damage in damages to various buildings. He also endangered the superhumans from normal people.

After that lesson, all cases that seemed to be committed by superhumans were handed to the adjudicator court.

There were two major organizations under the adjudicator court, and they were the secret police and the adjudicators.

The secret police were tasked to investigate superhumans.

During the process of the investigation, they usually were not dressed in their uniforms and did not reveal their identities, but enjoyed all sorts of privileges that eased their investigations. They even had the right to act before having to report to the adjudicator court.

This power was given to them in consideration of the unique nature of superhuman criminals. If they found out that the police were investigating them and became desperate, then ran to the downtown areas where there were a lot of people to act wilfully, the losses would be too great to cover the gains.

Once the secret police investigated the case, the adjudicators would be sent to capture or suppress the criminals.

The adjudicators were heavily armed and trained by the Supernatural Tower. They were skilled in capturing and suppressing people in all sorts of complicated areas downtown. They had all sorts of spirit energy weapons that could kill in one shot, and usually, before the superhuman criminals could react to the situation, they would descend on them like lightning and blast their heads open.

The adjudicators' identities were top-secret information. Aside from the times they were promoted by the government, only a few people knew just who was a secret police officer or an adjudicator.

Someone who appeared harmless and an elegant supporter-class superhuman whose only task was to teach people in schools could be a secret police or adjudicator. Once they received a secret order, they would immediately change into an adjudicator wearing a nano fighting and heavy armor, which was covered in runic symbols.

In their hands would be a top-tier weapon, and they would have an airtight helmet covering their head so that everyone who saw them would know that this person was an adjudicator, a person feared and respected by all average superhumans.

The secret police and adjudicators were sharp blades that hung above all superhumans' heads.

They served as a constant warning to all superhumans that even after they had awakened to supernatural abilities, they were still normal people in this world and bound by the rules and laws, so they could not act wilfully and step over the boundaries.

Even though there were no signs of superhumans performing crimes for the case of the biochemical pets losing control, it was related to the conflict between Spirit Creation Creatures and Heavenly Works Machines.

If a normal person wanted to sneak into Blessed Paradise and inject a virus into the ear canal of a biochemical pet without anyone noticing it, it would be impossible.

Hence, it was highly likely that once this case was passed over to the police, it would be handed to the adjudicator court.

No matter how the investigation ended, at the very least, the possibility of Spirit Creations Creatures' modifications leading to the pets losing control was reduced to miniscule.

On the way out from the monster research center, Xie Xiaolei was finally unable to suppress his emotions. He thanked Ning Shewo and Meng Chao profusely.

He was especially grateful to Meng Chao for being able to guess that there would be a needle-shaped hole in the biochemical pets' ear canals. This cleared Spirit Creations Creatures from a crime, and it also made him regard his junior with a new light.

"As expected of the strongest freshman in Agricultural University's martial arts course this year. You're just as great as Zong Ye of the past, who was known as the Super Future Star. You're indeed not someone simple, considering the fact that you managed to shine so brilliantly in the northern frontlines," Xie Xiaolei said with a smile. "Looks like I will have to look for a chance in the future to form closer ties with you."

While they were in the car, they sent the news to Gao Ye, who was in his research lab.

Gao Ye was not as delighted as Xie Xiaolei. He snorted coldly and said, "I told you that the biochemical pets I modify would never go out of control. Since that guy is just asking for his own death, he can't blame anyone for it."

Then, he said that he needed to perform a whole new modification experiment for biochemical beasts and hung up.

Xie Xiaolei and Ning Shewo were used to the way he acted, so they did not mind it.

Xie Xiaolei then treated Ning Shewo and Meng Chao to a meal at the most lavish hotel in Dragon City to express his gratitude.

Even if Meng Chao had his horizons broadened, he was still shocked by the glorious decorations and the lavish decorum that made the place look like a palace. He remembered what Lin Chuan mentioned about the division between the strong and weak and the problem of the disparity between the rich and poor again, and he could not help but be a little dazed.

Fortunately, Xie Xiaolei was a charming man and a smooth talker. Very soon, he managed to drag Meng Chao's attention back to himself.

Once he learned that Meng Chao was the man behind Superstar Resource Recovery Company, which had recently risen to power, Xie Xiaolei's eyes lit up, and he said that Spirit Creations Creatures had to use a lot of monster materials every year to conduct the experiments and make the modification drugs.

Now that Dragon City had achieved great victory on the northern frontlines, the construction site of the newly developing area would need a lot of new type beasts of labor.

Their plans right now were to modify the monsters who lived in Shattered Starlake, Graveyard Forest, and Raging Waves into biochemical beasts who possessed a certain degree of intelligence but were loyal to humans.

Because of this, there could be a lot of chances to work together with Superstar.

Ever since Superstar took over Prosperity, it possessed the preliminary ability to harvest Nightmarish monsters. They just lacked a benchmarking enterprise like Spirit Creations Creatures.

After they spoke to each other in detail, the guests and the host were both happy, and both parties returned satisfied.

“So, you gained a lot today, right?” While they were on their way back to the university, Ning Shewo smiled to Meng Chao. “If you want to become an ace harvester, one of the most important things you must possess is skill, but connections are equally important; otherwise, no one will be at ease to let you harvest the incredibly valuable Nightmarish Beasts and even Hell Beasts.

“Among all the businesses formed by the alumni of Agricultural University, Spirit Creations Creatures can be considered to be an outstanding business. The scale of their business might not be big right now, but with Xie Xiaolei charging through the fray of the business world and Gao Ye conducting research with everything he has in the lab, their comprehensive strength is increasing very quickly. Once they manage to snatch the deal to construct Subway No.20, nothing will be able to stop them, and they will become giants in the industry.

“If you form good ties with Spirit Creations Creatures now, it will be very beneficial for you and Superstar’s development in the future.”

Since a senior was imparting his experiences, Meng Chao would naturally remember it.

He also knew that Ning Shewo did not actually require an assistant for today’s case. It was just that he valued him highly and wanted to help him lay out a path in the harvesting circle.

Meng Chao thanked Ning Shewo and asked how this case would come to an end.

Ning Shewo told him that since this case had been handed over to the Supernatural Tower and the adjudicator court, the secret police and the adjudicators would definitely investigate this properly, so they did not need to worry about it anymore. All they needed to do was to keep their mouths shut and keep this a secret to not alert the enemy.

Meng Chao nodded and agreed to it.

When he returned to the university, he lay down in the cultivation cabin for the Ultimate Style and entered a state of deep meditation. A few distracting thoughts still floated about in his head, and he found himself plagued by questions.

Why did the two biochemical pets have traces of being injected with drugs in their ear canals but one of them did not?

If someone from Heavenly Works Machines had really intentionally injected the virus into the biochemical pets to frame Spirit Creation Creatures and accused them of their biochemical pets going out of control after their modifications, why did they involve their own middle management? Isn’t it just asking others to place their attention on them?

Also, Gao Ye mentioned that more than half a month ago, Giant Sandworms had gone out of control at the garbage treatment center. Was it an isolated case, or was it part of the same case?

With these questions, Meng Chao fell asleep, and he had an extremely strange dream.

In his nightmare, he seemed to be lost in a complicated underground area. It resembled a maze.

A large creature attacked the area at one point in time. It opened its mouth, which was covered in rows of fangs, and ate rocks, crushed foundations, and even the subways and entire carriages full of

passengers were devoured. Not only did it turn the underground into hell on earth, it stirred up a terrifying earthquake, which made a few buildings collapse.

