

Oh My God 351

Chapter 351: “Commander”

In the blink of an eye, around 80% of the one thousand or so Flame Rats were killed.

Only a small number of rats avoid death. They were not shot through by bullets, and the unique fat that had an incredibly low ignition point in their bodies did not come into contact with air, so it did not end up burning. They were still scurrying about in confusion.

Meng Chao threw his chains forward and bound two Flame Rats. He dragged them over. During the process, they did not lose even a single strand of hair.

He first bound one Flame Rat tightly with a chain.

Then, he brought out a full set of harvesting tools and blasted the other Flame Rat with a liquified condenser that was at more than negative ten degrees Celsius.

When the Flame Rat was frozen to the point that it could not move and even had a thin layer of ice outside its eyeball, Meng Chao calmly cut into the back of its neck. He peeled open its scalp and removed its entire cranial bone.

Meng Chao’s vision had not been trained to the point where it could replace microscopes.

He had a spirit energy microscope made specifically for dissections fixed around his eyes, and he focused it while he investigated the Flame Rat’s brain.

After admiring it for a while, he used a long needle that was finer than hair to extract the Flame Rat’s central nervous system.

Once he was done, he used a scalpel that was as thin as a cicada’s wing to dissect the brain until it was divided into thin slices that were less than 1mm thick.

When he was done investigating the rat’s brain, he started dissecting its organs to investigate the flammable substance.

Ten minutes later, Meng Chao obtained his answer.

“These creatures should have been lurking around the place for some time. Their stomachs are filled with fermented refuse derived fuel. It shows that they have been hiding in the fuel warehouse of the power plant and eating the fuel. They stuffed their stomachs full of these things.

“But I feel like they’re just mooks. There must be a ‘commander’ hiding behind them.”

“Why?” Lu Siya asked.

“First, don’t you think that it’s too easy to kill these Flame Rats? The scale and length of the fog this time is something we haven’t seen over the past half a year. If I were an abnormal beast with superior intellect, I would not ignore this God-given chance. There’s no way I’d just send a few measly rats to cause trouble.

“Second, their intestines are clearly unable to completely digest the refuse derived fuel. Even if they weren’t shot or burnt to death, before long, their stomachs would burst and they would die. This means that they didn’t do this due to their instincts or to fill their stomachs. Instead... they were ordered to do something with greater intelligence.

“Third, their brains are too small and simple. It’s hard to imagine just how these Flame Rats could gain real intelligence and carry out such a complicated task as performing a coordinated attack with the monsters who invaded Dragon City.

“Big Sis Ya, look here. Do you see a small hole on this Flame Rat’s forehead?”

Lu Siya observed the rat carefully and nodded before she said, “I saw it. There’s a ball of...”

“Parietal Eye. Its scientific name is parietal eye,” Meng Chao said. “In ancient times, many of the vertebrates didn’t have just one pair of eyes. Aside from the normal pair of eyes, they had another eye at the top of their head. But it’s hard to say just what function it had.

“Some biologists say that the parietal eye was used to sense light and regulate a living being’s sleeping time. Some believe that the parietal eye was used to help living beings sense the changes of the planet’s magnetic field, so they could locate things very accurately. They might have been just like the magnets in a pigeon’s brain. Some experts also believe that humans’ epithalamus is the evolved form of the parietal eye.

“Most of the mammals are like us. Over the course of a long evolution, they have long closed their parietal eye.

“But through simple gene editing, it’s not hard to make rat-type monsters show signs of atavism and grow their parietal eyes once again.

“As for their function... If my guess is correct, they should be used to sense the changes of spirit energy magnetic fields and receive information.”

Lu Siya frowned. “Receive information.”

“You can think of it as a biological chip that receives information. The ‘commander’ hiding in the dark uses some sort of method to enlarge its brainwaves. The slight changes caused by the spirit energy ripples it creates can be sensed by these mutated Flame Rats through their parietal eyes.

“It’s just like how a commander gives orders to his or her soldiers, and because of it, the Flame Rats launched their suicidal attack. Perhaps the goal of this attack is just to confuse us and make us think that the invaders have all been destroyed.”

Lu Siya cast a deep glance at Meng Chao. She had personally seen him performing outstandingly in many of the training courses.

She had also heard many of his analysis and remarks of some of the training courses in private. They were all things that she had never heard before.

So, she trusted his judgment a lot.

She immediately said, “Is there a way to find the ‘commander’?”

“I can try and find the general location of the commander. As for the precise location, I’m going to have to rely on your sharp spirit energy perception.”

As Meng Chao spoke, he stabbed the other Flame Rat’s ear canal with a few long needles that were finer and softer than hair.

He closed his eyes slightly and focused. A drop of sweat appeared on his forehead. It was as if he was performing an incredibly difficult microscopic surgery.

The Flame Rat was just bound by a chain. Its central nervous system was not frozen, so it should feel pain.

But even after Meng Chao stabbed four long needles into its ear canal, and those needles that were finer than hair and longer than fingers sank into its brain, it did not let out a single screech. It was still looking around as if it could not sense the slightest bit of discomfort.

“What are you doing?” Lu Siya asked.

“I’m cutting the connection of nerves between the parietal eye and the brain,” Meng Chao said. “This way, the parietal eye might turn into... an organ that is a pure magnet, just like the magnet in a pigeon’s brain.”

“And then?”

“Then, it might bring us to the commander,” Meng Chao said. “You should know that pigeons are able to find their nests accurately even if they are hundreds of kilometers away. That’s why humans were able to train pigeons into messengers.

“I believe that the commander’s brainwaves aren’t that strong. To avoid interference, when it gives commands to the Flame Rats, they must be together. That place might be their nest and where the commander is lurking.

“As long as I cut the connection between the parietal eye and the brain, the Flame Rat will no longer be controlled by any external commands. Its fear and survival instincts will suppress everything else once more. Then, it might pick up on the magnetic field and run to the place where it feels the safest, which is the commander’s nest.”

As Meng Chao spoke, he flicked the chain.

Despite the Flame Rat having needles in its head, it scurried away.

“After it!”

Meng Chao was now a three-star superhuman, so it was impossible for a rat to run away from him.

Lu Siya was levitating in the air and saw it clearly as well.

Meng Chao stopped the factory protection team and the operations members of the abnormal beast research department while he was running after it.

When the Flame Rat arrived near the cooling tower, it suddenly disappeared.

Meng Chao narrowed his eyes and flared his nostrils. Soon, he found an incredibly hidden crack under the cooling tower.

“Looks like we’ll need to find a map detailing the entire power plant’s underground structure before we can find the rat’s hiding place,” Meng Chao said.

“We don’t need to go through so much trouble.” Lu Siya smiled.

She spread her fingers before clenching her fist. Then, she released an incredibly powerful spirit energy magnetic field. It rammed into the underground like an ordnance penetrator, and as if it had created a small-scale earthquake, a lot of rocks were forced against each other.

In the first half a minute, nothing happened. Only smoke gushed out from the intersecting cracks.

But soon, a black figure jumped out of the thickest crack and slithered up the cooling tower.

They focused on it and quickly realized it was a shiny python.

Its scales were a semi-transparent purple, which gave off a crystalline feeling. Its organs could even be seen faintly.

Its scales rubbed against each other to create sparks. Electricity surrounded its body, which made it look like a dragon that was soaring among clouds.

There was a huge tumor growing on its forehead. It had a pulse, and the sound was like a war drum sounded by an army when chasing after a prey. It struck at the humans’ brains and hearts.

“The python shares the same nest with the rats! That thing is the commander!”

Meng Chao swung his saber chains and chased after it.

After he became a three-star superhuman, his speed reached another level. When he stomped fiercely on the ground, he created aftershocks as if the area had been blasted by cannons. With a layer of smoke hiding his body, he jumped high into the air and arrived above the Lightning Python.

Sizzle!

The Lightning Python’s scales instantly turned completely transparent.

A ball of plasma formed in its throat and gushed out like a volcano eruption. It struck Meng Chao in the face while he was in midair.

But the plasma only managed to tear apart Meng Chao’s afterimage.

It had not been a simple afterimage or optical camouflage.

Instead, it was the advanced Spectro Illusion that he learned from Ghost Tribe’s training camp, which he remembered from his previous life.

Aside from leaving behind an afterimage at high speed, he also poured his vitality magnetic field into it so that it would look alive, thereby tricking monsters and enemies.

The real Meng Chao was still lurking in the dust that he had kicked up.

The moment the Lightning Python spat out the plasma, he attacked with the two chain sabers and formed a spiral killing formation. The chains went to the area seven inches below the monster's head.

The Lightning Python jumped up as if it had fallen into a pot of boiling oil.

Meng Chao's chain sabers acted as if they were not beholden to physics. They turned in an unimaginable angle and chased after the area seven inches under the python's head.

The Lightning Python let out a screeching sound that sounded similar to a rat's.

The tumor on its head was covered in veins. It had swelled up to the max, and now, it released a powerful mind attack.

Meng Chao narrowed his eyes as if he was suffering from a terrible headache. He lost control over his chain sabers, and like dried-up earthworms, they slumped down.

The Lightning Python's eyes shone with delight, as if it had not expected things to happen this way. It switched from defense to offense and opened its mouth to bite Meng Chao's neck.

But there was not a single hint of confusion in Meng Chao's eyes, which was the typical symptom of someone whose mind was thrown into chaos. There was only cold calmness and an unstoppable killing intent that spilled out from within them.

Chapter 352: The Realm Ambusher

"Demon Subduing Slash!"

Meng Chao used his hand as a knife. His entire arm was covered in profound and complicated spirit tattoos. Spirit energy burst out of them and formed a saber glare that was almost four meters long. Then, like a shining pole that subjugated demons, it came swinging down at the Lightning Python.

Boom!

The Lightning Python was only barely able to dodge it, and a deep trench was left behind on the ground.

Meng Chao did not stop to catch his breath. The second saber glare started surging at his fingertips while he chased after the Lightning Python like a shadow.

In an instant, the Lightning Python was surrounded by dozens of saber glares.

The greatest advantage of the Ultimate Style was its insanely great endurance.

Once someone was held back by an Ultimate Style practitioner, as long as no accident occurred, monsters of the same level as the practitioner would have a hard time breaking free.

Meng Chao also managed to figure out the Lightning Python's rhythm when it fired the plasma. It happened in a short time.

There were a few times when he intentionally slowed down and pretended that his strength had run out to lure the Lightning Python into counterattacking.

The moment before it fired the plasma, the saber glare at Meng Chao's fingertips would instantly become much brighter and go to cut the area seven inches below its head, which forced it to swallow the plasma.

The Lightning Python ended up frying itself to the point that it was dizzy.

Wisps of white smoke came out of the gaps between its scales.

It hissed while flinging its tail, which left intersecting cracks on the cooling tower.

Meng Chao remained as calm as ever. In fact, he did not even need Lu Siya's help. He flicked a small saber glare forward to cut at the Lightning Python, which made it lose its bearings.

Suddenly, Meng Chao pulled back and jumped backwards lightly to widen the distance between him and the Lightning Python.

The Lightning Python finally had the chance to catch its breath and counterattack. It was ecstatic and opened its mouth to charge up an unprecedented ball of plasma in its throat.

"Careful!"

The superhumans who rushed over cried out in surprise.

But it was too late.

Sizzle! Crackle!

The Lightning Python fired the plasma at Meng Chao's face.

He ignored it and did not even bother dodging.

Something unbelievable happened.

The moment the plasma left its mouth, it split into hundreds of electrical arcs that surrounded the Lightning Python and electrocuted it to the point that it started foaming at the mouth. Its scales curled up, and its flesh was burnt black. Its eyes turned bloodshot. The tumor that could control minds shriveled up and hung low on its head.

The Lightning Python curled up into a ball while it spasmed. Its flesh was torn, and it stopped moving.

The superhumans rushed forward and quickly bound the Lightning Python. Then, they injected more than ten high-density anesthetics into its body before they gave Meng Chao puzzled looks.

Meng Chao went forward and knelt down on one knee before he carefully extracted four thin silver needles from near the Lightning Python's head.

He had stabbed those needles when it lost its bearings after Meng Chao attacked it with the Demon Subduing Pole. With them, he cut off some of the connection between its brain and central nervous system.

The Lightning Python not only lost part of its mobility because of it, but was also no longer immune to its plasma attack.

It might seem like a magic trick, but it was built on Meng Chao's deep knowledge of monsters and a harvesting foundation that was much greater and more in-depth than that of the average person.

This was a skill unique to veteran harvesters.

The factory protection members around them and the operations members from the abnormal beast research department looked at each other at a loss. They could see great shock in each other's eyes.

In truth, Meng Chao was quite famous. When they met up at the power plant, many people recognized him.

However, in the eyes of the high level engineers and operations members who had been through hundreds of battles and all of whom happened to be in their forties or fifties, no matter how powerful Meng Chao was, he was just a young man in his early twenties. He had not even graduated from university yet. At most, he was only outstanding among his peers.

To them, Meng Chao joining the operation to defend the power plant was really just him widening his horizons and gathering more fighting experience.

They did not expect that Meng Chao would be able to instantly locate the commander of the monsters.

And before the main force arrived, he managed to subjugate the highly-intelligent monster.

Capturing a monster alive was ten times more difficult than killing a monster. All superhumans knew this fact very well.

When they looked at Meng Chao, their gazes filled with admiration and puzzlement.

Meng Chao smiled.

He clenched his fist, which was burning because he had used Demon Subduing Slash too many times. He felt like he was holding a piece of steel that had reached melting point.

When a person became a three-star superhuman, the increase of spirit energy circulation, maximum release value, changes in the organs, and the increase of the basic functions of the body... were secondary.