What Meng Chao saw... was an incredibly monstrous Giant Sandworm.

He was shocked awake while drenched in sweat.

Then, he saw Kindling shining at the corner of his eyes, and he found himself unable to say anything even after a long time had passed.

[Mystery of the Supernatural Entities: Current progress is 1%. Increased contribution points by 500.]

Chapter 276: Another Form of AI

The information contained behind the notification was just too much to handle.

But now, Meng Chao could be certain that the Mystery of the Supernatural Entities was not a fighting-based quest.

He did not need to fight with his life on the line against those smart and incredibly fierce monsters with high intelligence, and he also did not need to get rid of them to complete his mission.

Instead, he needed to look for clues and report them to the related departments. Once he gained more feedback, he could look for more clues. This was a basic procedure that he could follow.

After all, with his scraggly limbs and thin body of a two-star superhuman, even if the remaining Eight Great Supernatural Entities had yet to grow, he could not hope to win against them alone.

Based on yesterday's experience and the underground monster he saw in his nightmare, this matter was related to the Eight Great Supernatural Entities, so his quest progress had increased.

But how was that possible?

'I dreamed... of a much larger Giant Sandworm. It ate gravel ten times faster than normal sandworms and could even crawl through the foundations of the buildings in the downtown areas and cause powerful earthquakes.'

Meng Chao wiped his face and mumbled, "Could it be one of the Supernatural Entities?"

He thought about it carefully. In the memories of his previous life, there was indeed one sandworm-type monster that hid underground, which was classified as one of the Nine Great Supernatural Entities.

But the difference between Supernatural Entities and Apocalyptic Beasts was not in their destructive power, but their intelligence.

Meng Chao could understand how mammals or cattle could get intelligence, because they had brains.

Sandworms were primitive, low-grade animals. Could they gain intelligence?

While Meng Chao was scratching his head, Ning Shewo called him and told him in a rather agitated tone that the matter from the day before had been leaked.

“How could it be?” Meng Chao asked. “Before we entered the monster research center, didn’t we sign a confidentiality agreement? Besides, since we discovered a needle-shaped hole in the biochemical pets’ ear canals, it means that it’s highly likely that this isn’t an accident, but a vicious crime. We handed this over to the Supernatural Tower and the adjudicator court. There’s no way I’d say anything and alert the enemy.

“That’s good, then.” Ning Shewo sighed in relief. “Look at the news online. Someone mentioned it there. That person posted the mangled corpses of the three victims and even the pictures of the wounds of the brave people who fought against the biochemical pets. There are all sorts of bloody pictures online, and it has already caused a storm in the city. Spirit Creations Creatures has been pushed to the center of the storm.”

“What?” Meng Chao instantly snapped awake.

He put down his phone and could not even be bothered to wash his face. He went to Dragon City’s largest monster forum and took a look. It was just as Ning Shewo said, a few of the trending topics were all about the case of the biochemical pets going out of control and injuring people.

[This is too terrifying. The biochemical pets who stay with you day in and day out instantly turned into bloodthirsty demons? If that’s the case, no one will dare to keep pets!]

[Monsters are monsters. No matter how long you keep them, they will never be tamed. It’s better to humanely get rid of all the monsters, pets, biochemical beasts and all the other stuff in Dragon City!]

[I heard that after the three biochemical pets went out of control, the brave people who heard the noise and came over were fighting-class one-star superhumans. Even so, they had a lot of trouble trying to kill them, and they were even injured pretty badly. Isn’t the fighting strength of these biochemical pets a bit too high?]

[There’s no way around it. Dragon City experiences monster invasions all the time, and the pet companies skilled in biochemical modifications have set up companion mode, work mode, and fighting mode. These are their selling points. They fearlessly inserted all sorts of fierce creatures’ genes into pets but don’t care about stability and safety. How could nothing happen to humans if that’s the case?]

Most people online had criticisms for Spirit Creations Creatures being blinded by profit and ignoring the safety of the consumers.

The biochemical pet supporters could not come up with retorts when the bloody and terrifying on-site photos were uploaded.

Meng Chao stared at the uncensored bloody photos. After a long time, he saved all of them.

He then looked through a few rubbish guesses and arguments before he closed the page and went to Agricultural University’s forum.

As he expected, since everyone’s interests were involved in this matter, the information on Agricultural University’s forum was much more detailed. It gave him an even more detailed understanding of the chronology of what happened that day in Blessed Paradise.

The students and lecturers’ opinions were more insightful compared to those of the normal netizens.

However, the hottest topic in the university was shared from a website not within the university. It was a post that spoke against biochemical modification technology.

[In the past half a century, Dragon City had to go through the brutal Monster War. Humans and monsters had to fight for living space, and this became the main melody pushing our civilization forward. But on the other hand, through all sorts of biochemical modifications, the belief that monsters can be domesticated and controlled has permeated into the entire society's soul without our knowledge.]

The anonymous thread poster stated his opinion clearly.

[The areas outside and inside the city are two different worlds. In the battlefield dozens of kilometers away, humans' warm blood stains the cold monster claws and scales. We curse them by saying that the monsters are demons, destroyers, and killing machines. We say that they are nightmares, hell itself, and the apocalypse. But we don't even need to curse them. The word "monsters" alone shows our opinion of them.

[However, all sorts of biochemical beasts, pets, and beasts of labor are widely used in the city. Their numbers are even increasing. They help us dig tunnels and develop underground spaces. They clear out the trash we create and provide help as well as comfort to those who are physically or mentally disabled. They even fight with us and are like comrades who live and die with us.

[The more our civilization fights against monsters, the more we research them, and the more impossible it is for us to stray from their help.

[In the end, even toddlers who are just learning how to speak wrap their arms around biochemical pets' necks while they swing their little fists at the savage monsters on the screen. Even if the difference between a biochemical pet and a Nightmarish Beast might just be a string of unstable DNA or a small chip that might become faulty at any moment.

[I'm not saying that domesticating monsters is wrong.

[After all, tens of thousands of years ago, our ancestors started trying to domesticate wild animals while hunting near their caves. They managed to turn monstrous and hungry wolves into loyal hunting dogs, and the domestication of plants and animals are all skills that an early civilization must learn.

[But I hope that all of you understand that domesticating cattle and domesticating monsters are two different things.

[The genetic chains of the creatures in the Other World are just too unstable, and they evolve as well as mutate far too quickly. Besides, the cranial capacity and brain circuits of far too many monsters don't lose to those of humans. Even a wild monster's intelligence is equivalent to the intelligence of a seven to eight-year-old child. The only thing that is stopping them from possessing full intelligence is a societal system and a massive amount of information.

[No one knows the potential of these monsters. So how could you keep a monster that has a high possibility of possessing mind control abilities around you like a pet?

[Of course, I'm not condemning the current biochemical modification technology. It's just as some netizens said, it's impossible and irrational to humanely get rid of all biochemical pets, fighting beasts, and beasts of labor.

[But I still have to ask. What is the limit of monster modification? Just how high do we intend to increase the monsters' intelligence? Must we create a perfect monster with superior intelligence to humans but with sturdy armor and sharp claws or one that can fly around or crawl underground? Will only then will we understand that we have been keeping a threat by our sides all this time?

[Don't go thinking that this is all alarmist talk.

[Humans are far too attached to technology, and we use it too much. We've never learned the lessons from it. So, if we have a hammer in our hands, we will always look for a needle to use it on.

[Now, there are no fewer than one hundred biochemical modification companies in Dragon City. As they face the fierce competition in the market and find that the pie of profit has a lot of room for their imagination, will the talented monster controllers, gene modifiers, and monster experts be able to control their excitement and desires?