The most crucial thing was that since 70% of Meng Chao's body had crystallized and he had learned brand new spirit energy magnetic fields from his tutor and the mysterious elite, he could use a lot of different strategies to fight. He could also use the experiences from fighting in his previous life to execute strategies that were deviant, had a lot of variations, and were far more advanced compared to the current era.

'We're both three-star superhumans, but if I compare our fighting strength, my current self should have far surpassed Qin Hu while he was still under Raging Waves, because I'm a three-star superhuman who came from decades later. I should have also surpassed all the three-star superhumans in Dragon City, right?'

As he sensed strength crashing into his muscles, nerves, and bones like endless waves, Meng Chao felt indescribable pleasure. 'Now that I've protected the garbage power plant, the defense system in hundreds of residential areas in the north of the city should encounter no problems. I've changed the

future again, so that means I contributed quite a lot for Dragon City. I wonder how many contribution points I'll get.'

He blinked for a long time, but he saw no contribution points popping up at the corner of his eyes.

'Uhm?'

Meng Chao suddenly had a bad feeling.

Usually, when this sort of thing happened, it meant that the quest had not ended yet. The enemy had yet to be completely destroyed, so it was not the time for Kindling to conclude his points.

'No way...' Meng Chao thought.

Boom!

Before he could even finish his thought, a loud explosion came from deep within the power plant.

A fireball rose in the air. Under the colorful night sky, it turned into a black cloud that bared its teeth at them.

"It's in the direction of the power generators!"

Lu Siya levitated in the air and acted as a scout. She was able to see where the explosion came from with just one glance.

"How could this be?!"

Meng Chao and the superhumans looked at each other in shock.

The power generators were the core of the power plant, so the defense over there was, of course, incredibly tight.

Over the past few days, they had searched through the place repeatedly and sealed off the pipes that monsters could use. They had also set up traps and alarms at the dark and cramped corners. They even sent elites to patrol the place to make sure that there were no blind spots.

Regardless of whether it was the Lightning Pythons or Flame Rats, they could only act around the cooling tower. There was no way for them to infiltrate the power generators.

Yet it was clear that it was not a normal explosion caused by a breakdown. So, who caused the explosion?

Meng Chao quickly rushed to the powerful generators with the other superhumans.

The place was covered in smoke. Quite a few steam pipes were damaged. White smoke rose up, making the place look like a bathhouse. The temperature was incredibly high too, which lowered visibility.

Lu Siya made a gesture in the air to say that she could not see inside clearly.

The sounds of gunfire suddenly rose from within the smoke.

Meng Chao took two steps forward and nearly tripped over a corpse.

He looked down to examine it and discovered that it was one of the factory protectors.

His fatal wound was a gunshot that hit his eye.

The eyeball and his brain were pierced through in one hit. The other eyeball was in perfect shape, but it was filled with shock. The man seemed to have been full of disbelief before he died.

“Gunshot wound?” Meng Chao mumbled to himself. ‘Do monsters know how to use guns?’

Meng Chao thought about it before he shuddered and shouted into the communication channel.

“Everyone, be careful! The destroyer might be human! I repeat! The destroyer might be human! He has a gun! He might fire at us at any moment! Don’t approach the people who were stationed here!”

“H-human?” The factory protectors shuddered as if they were about to face a major enemy.

“Seal off the steam pipes first! We’ll have the fire trucks fire water from a distance! We’ll start planning once visibility increases!” Meng Chao said quickly.

Four fire trucks started spraying water from the perimeter. The water came pouring at them like the rain and chased away the steam blocking their vision. Then, corpses appeared all over the ground. There were three people standing among them.

Both the people who lay on the floor and the people standing wore the uniforms of the garbage power plant. They were not the engineers of the power plant, but the fighters sent by the power company to provide reinforcements.

When they saw so many of their own lying on the floor, the factory protectors on Meng Chao’s side felt their hearts clench in pain and fill with anxiety.

But they did not rush forward, because they could tell with the night vision goggles that the dead had gunshot wounds.

A number of people had fallen on their faces and sported gunshot wounds on the backs of their heads.

No one could possibly arrive behind them elusively and kill them at a close distance unless they were familiar and trusted companions.

“Captain Fang, what happened?” a factory protector beside Meng Chao asked loudly.

The three people across from them did not seem to have heard it. They just walked around in circles as if they were lost.

Their footsteps were rather stiff. Sometimes, they raised their feet high, and sometimes low. It was as if they had forgotten how to walk, but were looking for something on the floor.

Soon, they found a few corpses to their liking and crouched down slowly. They searched around for a while and brought out Sam Brown Belts covered in grenades.

The pupils of all the people on Meng Chao’s side shrank.

“Captain Fang, what are you doing?! Why is everyone dead?! Who did this?!” The factory protectors sounded even more anxious.

But the other side did not care. They placed three or four Sam Brown Belts on their shoulders and dragged their feet to the power generators.

Bang, bang, bang!

Meng Chao fired three shots right behind Captain Fang and the other protectors' feet.

Captain Fang finally turned his head around and glared at Meng Chao.

The searchlights from four of the fire trucks shone on Captain and the other two protectors' faces, revealing them .

"Hiss..."

Everyone sucked in sharp breaths.

Captain Fang and the other two protectors' faces were numb. Their eyeballs were entirely black. Their scleras were consumed by black fog, and their faces were covered in thick and protruding blood vessels. Something was crawling about in the blood vessels, and they looked even more terrifying than zombies.

"Captain Fang, don't move, or else we'll shoot!"

The factory protectors gulped, and more than one hundred guns pointed at their former comrades.

Captain Fang and the other two protectors tilted their heads upward by forty-five degrees. Their black eyes were fixed on the night sky.

After a moment, they let out guttural growls from the backs of their throats. They did not sound human.

The two protectors with the Sam Brown Belts charged in Meng Chao's direction with strange postures.

Captain Fang shifted the more than ten grenades in his arms and staggered to the power generators.

Chapter 353: Brain Infesting Worm

"Don't shoot!" Meng Chao stopped the factory protectors.

Two small and exquisite mini-submachine guns appeared in his palms.

Bang, bang, bang, bang!

Somehow, he managed to fire with the accuracy of semi-automatic rifles, even though he was using mini-submachine guns.

As the rhythmic shots rang out, the two strange people with thick blood vessels on their faces cried out in pain.

Meng Chao had blasted off their fingers. Their palms were shot full of holes, and the Sam Brown Belts with grenades fell to the ground.

Meng Chao then fired at the Sam Brown Belts. The bullets never missed their target and hit the metal parts, which sent the Sam Brown Belts flying away. He did not make a single hole in the belts nor hit the grenades on them.

Once the two strange people lost the Sam Brown Belts, they went berserk. They ignored the blood pouring out of their palms and howled as they pounced on Meng Chao.

Meng Chao put the two mini-submachine guns into the intersecting holsters on his back. He curled his fingers, and four lancet knives that were almost transparent due to their thinness appeared between his fingers.