[If we let them modify monsters as they please and turn our civilization into a monster civilization, in the end, how will the Dragon Citizens look?

[I don't know, but I can imagine it.

[In many sci-fi works, you will find the classic theme of AI betraying their masters. This seems like a natural fear in us. We don't trust those cold machines beside us, especially when we input complex and complicated codes that normal humans don't understand. While they operate on their own, we lack confidence in ourselves and wonder whether we will be replaced by these sturdier, smarter, and more callous as well as brutal lumps of metal.

[But those are unrealistic worries.

[At the very least, with Dragon City's current runic symbol technology and the level of the automatized superbrains, it'll be a long time before real AI can be born. We have a long way ahead of us on that path. Machines are just machines, and they listen to us fully.

[But who is to say that AI must be born from those icy cold chips and machines?

[If we use genetic modification to make a monster who is already skilled in mind control possess a brain that is even greater than that of humans and lead it to gaining terrifying intelligence, wouldn't this be another form of AI? How can you guarantee that it won't go out of control?

[Why do people feel instinctual fear when they see human-shaped machines who can speak, but find pet dogs who can understand human commands cute?

[You must understand, the thought of metal machines possessing their consciousness and going out of control is just a fantasy.

[But machines of flesh and bones possessing their own consciousness and going out of control to attack their creators is a threat that is right in front of our doorstep!

[After all, we humans might call ourselves the most intelligent species, but at the end of the day, we are still machines of flesh and blood. There is no essential difference between our brains and monster brains. In fact, after dissecting many of the Apocalyptic Beasts, we found that the abilities they can use with their brains surpass what we can do. It's just that those abilities are undeveloped or still locked.

[Now, let me ask you again. Are we prepared to unleash the seal on monster brains to create a completely different and unfathomable AI, then release these true creatures of the Other World to live together with us? And are we also prepared to be destroyed by them?]

Chapter 277: Porcupines in Winter

Even though the words in the post were extreme, incoherent, and still held the naive air of a student, which made it clear that it came from a student from the University of Technology or Dragon City University's machine course, which also made their stance very clever, it also trampled on the Agricultural University students' delicate sensibilities.

As the Monster University, Agricultural University believed that in the future, Dragon City should focus on biochemical modifications. They had to domesticate and modify more monsters and etherealized plants to blend them even more with human civilization.

Sooner or later, Earthlings would definitely win the Monster War.

But there was no way that Earthlings could kill all monsters.

Even if humans could kill the mighty dragon-type monsters who were more than one hundred meters long, it was impossible for them to kill all of the predators and pests. If they did, it would lead to an incredibly unstable ecosystem, and it would cause a destructive blow to the whole world. Then, it would turn around to deliver a vicious backlash on the puny and frail civilization that transmigrated from Earth.

Besides, Dragon City only occupied one corner of the planet, and they only had measly tens of millions of people.

When they tried to deduce the Other World's surface area based on the gravity, tides, the planet's rotation, and orbital revolution, their guess was that it was about the same as Earth or even larger.

Even if the transmigrators killed all of the monsters in Monster Mountain Range, it would be impossible for them to conquer all of the Other World, which was a hundred times larger than the Monster Mountain Range.

Were they supposed to kill all of the local creatures that resembled monsters in the Other World?

That was impossible.

Hence, the stance of the academicians from Agricultural University was to winning against, intimidate, modify, and domesticate the originally stupid and fierce monsters to turn them into loyal vassals like dogs. They should possess a certain degree of intelligence so that they could be used like spirit beasts to conquer all of the Other World.

Agricultural University also relied on this stance to sell the professional equipment it developed to all levels of the industry chain.

The biochemical modification industry chain was linked to countless talented superhumans and their futures as well as millions of citizens and the livelihoods of millions of families behind them.

The best example was Agricultural University's monster controller course.

Right now, the students in the monster controller course could apply for the monster controller license the moment they had enough credit. Based on their ranks, they could take biochemical fighting beasts of varying grades to walk around the city.

Basic licensed monster controllers could bring biochemical fighting beasts modified from Nightmarish Beasts to the streets.

Intermediate licensed monster controllers could bring biochemical fighting beasts modified from Hell Beasts to public places.

Advanced licensed monster controllers could theoretically bring biochemical fighting beasts modified from Apocalyptic Beasts in front of normal citizens.

Of course, the monster controller license was very hard to get. There were requirements for a minimum of working years and cultivation realm for advanced licensed monster controllers. Hence, those who could become advanced licensed monster controllers were basically only Deity Realm elites. Thus, even if they subjugated Apocalyptic Beasts, they would not bring them out and parade them in front of the citizens.

But based on the train of thought proposed by the article demanding a limitation on modifying monsters through biochemical means, the monster controllers' rights would definitely be reduced.

And aside from the monster controller course, the resource course, biochemical course, and etherealized plants course would all be affected as well. They were all links in the industry chain, and if one of them was affected, all of them would be affected.

With just one stone throw, a tsunami could be formed.

Countless academicians from Agricultural University started arguing and criticizing the article.

[Agricultural University is built based on gene modification and biochemical technology. During the dark and bloody era, a large number of our pioneers who possessed superior intellect delved deep into the mysteries of genes and awakened supernatural powers. They also managed to master the ability of modifying monsters, which is why we have the current Dragon City. What are these guys thinking of doing? Crippling themselves?]

[Due to one single case of biochemical pets killing people, they want us to get rid of all biochemical modification technology? This is the same as giving up on eating just because you choked once. Besides, we haven't even discovered the truth behind this isolated case. Even if there is indeed something wrong with Spirit Creations Creatures' modification technology and they should be locked down, declare bankruptcy, and be locked up in jail, it has nothing to do with the entire industry.]

[Based on the logic of this article, are we saying that runic symbol machines are 100% safe and have never caused any accidents? I don't think so. With just a casual search, I can find dozens of articles reporting on accidents caused by runic symbols machines, and all of them led to heavy injuries! Are you

saying that only when pets kill humans it is considered murder? So, when a runic symbols machines kills a human, it's not murder?]

[Students, things are very clear now. This isn't a pure accident or a criminal act. This concerns the future development of Dragon City, and it's a problem concerning our principles! In the future, is Dragon City going to walk down the path of biochemical modifications or runic symbols machines? This is an ultimate question that all Agricultural University academicians and even all Dragon Citizens must think about properly!

[To me, the answer is clear, and all the academicians of Agricultural University should swear to defend biochemical technology to death. This won't just concern our future, but Dragon City's future as well. If we take even one step backwards, in the future, Dragon City might end up being destroyed, and we won't be able to recover!]

Plenty of students clicked the like button for the last comment.

Many people used incredibly fierce words to criticize runic symbols technology and found a lot of pictures of accidents caused by runic symbols machines. Those pictures were about the casualties caused by the machines, and they were incredibly bloody.

The comments stunned Meng Chao.

He did not expect that the students would be so worked up.

But when he thought about it carefully, he did not find it strange.

After all, if someone destroys a person's financial means, it is the same as killing their parents. If the Survival Committee were truly affected by public opinion and decided to limit the development of biochemical modification technology so that they could pour a large amount of their resources into runic symbol machine technology, all of the graduates of Agricultural University would have their livelihoods affected.

Based on this angle, the person who wrote the post was definitely even worse than monsters in the hearts of the Agricultural University students. At the very least, the monsters would not kill most of the students' parents'.