With the dark providing cover, no one could see his movements clearly. All they saw were the two strange people falling to the ground. More than ten of the important tendons from their thighs to their ankles had been cut off.

But there was no sign of pain on their faces. Instead, they seemed to have descended into an even more berserk rage. It was as if there were tentacles squirming around madly under the skin on their faces, which created expressions that were even more terrifying than zombies.

They only calmed down when Lu Siya summoned dozens of spikes from underground to form two cages to trap them inside.

Captain Fang was the only one left. He did not waste time and threw the first grenade-covered Sam Brown Belt at his target.

Boom, boom, boom, boom, boom!

Even if the outside of the core of the power plant was as sturdy as a fortress, the explosions opened a crack that could fit a person.

Captain Fang danced happily and rushed to squeeze in.

Meng Chao threw his two chain sabers. His target was Captain Fang's back.

Captain Fang let out a strange yelp, and with bizarre moves that made him look like he was popping, he avoided Meng Chao's attack.

Meng Chao seized the chance to jump dozens of meters forward. They were now close enough to cross swords.

Captain Fang's face was flushed red. Fine drops of blood even squeezed out of his pores.

The thick and protruding blood vessels stretched from his face all the way to his arms, which made them swell up. Then, they rammed into Meng Chao's chest like two one-thousand-ton hammers.

The factory protectors who were familiar with Captain Fang cried out behind Meng Chao. Captain Fang was one of the strongest superhumans in the garbage power plant.

If that were not the case, it would have been impossible for them to hand the crucial task of protecting the power generators to him.

His punches could shatter even the Demonic Halberd Pigs and Iron-armored Rhinoceroses' skulls until they were shards the size of fingernails.

But to everyone's surprise, Meng Chao withstood his crazed attack and did not even sway. They did not even hear him grunt, much less his bones cracking.

Then, they saw Meng Chao's muscles rippling like fierce waves. Not only had he used Ripple Force to neutralize most of the impact, he even seized Captain Fang's punching force as his own to complete the accumulation of power for Dragon Snake Force.

Boom!

Meng Chao crouched down and cut into the burly Captain Fang's defense zone. The power accumulated in his Dragon Snake Force blasted forth like a rocket, and with a simple and crude uppercut, he sent Captain Fang flying. The sound was even louder than the explosion of a grenade.

With a single punch, he sent the berserk Captain Fang into the air. All the man's posture and strength disappeared at that moment.

The Ultimate Style paid a lot of attention to how its users should deliver chain attacks after they sent their enemies into the air.

But since Meng Chao was facing an enemy at Captain Fang's level, he felt confident, because he was now a three-star superhuman. There was no need for him to unleash any chain attacks.

He spread his fingers, and like burning clamps, they closed around Captain Fang's face.

His bones released a series of explosive sounds. Hundreds of his muscles squirmed at the same time. Incredibly ruthless power gathered together, and he yanked Captain Fang down from the air.

The exceptionally ruthless Reckless Bull Force charged into Captain Fang's brain, and he crashed into the floor, creating a pit that was around half a meter deep.

Only Captain Fang's legs remained outside, like two shuddering bundles of reeds. They trembled for a long time in the dark before they slumped down powerlessly.

When the factory protectors surrounded them, Meng Chao had already dragged Captain Fang out.

There were still a lot of thick and protruding blood vessels covering his face, which made it look like he had ugly worms all over his face, but after facing Meng Chao's ruthless treatment, they only had fear left in them. They no longer dared to act like lunatics.

Even if Meng Chao did not cut Captain Fang's tendons and break his arms, he remained obediently on the floor and did not dare to move.

The factor protectors looked at each other and gulped. They did not know who was more terrifying: Captain Fang, who had just become incredibly violent, or Meng Chao, who acted like a demon who had crawled out of hell.

Even the operation members from the abnormal beast research department had long since stopped looking down on Meng Chao. They marvelled in their hearts. 'As expected of someone from Group 9. He's really ruthless!'

Speaking of which, Captain Fang and the other two protectors had been fine, so why did they end up like this? They had even attacked the power generators they should protect no matter what it cost them.

Meng Chao knelt down on one knee on Captain Fang's chest and aimed a torchlight into his eyes. The man's irises were unclear, and his reaction to light was quite delayed.

When Meng Chao saw the blood vessels squirming slowly on Captain Fang's face, he pondered it for a while before he flipped Captain Fang over and took a fine and long clamp to pull apart the hair on the back of his head.

Just as he expected, a semi-transparent worm was stuck to the back of Captain Fang's head.

The worm looked like an amalgamation of lice and leech.

It had eight legs, and they were like eight tentacles that went deep into the back of Captain Fang's head.

It also had suckers and barbs under its body that allowed it to stick firmly to Captain Fang's skin.

However, since Meng Chao had rammed Captain Fang's head against the floor, the worm was reduced to a bloody mess, and it lost part of its control over Captain Fang.

That was why Captain Fang was no longer aggressive.

When everyone saw the bloody worm, they could not help but suck in sharp breaths.

Lu Siya removed the spikes, and the crowd quickly moved forward to pin down the limbs of the other two strange people before they flipped them over.

Meng Chao examined them one by one, and just as he expected, there were two worms in perfect health on the men's heads.

Meng Chao's memories from his previous life flashed before him, and the monster's information appeared in his mind. 'Brain Infesting Worms. They appeared at the later stage of the Monster War. They're really elusive and dangerous worms.

'Their semi-transparent bodies allow them to hide pretty well. Their limbs are well-developed, which allows them to jump high and gives them high mobility. They can jump on a human's shoulder or back from dark corners and attach themselves to the back of a human's head.

'They secrete a unique anesthetic that ensures that the person will not be able to sense any pain when their skin is torn. The target will not notice the worm's presence at all.

'Then, their tentacles will reach the human's spine and their brains, where they'll capture the human's cerebral cortex and central nervous system.

'Brain Infesting Worms were specifically evolved by the monster civilization to target human civilization. They're psychological weapons that are really good at controlling minds.

'The worms themselves don't have any mind attacks. They're low-grade lifeforms with simple structures. It's impossible for them to control high-grade mammals like humans and complete complicated strategic instructions.

'Instead, they serve well as control chips that work as relay stations between humans and high-grade abnormal beasts with really high intelligence.

'Highly intelligent abnormal beasts can make monsters with great mind attacks like the Demonic Air Ripping Eye spread signals through the entire city and send their commands to the Brain Infesting Worms.

'The tentacles of the Brain Infesting Worms can then replace the central nervous system and send the commands to the humans' brains and seize their willpower. Then, they can turn the humans into monster puppets.'

"Wh-What are these?"

Aside from Meng Chao, no one knew just how terrifying the Brain Infesting Worms were. Even the operation members from the abnormal beast research department had never seen such a strange worm-type monster before.

"Don't move. We have to look for a neurosurgeon now," Meng Chao said. "These worms have really long tentacles, and they're probably already deep into their brains. We can't pull them out easily. If we want to save them, we need to immediately conduct brain surgery. That's the only way we can extract a perfect abnormal worm sample as well.