'Strange. Was there ever such an intense argument regarding the future development of Dragon City in my previous life?'

Meng Chao scratched his head.

He did not think that there was.

But it might be that he just didn't know about it because he never managed to get into university in his previous life, and at that time, he was focused on practicing his harvesting skills day in and day out. He paid no attention to anything around him.

After all, university students were always filled with vigor and had too much free time in their hands, so they spent their time going online to vent their displeasure.

If he looked at this from another angle, it might also be because they won the northern offense.

In his previous life, Dragon City lost a lot of powerful people, equipment, resources, and hope for the future after they suffered a severe blow during the northern offense. There was no longer any pie left, so how could they fight over it?

At that time, Dragon City basically had a surfboard under its feet, and wherever the surfboard went, they went there. It was already great for them to be able to survive through their struggles. All these strategies about long-term development were just theories.

But in this life, due to Meng Chao, Lin Chuan, Qin Hu, Lu Siya... and even the White Spirit's hard work, they won the northern offense, and a huge and tasty pie was presented before the people.

Hence, the distribution of the pie naturally became the most important problem.

'So, the argument between biochemical modification technology and runic symbols machine technology appeared because of me!' Meng Chao decided to praise himself.

This also led to him remembering a joke.

It was about how humans were porcupines covered in spikes. During winter, to obtain warmth, they would stick closely to each other, and even if they were stabbed by another porcupine's spikes, they would not mind it.

But when temperature rose slightly, the porcupines would not be able to withstand the pain and would stay far away from each other. They would create great distances between themselves and even regard each other with hostility.

They could share their pain together, but they would not share their riches. Perhaps this was what this phrase meant.

'After solving one problem, another popped up. Now that the northern offense is over, a new problem showed up. Why is it so hard to have everyone work together, stay on their own path, and develop according to it?'

Meng Chao found himself incredibly perplexed.

Which one was superior? Biochemical modification technology or runic symbols machine technology? This question was too complex and profound, and he was not going to be able to find an answer.

Besides, this sort of argument might be good too. At the very least, it made all the citizens concern themselves with Dragon City's future, and they would get a basic concept of how they should live and develop after the Monster War. They would not end up like the people in his previous life, where they all stumbled around with muddled heads and were practically led around by the blind.

Meng Chao did not want to participate in the students' intense keyboard war.

He was more concerned about the case itself.

He clicked on a few of the victims' bloody pictures and magnified them as much as possible. Then, he used an image enhancement software to increase the resolution. After that, he studied the pictures for a full five minutes.

He thought about it for a while before he called Lu Siya.

“Hello?”

The voice on the other side of the phone was lackadaisical, as if its owner was drunk and not fully awake.

Meng Chao was stunned. “It’s me. I’m not bothering you, am I, Big Sis Ya?”

“I know it’s you. Otherwise, I wouldn’t have picked up the call,” Lu Siya said lazily. “You don’t know how many people I’ve gone to and how much work I’ve done over the past few days to make sure that the first mining rights will end up in my hands. Thank goodness it’s all settled now. Don’t worry. We saved each other’s lives, and if I have a share in this, you’ll always have a share in it too.”

“Thanks, Big Sis Ya,” Meng Chao said. “But I called today to ask about the abnormal beast research department.”

Lu Siya was silent for a while before she said airily, “Calm down. I want to take revenge for Lin Chuan too, but the only clue we have now is the three holes on the White Spirit’s spine. No matter how capable the abnormal beast research department is, they still need time to slowly investigate this.”

“I know.” Meng Chao hesitated for a while before he said, “I called you today for something unrelated to Big Brother Lin and the White Spirit. I just want to ask whether you know about the case of biochemical pets killing their owners in Blessed Paradise.”

“Yeah, and what of it?” Lu Siya yawned quietly.

“I think that there’s something strange about it. It doesn’t seem like an accident,” Meng Chao said.

“Of course it isn’t,” Lu Siya said. “That’s why it has already been handed over to the Supernatural Tower and the adjudicator court.”

“Is the abnormal beast research department not going to interfere? After all, biochemical pets have a certain degree of intelligence as well, and they can be somewhat considered as abnormal beasts as well, right?”

Lu Siya snickered in spite of herself.

“Listen. I want to solve a major case beautifully as well so that I can be successful in the abnormal beast research department, but the case of the pets killing their owners in Blessed Paradise is not the best choice,” she explained patiently to Meng Chao. “First of all, Spirit Creations Creatures and Heavenly Works Machines are involved in this. The biochemical modification technology organizations and runic symbols machine technology organizations supporting them are also involved. Even if I have Sky Pillar Corporation helping me, there’s no need for me to get involved in this.

“Most importantly, the biochemical pets that normal households keep as pets are not smart enough. There’s still a long way for them to go before they’ll be considered abnormal beasts.

“There are also traces of human acts behind this case. So, it’s highly likely that a superhuman committed a crime. Since this has already been handed to the adjudicator court, without concrete evidence, the research department will not do something exceeding their authority. This concerns the authority given

to the two departments according to their jurisdiction, and it's a very sensitive issue. Do you understand?"

"I know," Meng Chao said. "But I have proof."

Chapter 278: Strange Wound

"Why would you have proof? This has nothing to do with you." Lu Siya still sounded nonchalant.

Meng Chao fell silent for a while. In the end, he did not mention his involvement in the examination. He only said, "I saw a few bloody pictures of the victims online. Their wounds are quite strange. Two of the casualties have really chaotic wounds; they were practically pierced or ripped apart. Their wounds are similar to those left behind by a creature infected by rabies.

"But one of the victims has slight differences in terms of wounds. At first glance, those wounds are also very chaotic, frenzied, and bloody, but if you look at them closely, you'll find that they seem... to have been left by a creature that is calm."

Lu Siya fell silent for a while before she asked in puzzlement, "Calm?"

"Yes. Calm," Meng Chao said. "Trust me. I'm a harvester. I've researched all sorts of wounds before in-depth. The wounds left behind by low-grade lifeforms and high-grade lifeforms are completely different. Monsters who go berserk while they're heavily injured leave behind different wounds compared to monsters who lie in ambush to attack their prey. And the wounds left behind by monsters can also show whether they possess intelligence.

"I... have a feeling that one of the three biochemical pets is different from the other two. It's smarter, calmer, and even more fatal."

"A feeling?" Lu Siya said. "You got this 'feeling' by going through a few pictures of the victims' corpses? Why couldn't I manage to tell that there's anything different from the corpses' wounds?"

Meng Chao scratched his head. He did not know how to explain things.

Of course he had not been able to tell it with just one glance.

Instead, he had his suspicions and assumed that this matter was related to the Supernatural Entities, which was why he had gone back to examine the pictures of the victims' corpses.

This was practically the same as first firing a bullet before going to the spot where it landed and drawing a bull's eye around it. Of course it was easier for him to find clues this way.

"Anyway, I think that this case is very suspicious. If we investigate it, we might be able to find monsters with high intelligence. In any case, I intend to fulfill the duties of a good citizen and report the clues to the abnormal beast research department. Whether or not all of you want to continue with your investigation will depend on the organization."

Meng Chao did not dare to tell her the whole truth.

He hung up and looked at Kindling shining at his peripheral vision.

[Mystery of the Supernatural Entities: Current Progress, 1%.]

He sighed and thought, 'This is all I can do.'

He continued with the experiments of the Ultimate Style in the morning.

Recently, Gu Jianbo had mastered the style and was focusing on becoming a five-star superhuman. He was becoming increasingly like the Blade Dancer, but it also meant that he had less time to provide guidance to Meng Chao.

So, Meng Chao acted based on the methods taught to him when he was in the secret training camp in Ghost Tribe. He fused Walking Corpse and Bizarre Stab into the Ultimate Style and started going in-depth in his research of methods that would allow him to release explosive power with his 1,024 branch meridians. He trained happily, and time went by quickly.

When it was almost noon, he received news from Lu Siya asking him whether he had lectures in the afternoon and whether it would be convenient for them to talk about the case of pets murdering their owners at Blessed Paradise.

Meng Chao's eyes lit up. He agreed to it and asked her to meet him at the entrance of Agricultural University.

Right when he reached the gate, he saw a fierce-looking group from the monster controller course. They were all freshmen and were led by Panther Girl Wu Wu as they walked out.

There were also freshmen from the martial arts course, resource course, and biochemical course in the group. They looked like they had become united when faced the same enemy.

"Xie Feng?" Meng Chao saw a few of his classmates in the group, so he waved his hand to greet them. "Where are you going?"

"We're going to the University of Technology," Xie Feng said. "Meng Chao, have you heard about the case at Blessed Paradise? Right now, there is a lot of noise online, and quite a number of people are worried about biochemical modification technology. They think that runic symbols machines are safer and more efficient.

"This morning, the students from the monster controller course and the students from the University of Technology's machine course argued in the united forum of the alliance of the five universities. The argument was so fierce that the forum nearly collapsed.

"In the end, the students from both sides agreed that they might as well organize a debate to decide which was better, biochemical modification technology or runic symbols machines, and which piece of technology was more suited for the development of Dragon City and our needs to colonize the Other World. Then, our monster controllers and their machine masters will have a friendly spar.

"Even though the martial arts course competes with the monster controller course in the university, this event concerns all the people in Agricultural University. In fact, it concerns the interests of all the people involved in monster production. Hunters, harvesters, monster modifiers, etherealized plants botanists, monster controllers... all of them are involved.

"And since we're mutually dependent on each other, the martial arts course can't situate itself outside this matter. We have to cheer for the monster controllers. Are you going?"

“That’s right, Meng Chao. Will you cheer me?”

Panther Girl Wu Wu came forward with sparkling eyes and stared expectantly at Meng Chao.

“Urk...”

Ever since Meng Chao had defeated her, Wu Wu constantly looked for him whenever she was free and insisted that she wanted to learn all his skills.

Meng Chao also hoped for a strong rival to motivate him to continue improving, so he did not hide any of his skills from Wu Wu.

In the freshman tournament between the alliance of the five universities and Dragon City University, Wu Wu had fought one against five during the final moment and created a miracle, while Meng Chao had fought fiercely to get rid of the strongest person on the other camp, Wang Dao, to help her build the foundation for victory.

Hence, their relationship had improved by leaps and bounds... and it upgraded to the point that when Wu Wu was drenched in sweat after training and filled her stomach, she was at ease with revealing her tummy and sleeping beside Meng Chao.

Based on what Wu Wu said, this meant that they were now the closest companions in a Ghost Leopard pack and shared an incredibly tight bond.

Even though Meng Chao felt that this relationship was weird, at the very least, they were friends.

Logically speaking, he should go and cheer for Wu Wu and the other monster controllers.

But he had already invited Lu Siya to investigate the case.

So, he could only cough dryly and say, “That’s unfortunate. I just invited a friend to go out for lunch. How about this? I’ll try to be as quick as possible and go to the University of Technology to look for you once I’m done. In any case, our universities are close to each other, and it’s just a few steps. I won’t be late.”

“Oh...” Wu Wu felt a little disappointed.

At that moment, the students who were walking in front of the group cried out in surprise.

A magma red race car with the roars of a crystal engine that had great horsepower left behind a trail of burning afterimages before it stopped at the gates of Agricultural University, right next to the students.

In this era, even if a person only had two couches with four wheels under them, it was still a status symbol.

Hence, this sort of crystalline, luxurious race car that looked as if it was crafted entirely out of crystals caused a lot of students to widen their eyes so much that it looked as if they were about to pop out of their eye sockets.

Even if the students who had managed to get into university generally came from well-off families, they did not often have the chance to see a luxurious car of such supreme quality.

The doors of the race car moved diagonally upwards, like a falcon-type monster tucking its wings away as it prepared for a dive. It slowly raised up and folded itself together.

A woman who was even more eye-catching than the luxurious race car stepped out. She wore a dress with a split that went straight up to her thighs and accentuated her ridiculously long legs. When she came out, she leaned against the car door.

Half of her face was covered by sunglasses with wide rims and silver light reflecting from the lenses. Aside from fiery-red lips, no one could see any part of the woman's features.

Even so, it did not stop the students from taking note of her fair skin and long neck. They imagined how beautiful her face had to be. Her earrings were so long that they reached her shoulders, and as they swayed, they gave off a dazzling light, so even the most beautiful girls in the area, including the course princesses, department princesses, and university princesses in the university were overshadowed by her.

In an instant, the entire area became silent.

Cold sweat broke out on Meng Chao's forehead.

"Get in." Lu Siya beckoned at him.

In an instant, all the students sucked in sharp breaths and stared at Meng Chao. They were unable to believe their own ears.

This was especially so for the boys. They did not hide their desire to tie Meng Chao to torture him and force him to treat them to a month's worth of dinner.

"Your friend?" Wu Wu asked softly behind Meng Chao.

"Y-Yeah. We're not very close to each other. We just met a few times, so we're just normal friends," Meng Chao scratched his head.

"Are you certain you can come cheer for us immediately after you eat with a friend like this?" Xie Feng was skeptical.

Meng Chao could say nothing about it, so he went straight to Lu Siya's car.

Once she started driving, Meng Chao said, "Here's a suggestion. I know that you're the young lady of Sky Pillar Corporation, but sometimes, when you decide to walk among the peasants, could you keep a low profile? We're just discussing the case. There's no need for you to be so flashy, right?"

"I know. This is me keeping a low profile. I chose the cheapest car from my house to pick you up," Lu Siya answered faintly,

"..." Meng Chao was silent for a while. "I can now understand why Big Brother Lin felt pressure when he was with you and thought that he's a Demonic Halberd Pig while you're a Crystalline Nine-headed Dragon."

"I still don't understand it. With Lin Chuan or your strength and potential, as long as you work hard enough and are willing to risk your lives, it's not difficult for you to get a race car or a mansion. I don't understand what you're conflicted about."

"It might be because even if we reach Heaven Realm or Deity Realm and get a lot of money, we still won't buy a race car or a mansion."

"And that's why I said you're too naive," Lu Siya retorted. "Have you heard of the story of Zi Gong paying a ransom for a person? There is a law in the Country of Lu that if a Lu Citizen sees a fellow citizen run into misfortune in a foreign country and end up as a slave, as long as they pay the ransom for those people and help them regain their freedom, they will be able to get rewards and compensation from the nation."

"Confucious' student, Zi Gong, paid a ransom for Lu Citizens while he was in another country, but he rejected the rewards from the nation."

"And this is Confucious' remark of his actions. He said, 'Zi Gong, that's where you're wrong. If you take the compensation from the nation, it won't be a slight to your morals. But if you don't take the compensation, no one in the Country of Lu will pay a ransom for their fellow citizens if they see them in trouble."

"Later, another student of his called Zi Lu saved a drowning man. That person thanked him by giving him a bull. Zi Lu took it. After Confucious learned about it, he was very happy and said, 'From now on, the Lu Citizens will definitely be brave enough to save drowning people.'"