"Also, have three people form a group to inspect each other's heads. When two people perform checks, the third person must have a gun and be on guard by the side. Be careful, this worm is very good at hiding. It might be hiding at the back of your head. Even if you touch it, you'll instinctively ignore it."

The people were shocked, and when they looked at Captain Fang and the other two people's horrific situations, they broke into cold sweat. They quickly examined each other.

Meng Chao and Lu Siya examined the backs of each other's heads, and once they were certain that there was nothing hiding in their hair, they relaxed a little.

'Even the Brain Infesting Worms have appeared. The monster civilization I remember from my previous life is showing up.' Meng Chao thought. 'But these Brain Infesting Worms aren't fully modified yet. Their methods of controlling humans are clumsy. Their humans look hideous, have stiff movements, and look more horrible than zombies. They're practically screaming that they're controlled.

'The Brain Infesting Worms in my previous life were better at hiding themselves. They were also more cunning and effective too.

'When those Brain Infesting Worms controlled a human, there were no signs at all. They still possessed their normal thought processes and emotions. They could communicate with their colleagues, comrades, and family members.

"The worms could also use more precise and crafty methods to carry out the commands of the abnormal beasts instead of making the humans create explosions outside a building using grenades. This is just too simple and crude.

'Looks like my guess is correct. The monster civilization isn't ready to fight yet. The Nine Great Supernatural Entities, normal monsters, superbeasts, and abnormal beasts are still being modified and going through their evolution.

'Or rather, the monster civilization hasn't yet fully integrated itself into this world. The satellite city that has transmigrated with us and has been fully corrupted by the Other World hasn't completely turned into a terrifying demon den yet.

'This time, Dragon City has the initiative, so they attacked us in haste before they're ready. We have a chance of winning fully!'

Chapter 354: Aftermath from the Fog

The abnormal beasts did not continue attacking the power plant in the north.

But Meng Chao and the group did not relax.

The space-time rifts that looked like mega vortices still remained in the night sky. They were continuously gushing out flying-type monsters that came from deep within the Monster Mountain Range, like the Demonic Air Ripping Eye that looked like giant eyeballs and luminescent jellyfishes, were covered in tentacles, and had powerful mind attacks.

There were also Lightning Golden Eagles, which were creatures that could surpass sonic speed when they traveled at top speed. The edges of their wings were really sharp, and they could cut through the air sacs of armored airships.

There were also giant insects that gathered together to form swarms. They were like squirming tornadoes or demonic palms that descended from the sky. They could bind humans and drag them into the air. In a few minutes, their blood and flesh would be gone. Then, the insects would toss the remains back to the ground.

All sorts of monsters that shone in various colors wreaked havoc above Dragon City, and they really looked like demons dancing in the air.

The battle lasted the entire night.

When dawn arrived, there was still a small number of monsters that moved about in the city. They relied on the ruins, drains, pipes, and the complicated ventilation systems in the buildings to fight against the humans.

Scattered gunshots and the sound of buildings collapsing repeatedly tormented the humans' minds, which were near breaking point.

Once Meng Chao's mission of protecting the power plant was over, he went back to his old job—being a harvester.

This time, the fog brought nearly one million tons of monster carcasses to Dragon City. They had to harvest them as soon as possible, or they might transform or cause a plague.

Meng Chao worked hard for an entire day at the garbage power plant and the steel factories around it.

When dusk arrived, he finally dragged his heavy feet and swung his nearly numb hands to the abnormal beast research department. Over there, he could analyze the newest development of monster evolution.

While he was on his way back, he saw that the defense systems of dozens of residential areas had suffered different degrees of damage.

There were more than ten residential areas that were taken down by the monsters. Even though the residents had fled to the underground sanctuary in time, their houses were damaged badly. Countless residents' warm homes now had burning, broken walls.

Piles of monster carcasses had rotted away because they were not handled in time, and a layer of yellowish-green mist filled the residential areas. The pungent smell was enough to make Meng Chao's eyes water.

He also heard the booming sounds of explosions coming out from apartments that seemed to be in perfect condition.

Some of the monsters turned into biochemical bombs after their carcasses rotted away. They released balls of acid and poison. The acid corroded the reinforced concrete in the walls, and the buildings lost their strength.

The poison invaded the walls and would linger there for the next few years, which would lead to irreversible damage to the human body, especially to the respiratory and blood circulation systems of children. The damage would not be cured their whole lifetime.

In other words, some apartments might still be standing firmly, but they had been polluted and were no longer suited for humans to stay.

Meng Chao saw a lot of residents looking lost. They either stood or squatted next to the broken entrances of their residential areas. They did not seem to know what they should do.

A girl with a dirty face held a toy bear with torn limbs. There were tears streaming down her face, but she kept comforting her toy bear softly. It seemed like she was asking the toy bear to not be afraid.

Her father rolled up his sleeves in anger. He seemed ready to beat up the bloody monster carcasses until they were even more of a bloody mess.

Her mother wanted to go back to get some stuff back, but a few buildings had collapsed, and the ruins were piled up together. They were also burned by the monsters' flames. There was no way she could find their home.

The scene in front of Meng Chao overlapped with the tragic scenes he remembered seeing during the later stage of the Monster War in his previous life. It reminded him that the future could not be changed that easily.

It also warned the Dragon Citizens that even if they managed to win at the northern frontlines, the final victory was still far from their grasp.

When Meng Chao reached the abnormal beast research department, he came to understand the full state of the fog battle this time from Ye Xiaoxing.

Just as he expected, a lot of proof and data showed that the Monster War had now entered the second stage, and the fighting model had completely changed.

First of all, the monsters had become smarter.

Even their coordination in fights had increased by leaps and bounds. In the past, when the fog descended and different monsters came out of the space-time rifts, they did not come out at the same time. And usually, when they appeared, they impatiently launched attacks at human communities. This allowed the humans to defeat each group before the next arrived.

Many of the Heaven Realm elites had the time to kill the monsters in one community before going to another. Just by themselves, they could ensure the safety of four or five communities.

At the same time, since they had no concept of formations and firepower, many monsters would form a long line, even though they had an advantage in numbers. They would just stupidly rush at the humans' guns and anti-aircraft guns. Aside from turning themselves into sitting ducks and making humans waste their ammunition, their actions were completely meaningless.

But when the fog arrived this time, many monsters, especially the mammals with brains that were relatively well-developed and insect-type monsters that had collective intelligence were much better. They knew how to gather their firepower and coordinate their timing. Then, they attacked the residential areas together so that the powerful fighters could not do anything about it. There was no way for them to split themselves five ways to help everywhere at once.

A large batch of monsters even rushed past residential areas that were already waiting for them with great firepower. They instead gathered together some five different species and attacked old residential areas with relatively weak defenses. Their gathered strength was enough to catch the humans off guard.

Second, the monsters had also learned to attack the important points in Dragon City. The power plants, water plants, crystal warehouses, and gene farms were all targeted.

Among them, the monsters focused the most on the water plants and gene farms.

Aside from the monsters who descended at night, a batch of abnormal beasts like the Flame Rats, Lightning Pythons, and Brain Infesting Worms had long since been hiding around the water plants and gene farms.

Even if their suicidal attacks did not manage to break the basic facilities that supported the operations of Dragon City, the acid and poison they released when they exploded polluted the water source and farms, so Dragon City, which was already having a hard time providing enough resources to its people, would have an even harder time in this regard.

Third, monsters had learned how to assassinate important figures.

Many of the specialists who were engaged in frontier disciplines were assassinated or struck down by monsters who had decided to group together.

Even though a lot of the specialists did not die, the casualty rate of specialists was still much higher than in any of the past fog attacks. It was hard to believe that the high number of specialist deaths was just an unfortunate coincidence.

But it was also unimaginable that the monsters could be in possession of a namelist of the scientists in Dragon City and wanted to use the chaos to get rid of them. The mere idea made people's skins crawl.

When they thought about how the abnormal beasts had specifically created something like the Brain Infesting Worm to target the human brain and central nervous system, the worries of the abnormal beast research department might be very real. The abnormal beasts and abnormal humans had long since infiltrated Dragon City and were observing, thinking, and learning about them in the dark. They also gradually developed a monster civilization that would not lose to human civilization.

The fog attack might have come to an end, but the aftermath of the battle had yet to be cleared up.

The first problem was the plague.

They always faced a major plague after every battle. This was common knowledge in warcraft.

Besides, the Other World was a place where viruses, bacteria, and cells were too active. The abnormal beasts had also specifically upgraded some monsters to make sure that after they died, their carcasses would definitely explode to spread viruses, which would specifically target the human immune system.

In the next month or so, Dragon City faced three large-scale plagues one after another. The source of disease was always some new bacterial strain. They targeted the human body and did not seem like something natural. They seemed like a genetically produced bacteria.

One of the plagues had even brought back the zombie virus, which had disappeared a long time ago.

The brand new mutated zombie virus could cause a human to turn into a highly mobile zombie within a short half a minute. In just one breath, they could jump up to the third or fourth floor. And even if their heads were blasted off, they might fire off poison that contained fatal viruses when their organs exploded.

It was not easy to get rid of the plagues, however. A lot of people had lost their homes due to them being destroyed or polluted by monsters, so they had to stay in tents or temporary prefab houses.

Those spaces were cramped, and there was a major lack of resources. They could not even guarantee clean water and clean food, which were basic daily necessities. This created beneficial conditions for the spread of viruses.

Rage among humans also spread with the viruses.

Even noble people gradually regained their primal, wild nature when they lived in an environment where they lacked basic resources and their survival instincts were stimulated.

Three-five months after a large-scale fog descended, the crime rate in Dragon City would always increase by several times the average rate.

Aside from the lack of resources, the arrival of the monsters also led to the humans' mental strength indices plummeting. It caused all sorts of complications since their minds became twisted.

And even if their mental strength indices returned to normal after some time, it did not mean that no injuries were left behind in the brains.

Even if the wounds were healed, horrible scars may be left.

This was even more the case for superhumans.

First, the superhumans were the vanguards in the fight against monsters. When they rushed to the frontlines, they had to face a lot of monsters' mind attacks, so their mental strength indices were much more likely to fall.

Even sturdy metal would go through metal fatigue if it was bent repeatedly and would snap.

While the human mind was fragile and mysterious.

Second, superhumans' brain cells and the central nervous system experienced long-term stimulation by spirit energy, so they were more likely to enter spirit energy deviation compared to normal humans.

Monster controllers and machine masters also had to open the ports in their brains to use brainwaves to control biochemical beasts and runic symbol machines. Abnormal beasts, thus, had a much easier time invading their brains and planting seeds of evil.

Hence, every time a large-scale fog descended, a lot of heroes with great achievements under their name would go through spirit energy deviation and fall into darkness. Then, they would turn into evil superhumans who would do harm.

This was something that humans were helpless to change and could only feel sad about.

The Survival Committee and Supernatural Tower wanted to solve all the problems. No one was willing to watch countless citizens lose their homes.

No one wanted to see their companions who had been laughing happily yesterday turn into zombies that had poison dribbling out of their mouths, either.

There were even fewer people who wanted to see citizens fighting fiercely against each other for a bottle of drinkable water, and they did not want to see the heroes who had sworn to protect Dragon City forever be consumed by darkness and turn into lunatics that were like demons.

But if anyone wanted to solve these problems, they needed an astronomical amount of resources.

Chapter 355: The Storm Is Around The Corner

It was not as if Dragon City did not have resources.

But most of their resources were in Shattered Starlake, Graveyard Forest, Raging Waves, and the areas behind the fog they had just conquered.

Even though they had killed off most of the large monsters in those mountains and dense forests filled with lakes and traps, there were still a lot of pests in them.

Even if Dragon City had technology that far surpassed that on Earth, they still needed a few years to completely develop their resource areas. They also needed a lot of development and construction resources to develop those places.

The upcoming few years were a crucial period for Dragon City, and they were also a period of pain.

The Survival Committee and Supernatural Tower had to make a brutal choice. They only had limited resources. Should they pour them into the reconstruction and defenses of Dragon City so the normal citizens could live their daily lives freely and cultivate, or should they pour them into the development of

the perimeter of Dragon City and search for the satellite cities that were lost in the fog, then either save or beat them down?

The first choice was best for the present Dragon City.

The second choice was best for the future of Dragon City.

Meng Chao remembered that the higher-ups had ended up choosing the future.

Even if there was a severe lack of resources in the city and the living environment of the normal citizens was really bad, which led to the intensification of all sorts of conflicts, the Survival Committee gritted its teeth and brought out a batch of resources to nurture the superhumans and motivate them. It was the reason they won the Monster War.

The price for it was that the conflict in the society became really bad. Due to the tough life the normal citizens faced, they began to suspect the superhumans who stood high above them and became hostile toward them. This suspicion and hostility was used by the abnormal beasts, and it created trouble in Dragon City, so it suffered devastating losses for its "victory". It also planted the seed of destruction, which was a major problem.

The Dragon City in his current state might have won the northern offense, but to develop the areas at the borders and destroy the enemies who were lurking in the fog, they had to allocate a lot of resources to the city outside. However, it would ignore the state of living of thousands of citizens. Their horrible living conditions would not be solved.

Many citizens had a lot to say about the Survival Committee's methods.

First came the problem about their accommodation.

Due to the arrival of the fog, many of the important people had been killed. The specialists and company managers who had escaped by sheer luck were fearful, and they wanted to immediately move to high-end residential areas with greater defense systems and a lot of powerful fighters as their neighbors.

There were not enough high-end residential areas, so the rent and apartment prices instantly rose like crazy.

It was even more so for top-class mansions found in places like Dragon City No.1.

Even in Blessed Paradise, where the murder case had happened recently, the housing prices increased by 50% within a short month. The normal citizens were shocked when they saw it.