"Even if Lin Chuan became a Heaven Realm fighter, he continued living a simple and tough life, and he appeared to be friendly. In fact, he donated his income to contribute to society. On the surface, this is good, correct, and very noble."

"But do you think that all superhumans should learn from Lin Chuan and use him as their standard?"

"Use me for an example. If I don't drive a luxurious car, don't live in a mansion, and don't use my money every day, I won't have the motivation to earn money. Then, there will be no need for me to enter the depths of the underground to explore the mines or go into the wild to risk my life fighting against the monsters. Why should I even fight desperately to defend Dragon City?"

"I can just become a two-star or three-star superhuman and stop cultivating so that I can enjoy my life. In any case, no matter how much money I earn, I can't spend it in an upright manner. When I spend my money, I will be criticized by others that I only want to enjoy my life and am a rich young lady who doesn't understand the pains of the common people. They'll even say that I'm a Crystalline Nine-headed Dragon who eats the flesh and blood of Demonic Halberd Pigs. Then, why should I cultivate and fight?!"

Meng Chao was instantly rendered speechless.

Lu Siya quickly continued, "Also, did you see your university mates' gazes just now? They were shocked and longed for this race car. In truth, they were jealous."

"They're your university mates and they're freshmen with bright futures ahead of them, right? As long as a few of them are attracted by my race car and are determined to train madly and fight with their lives on the line to earn money, isn't this a great thing for Dragon City?"

“The majority of normal people are still controlled by their desires in this world, and the ascetic monks with great ideals are in the minority. Confucius knew this well, which is why he criticized Zi Gong but praised Zi Lu. Based on this, not only do I bring pleasure to myself when I drive a race car through the city in a flashy manner, but also motivate all the superhumans and ignite the fighting spirit in ambitious youths.

“Even if we look at this subjectively and think that everyone is very selfish and is only cultivating and fighting for luxurious cars and mansions, objectively speaking, we are still getting a lot of resources for Dragon City, and if we use those resources to build new elementary schools, isn’t it more logical that Lin Chuan’s so-called selfless contributions?”

“...” After a moment, Meng Chao said, “Let’s change to another topic. Big Sis Ya, your sunglasses look pretty good.”

Chapter 279: One Hit Kill

“Do they?” Lu Siya pushed her sunglasses up the bridge of her nose and flicked her earrings before she said, “I didn’t intentionally dress up in such a flashy manner. The complications with my overly heightened spirit sensitivity aren’t dealt with yet, and the airtight helmet I wore last time is just too ugly. After putting it on, I feel like I’m an ambitious evil witch.

“That’s why I asked an expert to create these sunglasses and earrings to block off the redundant information, and they also help me not hear the gossip that I shouldn’t hear. Or at the very least, it makes people think that I can’t hear them gossiping about me behind my back.”

Meng Chao looked ahead silently, then two minutes later, he asked, “Where are we going?”

“Calm down, we’re there.” Lu Siya drove the race car into an underground garage.

They used the elevator to reach the first floor, and it was only then that Meng Chao realized that they were at the back door of First Affiliated Hospital of Medical University.

He quirked his eyebrows.

Lu Siya looked at him and said, “Didn’t you say that you felt that there’s a wound that’s very strange on the third victim’s corpse?”

“No matter what, you can’t get a vivid picture if you observe things on the photos online, so we have to come and personally check whether the wounds of the three corpses are really different.”

“Wait. Are there no injury examination experts and forensic specialists in the abnormal beast research department? Why must we be the ones taking action?”

“Because I haven’t reported this matter to the higher-ups.” Lu Siya shrugged. “How am I supposed to report it? ‘I have this harvester friend who thought that the wounds on the corpses looked strange when he took a look at the photos online. That’s why we want to snatch the case from the Supernatural Tower and adjudicator court.’”

“Trust me, even though the research department really wants to snatch cases from the adjudicator court, we can’t snatch them like this. We have to find more detailed and concrete proof to get resources and support in terms of manpower.”

Meng Chao glared at her. “Are you saying that we don’t have any approval from a governmental organization to touch the corpses of the three victims?”

“Not quite. It’s not that we don’t have any approval at all. After all, the work of the research department and adjudicator court is unique, and to make it easier for us, they allow us to act first before reporting to the higher-ups. As long as we find clues of the existence of a highly intelligent monster, we just need to go through the procedures later, and we’ll be fine.

“Honestly speaking, I’m an official investigator from the abnormal beast research department. If something really happens, I’ll be the one taking the blame. You’d just be an enthusiastic citizen. What’s there to be afraid of, if that’s the case?”

Lu Siya looked at her watch and said, “The case of murder by pets in Blessed Paradise has been treated as an accident. That’s why the three victims’ corpses were sent to be preserved in the First Affiliated Hospital of Medical University, and it conducted preliminary autopsy on them.

“Based on the procedures, since there is suspicion that this is a crime conducted with ill will, they should have sent the corpses to the related investigation departments.

“But since the crime might have been committed by a superhuman criminal, this case has been taken over by the adjudicator court, and so they bypassed the police. The corpses will be sent directly to the Supernatural Tower at two in the afternoon, and that gives us one hour and forty-four minutes. So, are you going in to take a look?”

Meng Chao was silent for a moment.

He cast a glance at his quest progress and nodded. “Sure, let’s go in and take a look.”

Lu Siya had clearly not been idle during the morning. She had done a lot of preparation work, and with familiar movements, she found the morgue.

Both of them observed the location of the CCTVs, and like ghosts, they shot past the corridor.

With a few turns, they soon arrived at the chilling depths of the morgue.

Suddenly, both of them stopped and pressed their backs against the wall.

There were two guards with incredibly built bodies guarding the corpses.

They had guns, and their gazes were intense. The veins on their temples were very distinct. Their elbows and the thick, angry veins on the backs of their hands showed that they were clearly not easy to deal with.

Due to all sorts of viruses and bacteria running around wildly in the Other World, regardless of whether it was the corpse of a human or the carcass of a monster, there was a high possibility that they would transform.

Even when a person seemed to have died a natural death, there was still a certain chance that they would turn into a zombie in the morgue.

Hence, the people who guarded the morgues and related organizations were all above average fighters.

“What should we do?”

Meng Chao mouthed the question to Lu Siya.

Lu Siya motioned him to calm down. Then, with a fingernail coated in faint gold paint, she pushed down on the center of her forehead.

She also mumbled some things.

Spirit tattoos shone faintly on her forehead.

Before Meng Chao could shout at her, she strode forward and walked with great poise in front of the two guards.

Then, something unexpected happened.

Even when she was right in front of the two guards, they did not seem to have seen her.

They continued talking among themselves as if the beautiful and eye-catching woman in front of them did not exist.

‘This is...’ Meng Chao felt a chill in his heart. ‘Is it a stealth skill or hypnosis? After she reached Heaven Realm, she became stronger!’

Lu Siya beckoned him over. She mouthed, “Come on, why are you still daydreaming?”

Meng Chao made his decision and strode over.

Just as he expected, the two guards could not see him as well. Even as he stood between them, their gazes shot past his head. They laughed as they talked, and their saliva landed on his face.

‘So, it’s hypnosis,’ Meng Chao thought. ‘This woman has a solid background, ambition, and is a Spirit Sensor. She can control stones to fight, and she even knows mind attacks like hypnosis. She’s indeed someone who cannot be underestimated. We can work together to investigate the mysteries of the Supernatural Entities, but I have to be on guard against her...’