Honestly speaking, the specialists and higher-ups of companies could move wherever they wanted as long as they earned money with their intellect and abilities. That was their freedom.

The Survival Committee and Supernatural Tower also had the duty to ensure the safety of these important people. Hence, they added a layer of defense to the perimeter of the high-end residential areas.

However, the normal people whose homes were destroyed by monsters had to live in tents or simple sheds. They stayed in places where multiple people moved about, where others could easily eavesdrop on their conversations, where the environment was hot and humid, where they had to be constantly

wary of diseases, and where they had to face the risk of zombies jumping up to injure people at any moment.

So when they saw the important people racing against each other to move into Blessed Paradise or Dragon City No.1, they felt as if they were worlds apart and were no longer the same kind.

Due to the war, the prices for crystals, gene medicine, and strengthened nutritional fluid also went up. Soon, it increased to the point that normal families could not buy them even if they gritted their teeth and tightened their belts.

The children were the greatest hopes of normal families.

Before, even if the parents were normal people with average talent, if they worked a tiring job that only offered a tiny bit of money but lived frugally, they could save some money and ensure that their children had the basic funds for their cultivation. Then, they would have the smallest chance of entering university. After all, even if they ended up being broken-star superhumans, it would be fine.

These families had something to look forward to. The parents had a drive to work, and the children had a goal. At the very least, they did not end up going down the wrong path.

But when the superhumans realized that the Monster War would not end that easily and had just reached an even stranger and unfathomable stage, they began cultivating hard.

Hence, they began buying resources madly. They used all their cash and Supernatural Coins to buy crystals, gene medicine, strengthened nutritional fluid, all sorts of monster materials, and valuable ingredients.

Many superhumans could not digest and absorb so many resources in one go.

But that was fine. The expiration date for gene medicine and strengthened nutritional fluid was very long. Crystals were also hard currency like gold and platinum. Even if they could not use them to cultivate, they could end up being able to profit from them later.

Many of the superhumans bought cultivation resources in amounts that were way higher than what they needed, so the prices for cultivation resources rose continuously. There soon even came a point when there was a shortage of them in the market.

Because of it, the children of normal families faced a major problem.

They all lived in a world ruled by superhumans.

If the family's children did not have any hope of becoming superhumans, then it was very difficult for anyone to find the motivation to continue living in the Other World. It was a world filled with zombies, monsters, and mysterious beings, after all.

No one reached the point where they would rather die than live, but when normal citizens looked at superhumans, their gazes started to become strange.

The broken-star superhumans and low-grade as well as middle-grade superhumans were treated a little better. They had more contact with normal people, and a lot of the broken-star superhumans also

encountered problems such as not having enough money to buy cultivation resources or being unable to live in fancy mansions. So they empathized with the normal citizens.

Besides, if they really ran into monsters, the low-grade and middle-grade superhumans were the ones who fought directly in front of the normal citizens. Their sacrifice and hard work were seen by the kind citizens.

But normal citizens had a hard time understanding the research projects of the elusive high-grade superhumans who stood high above them. They could not understand their profound and complicated cultivation projects either. They only saw how they and their families lived rich and fancy lives. The nine great mega corporations they controlled gained all the benefits from the development around Dragon City and were just growing larger and larger.

If Lin Chuan were resurrected at that moment and started spreading his views about Demonic Halberd Pigs and Nine-headed Crystalline Dragons, he would definitely find a lot of people listening to him.

Even Meng Chao encountered this problem.

In the fog attack, Blessed Heavenly Garden was also attacked viciously since it was an old residential area. Its defense system was badly battered by monster fangs.

Even though the monsters had only destroyed some of the buildings at the perimeter and did not reach the unit where Meng Chao's family was, when he saw his neighbors from the destroyed buildings being forced to set up tents and simple sheds in the residential area, he could not bear the sight. He also grew fearful.

Monsters were becoming smarter as they evolved.

Next time, they might not be so lucky.

If he were alone, he could stay and fight with his neighbors in Blessed Heavenly Garden. But his parents were around, and his little sister was gradually awakening to a mysterious power too. She might end up being corrupted and turn into the Dark Witch at any moment.

He had to consider moving out of Blessed Heavenly Garden to a middle-range residential area with a more complete defense system.

But his little sister had said that Blessed Heavenly Garden was their home. If all the powerful fighters moved out of Blessed Heavenly Garden, there would only be the old and the sick left. The monsters would then have no trouble destroying the place.

To defend her home, Bai Jiacao would fight to the end.

And if they moved away from Blessed Heavenly Garden now, she would feel like they had cast aside the people who had been their neighbors for decades. It might even lead to her getting corrupted again.

That idea left Meng Chao uneasy.

The problem of his family's safety bothered Meng Chao for a whole month.

And during that month, the housing prices of high-end residential areas in Dragon City increased by 50%.

Meng Chao was flabbergasted. He scratched his head. 'I never ran into this problem in my previous life, though?

'Oh, in my previous life, I was busy worrying about paying the hospital fees for my parents and taking care of them in the hospital. Forget about the housing prices for high-end residential areas increasing by 50%, even if they dropped by 50%, it would have had nothing to do with me.'

Meng Chao's mind raced.

With the wisdom of someone who had returned to the past and the ability to analyze things with loads of data, he could think about things calmly, and he came to a conclusion.

The inflation was just an aftermath of the fog. It was the result of rich people who didn't have level-headedness buying houses in fear.

Once the situation settled down, the housing prices would definitely fall with a vengeance, and at that time, he could buy them a house.

A month after he made his decision, the housing prices increased by another 50%. They had doubled the original house price in just two months.

"..."

Meng Chao decided that he would shoulder the responsibility of a superhuman and bleed for the weak. He would stay behind and survive together with Blessed Heavenly Garden!

The chaotic situation caused the people's hearts to change. All sorts of ideological trends popped up one after another. Many powerful people and organizations began wondering about how they should save the country and deduced the future of Dragon City. From it, they came up with all sorts of different conclusions.

Meng Chao had also observed how the students in Agricultural University slowly became restless.

Fewer people could concentrate in the lectures. There were also more people who began publicly debating in the threads on the university forum.

"Practicing martial arts can't save Dragon City." "Monster controllers can't save Dragon City." "Runic symbol machines can't save Dragon City." Such voices gradually became popular. It was as if the current generation of youths did not worry about the country, they would look as if they were apathetic jerks.

Meng Chao's friend, Xie Feng, was also a fan of such debates.

Meng Chao joined him to watch a few of the debates between students.

At one point, the topic of discussion was whether they should increase the superhumans' tax rate and whether the government should execute excess progressive tax rate. Whenever a superhuman increased their cultivation realm by a level, the government would increase their tax rate by a level. Then, the government could use more of the tax money to provide welfare benefits for the normal citizens, which would help them decrease the difference between the social strata in Dragon City.