While he thought about it, two thick bundles of letters fell down from Lu Siya’s silk dress. They landed on the floor with a loud plop.

Meng Chao instantly felt his heart leap to his throat.

But regardless of whether it was Lu Siya or the two guards, they pretended as if they did not see or hear anything. The situation looked really strange.

It was only when she pushed open the door to the morgue that Meng Chao could not help but say, “You dropped something just now.”

“I know. Why else do you think we could enter? If I didn’t give them money, would the two guards have let us in?”

Meng Chao was surprised. “Huh? Didn’t you use some mind attack to hypnotize them?”

“If I can use money to settle a problem, why would I want to use a mind attack?” Lu Siya looked at him with great puzzlement. “Besides, I don’t know any skills related to hypnosis. You know that.”

“Then, you...” Meng Chao said. “You shut your eyes in the beginning and rubbed the center of your forehead. Spirit tattoos even appeared on your skin. What were you doing?”

“I was just doing some eye exercises to focus.” Lu Siya looked down and yawned softly. “I told you that I’ve been busy with the first mining rights over the past few days. Over the past week, the total amount of time I slept is less than ten hours. If you hadn’t made the case sound so interesting, I wouldn’t have bothered to come!”

Meng Chao scratched his head and headed straight to examine the corpses.

The power of money was indeed much stronger than mind attacks. The two guards who took the money had brought out the three corpses of the victims. The only thing left was their arrival.

Meng Chao removed the white cloth and saw the mangled and ghastly corpses.

To normal people, this would be a scene from nightmares, but he was a harvester who came back from the apocalypse, so he did not find it terrifying.

He drew closer and observed carefully.

Once he was in working mode, he immediately focused and nothing could distract him.

Even though he could not carry out dissections that would damage the corpses, he could still learn a lot of information from the intersecting wounds just by observing them with his naked eye.

Meng Chao narrowed his eyes. He felt as if he could see the three biochemical pets suddenly becoming violent and pushing their owners to the ground before they bit them and ripped them apart.

He compared the wounds based on the data he obtained when he watched the biochemical pet dissections and saw the tears on the tendons. He did not want to miss even a single clue.

His current self was just a university student and a two-star superhuman. The adjudicator court and the research department would definitely have elites who were stronger than he was.

But there were very few people like him in all of Dragon City who had the memories of being a veteran harvester for decades while also possessing the killing skills of an assassin from Ghost Tribe, and all of those skills were also the future versions that were ahead of the current era.

His memories of being a harvester and an assassin created an amazing reaction when they clashed with each other, so he was able to see a lot of things that the detectives of the current era could not.

Meng Chao stood in front of the third corpse for a long time.

He drew closer to the man’s torn throat as if he wanted to crawl into the wound.

He dilated and shrank his pupils nonstop, and a strange spark shone in his eyes.

Lu Siya just stood by the side and watched him quietly as the seconds went by. She did not bother him while he worked.

Then, Meng Chao released a long sigh and straightened his back. It was only then that she asked, "Did you discover something?"

"Yeah, this wound is off." Meng Chao pointed at the tear on the third victim's neck. He motioned Lu Siya to take pictures from multiple angles and explained, "Of the first two corpses, one of them is an old man in his sixties and the other is a middle-aged woman in her forties. Their wounds are really horrific, and they fit the description of attacks left by violent monsters. I can assume that they were killed by their biochemical pets when they went out of control."

Lu Siya frowned a little and asked, "And you're saying that the third victim wasn't?"

"The third victim was definitely killed by his biochemical pet, but I think that this biochemical pet did not go out of control when it killed its master."

Meng Chao put up his thumb and imitated the shape of a claw. He drew a long line over the artery of his neck and said, "This victim is a man who is either in his thirties or forties. His body is well-proportioned, and he has thick muscles. His bones have faint signs of crystallization, so he should be a superhuman with above average strength."

"You're right. He's a machine master from Heaven Works Machines," Lu Siya said. "Even though he isn't a fighting-class superhuman but a support-class machine master, he has to control and perform maintenance on large construction machines. He participates in the tough work of destroying rocks and clearing tunnels every day. So, it's only natural that he has a sturdy body. He's definitely not a nerd who has no strength whatsoever."

Meng Chao nodded. "All machine masters have some degree of fighting strength. Besides, a few days ago, fog descended near Blessed Paradise, and a rat horde showed up in the place. I think that the victim would have definitely had all sorts of heavy tools and weapons in his house. As long as he could grab something, he should have been able to kill a berserk pet."

"Unfortunately, he took a hit to his neck. This hit should have been the biochemical pet's first attack."

"But it's precisely this attack that tore apart the victim's artery, which led to a massive loss of blood. The strength of the force even went through the gaps of his cervical vertebrae and injured the nerves of his spine, which led to a large reduction of the victim's fighting strength."

"You can say that this is a perfect one hit kill. Do you think that a real monster who went berserk would be able to do such a thing?"

Chapter 280: Such An Amazing Person

Lu Siya stared at the wound for a long time before she looked at the other two corpses and asked skeptically, "Are you sure it was a one hit kill?"

"I'm 30% sure." Meng Chao gestured about. "Based on the guesses on the forum, these biochemical pets were infected with mutated rabies or zombie virus, which is why they went completely out of control."

"Let's say they were infected with mutated rabies. Think about it, what sort of state should they be in?"

“That’s right. Their eyes should be red. They should growl and bare their teeth. They should look savage and subconsciously knock against walls and the door. In other words, they should look very terrifying.

“When their masters see their pets acting like this, would they stand around like idiots and wait for them to bite them? Of course they would struggle, run, or fight back.”

While Meng Chao spoke, he bared his teeth and pretended to lunge at Lu Siya.

“As they struggle fiercely, the biochemical pets’ central nervous systems would be severely affected. It would not be easy for them to find vital spots so accurately. Even if they manage to land a bite on a vital part, if the owners struggle fiercely, their wound would be in the shape of a tear, not a cut. There should be wounds on their limbs, and they should be severe, because if the owners were in a panic, they would have used their hands to block attacks and kicked at the monsters.”

Lu Siya nodded. She appeared contemplative. “What if the owner fell asleep?”

“A few days ago, Blessed Paradise went through a fog invasion, and a rat horde appeared in their area. Over the past few days, there were remnants of it running around. The residents are in a state of high alert, so they wouldn’t fall asleep so easily,” Meng Chao said.

“Even if the old man in his sixties and the woman in her forties had waning strength and did, the third victim was full of vigor and at the prime of his life. It’s impossible for him to sleep so deeply that he’d lose track of his surroundings and wouldn’t hear the growl of a beast.

“But look at the third victim’s throat. You can see this very precise cut.”

Under Meng Chao’s guidance, Lu Siya looked at the wound closely.

She frowned and said, “The flesh there has been completely eaten.”

“That’s right. That’s the key.” Meng Chao snapped his fingers and said excitedly, “After he was killed with just one blow, the pet noticed that the wound was too precise, so it decided to eat all the flesh around the wound. Even so, it left behind clues. Look at the spot between the two cervical vertebrae. Isn’t there a very faint laceration there? That’s a mark left by canine teeth!”

Lu Siya removed her sunglasses.

Her beautiful eyes sparkled in the morgue.

She narrowed her eyes and observed for a moment before she nodded and said, “I can see it. It’s even thinner than a strand of hair, and it’s only half a millimeter long. I suppose you can consider this a laceration. So?”

“So, based on the depth of this laceration, the angle, the length, and various other factors, we can make an analysis and determine that this is definitely a perfect one hit kill!” Meng Chao said confidently.

“Are you really able to decipher so much information from this insanely small cut... no, this laceration?” Lu Siya asked skeptically. “Why can’t I tell the difference between this laceration and all the other wounds?”

"I can't tell the difference between the hundreds of stones underground either. So, if you ask me to differentiate them, I would rather trust you when it comes to that," Meng Chao said.

Lu Siya thought about it, nodded, and said, "Continue."

"Next is the tears on the limbs," Meng Chao said. "There is no doubt that there are a lot of tears on the limbs of the three corpses, but the tears on the third corpse are the lightest. Many of the tears were not done just once, and they overlap with a lot of bites.

"This means that while the third victim was still alive, he put up the lightest resistance. When he was attacked, there was no longer any strength left in his limbs, and he did not have any strength to fight back.

"He's a middle-aged man at the prime of his life and a machine master who controls construction machines all year long, but you're telling me that his resistance was weaker than that of an old man in his sixties and a woman in her forties when he ran into a monster attack? How could that be?

"It's very simple to explain, though, because after the first attack that targeted his neck artery, spinal nerves and cervical vertebrae, he lost too much blood and his nerves were damaged. His limbs became weak, and he couldn't launch any effective counterattacks.

"And here's the interesting part. After the third victim died, the biochemical pet, which should have gone into berserk rage, seemed to have realized that it killed a little too cleanly and swiftly. So, it deliberately ate the flesh the fatal wound left on the victim's neck and bit the tears on the limbs until they were a mess so that it could cover up that the tears were too light.

"But it ended up exposing more of its deeds the more it tried to cover them up. When the victim was alive, the wounds it left behind while it bit into the victim had slight differences compared to the wounds it left behind after the victim died. A normal person might not be able to tell, but it would definitely not be able to escape my eyes!"

Lu Siya cast a deep look at Meng Chao and mumbled, "Are you saying that this is a biochemical pet that knew how to destroy evidence and disguise the crime scene?"

"I don't know whether it's a biochemical pet or something else. I only know what the corpse told me."

Meng Chao went to the other corpses and opened their abdominal cavities before he continued, "Last of all, look at the three corpses' abdominal cavities. After killing the victims, the three biochemical pets started eating them. Their first target was definitely the soft and juicy organs. So, they ended up causing a mess in the victims' organs, but don't you think that the third victim's organs are broken into even smaller bits and that the biochemical pet ate way more than necessary?"

Lu Siya frowned a little. "Ate more than necessary? What do you mean?"

"Let me put it this way. If we eat a steak the size of a palm, we will usually cut it into around twenty pieces. The smallest piece would be the size of a beef cube. Very few people would cut it hundreds of times and turn it into ground beef," Meng Chao said. "I've researched the mouths, teeth, esophagus, and digestive organs of many canine-type monsters. I know the ideal amount of food for them.

“The first two biochemical pets might have gone mad, but the marks they left behind while they ate their food did not break out of the normal pattern for canine-type monsters.

“But the third victim’s abdominal cavity has been eaten until it’s a mess. Even so, there are still too many organs left. They haven’t been eaten by the biochemical pet, and that doesn’t make sense.”

Lu Siya sank into deep thought. “What do you think is the reason?”

“There are three reasons I can think of.” Meng Chao raised three fingers. “First, this biochemical pet doesn’t like eating organs, and this is just an imitation. It never went out of control like the other two biochemical pets, and everything it did was done while it was in perfect control of its body.

“Second, perhaps it has some sort of deep grudge with its owner, and that’s why it left its owner in such a mess. You can say that this is the same as humans when they cut up their hated enemies into thousands of pieces.

“Third, this is a cover. Regardless of whether it bit into the victim’s limbs or abdominal cavity, its goal was to wipe out the real wounds through the flesh that the victim would be sure to miss its attacks.”

As she listened to Meng Chao’s speech, Lu Siya could not hide the surprise and admiration in her eyes. She gasped in amazement. “Meng Chao, I’m beginning to be unable to get a read on you. I’m starting to really look forward to working with you.”

Meng Chao coughed dryly and said, “What I said just now is my opinion. I don’t have concrete proof. The experts from the other organizations can absolutely get completely different conclusions based on the same marks. Before we get to the truth, I can’t prove that my guess is correct.”

“It’s fine. I trust you,” Lu Siya said. “I can tell you three pieces of information. First, the three biochemical pets who went out of control were indeed infected with mutated rabies, and it’s a completely new subtype that has never been seen before.

“Second, the biochemical pets who attacked the first two victims have incredibly well hidden injection marks in their ear canals. The third biochemical pet had the same virus, but there were no signs of injection in its ear canal.

“Third, this victim who was killed in one hit was a member of Heavenly Works Machines. The company he works for has been competing for an incredibly important deal with Spirit Creations Creatures, a company that modifies biochemical pets. The profit involved in this reaches such astronomical numbers that it’s enough to cause many people to go mad for it.”

Meng Chao was slightly stunned.

Lu Siya was really amazing. This was secret information, but within just one day, she managed to get a hold of it.

Also, the mutated rabies that the three biochemical pets were infected with were brand new subtypes? He did not know about it yesterday.

As he thought about this, Kindling flashed at the corner of his eyes, and a line of words appeared.

[Increased progress for the Mystery of the Supernatural Beings by 1%. Current progress: 2%. Increased contribution points by 500.]

'My guess is right!' Meng Chao became high-spirited. 'The murder by pets in Blessed Paradise is indeed related to the Supernatural Beings!'

"We don't have much time left. If you have something else to say, we can do that while we talk." Lu Siya tapped her watch and said, "You're right. There is value in examining this case in-depth. We will have to work hard to figure out the truth before the adjudicator court."

Meng Chao hesitated for a while before he asked, "Can't we give the adjudicator court this clue and work with the secret police?"

"The adjudicator court has always been displeased with the formation of the abnormal beast research department. They think that we've weakened their authority, so there's no way they will work with us."

Lu Siya cast a glance at Meng Chao. "As for you, the adjudicator court will definitely welcome you if you provide them with a clue, but who knows how much they will trust you? It's also impossible for them to let a freshman like you to get involved."

Meng Chao thought about it, and he felt that what Lu Siya said was logical.

If this were a normal case, he would be considered to have done the duty of a good citizen by providing the police, adjudicator court, the abnormal beast research department, or other such government organization with a clue.

But since this was related to the Supernatural Beings, he wanted to get closer to the truth.

After all, there might not be anyone else in this era who understood the Supernatural Beings more than he did.

"Let's go." Lu Siya observed his expression and could tell his determination. She dragged the white cloth over the three corpses and quickly walked outside. "We don't have much time left. There are also amazing people in the secret police, and they will discover clues of the marks as well. Then, they will be ahead of us in the case."

Meng Chao followed her and asked, "Will they?"

"Yeah."

While Lu Siya walked, she said, "I heard that they used an expert of the secret police when they dissected the three biochemical pets yesterday, which is why they managed to find the needle marks at the depths of the biochemical pets' ear canals.

"The person who performed the dissection yesterday is Master Sun Yufeng, a veteran harvester from the monster research center. Even he overlooked the details near the eardrums. The other harvesters also hadn't heard of such a secretive technique.

"In the end, a very young expert who seems to have come from the secret police pointed it out.

“He knew about such a tricky method, so it’s most likely that he has personally used this method before. He’s not a harvester, so he’s definitely a top-class assassin. With such an amazing person around, it’s highly likely that he will turn into our competitor, and who knows who will end up getting the prize?!”

“Oh...”