Then, it moved to topics like: Superhumans have an advantage in terms of intelligence and physical abilities. Is there an unfair competition between them and normal people? Was there a need for the government to form a ratio between superhumans and normal people when it came to most grassroots jobs in society, and was there a need for the government to impose a law where the companies must hire a certain number of normal people?

There were also topics such as “Are the nine great mega corporations good or bad for the future development of Dragon City? Should the government limit or split up the nine great mega corporations so that more power is concentrated in the hands of the Survival Committee?”

He even heard topics like “What is the limit of humans? Is a Deity Realm superhuman still a human? How can you ensure that a Deity Realm superhuman will forever treat normal people as fellow humans and would fight for the welfare of normal people?”

Since they were debates among students, they were not brilliant. It was even difficult for them to provide any evidence. Often, their debates were childish, and they were just venting their emotions.

Many of the students who came from the nine great mega corporations stated in all apparent seriousness that they should limit the development of the mega corporations for the future of Dragon City. All glory and power should belong to the Survival Committee and the Supernatural Tower!

Their words gained huge support from the crowd.

It also made Meng Chao realize that half a century after their transmigration, when the Monster War entered a brand new stage and the monsters began evolving, a complete change was about to arrive in Dragon City like a storm.

Chapter 356: Blue Home

At that moment, Meng Chao received clues about the White Spirit Case and Gao Ye’s case.

It had been a few months since Gao Ye turned into the Ultimate Sandworm and fled underground.

During that period of time, he had sent five experiment logs to Meng Chao’s public email.

Based on the frequency at which he sent his experiment logs, the data in his logs as well as the logic and grammar contained in the remarks in his logs, he was not in a good situation.

The monster’s neural network was invading his human consciousness. He was gradually unable to tell just what he was, and he could not use his human logic to clearly express his thoughts. It was also becoming increasingly hard for him to suppress the monster instincts deep in his genes.

He might soon turn into the Supernatural Entity that Meng Chao knew from his previous life.

Meng Chao hoped that he could use the abnormal beast research department to find the coordinates of the terminal Gao Ye used to send him the emails.

But Gao Ye’s email was buried under thousands of secret email IDs in the dark web. Even after analysing and tracing him for months, they could not determine which internet terminal he used.

However, Group 9 used another method to figure out that Gao Ye had come into contact with Lin Chuan before.

While they were at one of the abnormal beast research center's bases located in the west of the city, Ye Xiaoxing showed an extremely blurry picture to Meng Chao.

It was a screenshot from a CCTV.

The CCTV captured the scene at a spot that was rather far away. Since they had to continuously enlarge the image, the pixels became really large. The people had also been moving on the street, so their faces could not be seen clearly.

Even so, Gao Ye sat in a wheelchair and was hunchbacked, so he could be identified pretty easily.

"This is a screenshot captured by a CCTV at a crossroad in Tiger Forest Region. God knows just how much effort we spent before we finally found it," Ye Xiaoxing explained to Meng Chao. "Gao Ye is a biochemical maniac. He has always treated the lab as his home and seldom came out. Xie Xiaolei was the one who handled all business events. When it came to academic meetings, Gao Ye usually handled them through remote communication.

"He only left Spirit Creation Creatures once per month, and that was to go to the hospital for his treatment, to switch his painkiller plasma, and take care of some wounds that have been invaded by viruses or were badly rotten.

"But based on the testimonies by the hospital and Xie Xiaolei, we discovered that the timeline didn't match up. After Gao Ye left the hospital once he received treatment, he would disappear for half a day.

"With his personality, it was clearly impossible for him to enjoy a big meal alone after he was discharged. He was still single, so there was no need for him to keep a secret lover either. It was really suspicious for him to disappear for half a day, then.

"After performing deep background searches for a long time, we finally discovered this."

Ye Xiaoxing tapped an old building on the photo.

Tiger Forest Region was an old region in Dragon City. Meng Chao's house was there. Aside from a few buildings that had to either be demolished or rebuilt because they were located at subway entrances, most of the buildings were like the one in the photo—mottled and dilapidated.

Ye Xiaoxing brought out another photo.

It was taken recently, and it was a shot of the building's entrance.

A staircase was leading upstairs beside a cheap fast food restaurant. A small signboard hung there with an emblem of Earth carved into it. It was also decorated by the dove of peace and an olive branch.

Under the emblem were two words—Blue Home.

"Blue Home..." Meng Chao scratched his head. He felt like he had seen this emblem and heard its name before.

Now that he thought about it, due to the arrival of fog and lack of resources, the order at many of the residential areas were on the verge of collapse. A lot of citizens had no way to provide food and clothes for themselves while also having no shelter.

Hence, many volunteer organizations helped clear the debris, distribute food, provide free treatment and checkups to resist the plague, zombies, and monsters.

Broken Star Club was a public welfare organization that was the closest to normal citizens, so they naturally had the duty to help the citizens.

A lot of broken-star superhumans brought out their extra resources, which led to them gathering quite a lot of them. Then, as volunteers, they delivered the goods to the normal citizens.

Meng Chao had also participated a few times in volunteering. He even used the connections from Superstar to get canned food and delivered it to the citizens.

While he was doing volunteer work, he saw the emblem of Earth, the dove of peace, and the olive branch.

Blue Home was a public welfare organization, and they did a lot to help the normal citizens.

Meng Chao remembered that the volunteers in Blue Home were all young adults who were full of life and optimism.

However, he seemed to have heard of Blue Home before. It was in his previous life as well, but there, Blue Home was not just a simple public welfare organization.

Meng Chao shook his head and said, "Do you only have the screenshot from a CCTV?"

"We have three, but the clarity of the other two were even worse," Ye Xiaoxing said. "Since it's too long ago and the materials in Dragon City are not stable, all storage mediums have a hard time preserving large amounts of useless data.

"But with the testimonies from the owners of the shops in the area and the taxi drivers, we are sure that Gao Ye has been coming here once a month for at least two years, maybe three.

"He's also not the only one. There's someone else."

As Ye Xiaoxing spoke, he brought out a few more pictures.

This time, the screenshot was much clearer, and Meng Chao could recognize the main character in the photo. He stood at the entrance of the subway and was...

"Lin Chuan?"

"Yes, Weeping Reaper Lin Chuan, the one famous for staying in the wild for long periods of time. Unless it was absolutely necessary, he did come back to Dragon City. Usually, he only came back only once a month or so, and it was to talk about work with the broadcasting platforms," Ye Xiaoxing said.

"We've investigated it before. Two companies worked rather closely with Lin Chuan. One of them is located in the south of the city, and the other is in the east. They're both located far away from the spot captured by the CCTV.

“Lin Chuan’s home is in Tiger Forest Region. He was staying slightly further north from you. But I believe that you can tell at first glance that this subway is not in the same street as Blessed Heavenly Garden and Joyous Heavenly Garden. If he were really going home, he should have exited two stations prior.

“Based on the CCTV, Lin Chuan went to Exit B, and above Exit B is a gathering spot for Blue Home.”

Meng Chao sank into deep thought and mumbled, “So, Lin Chuan and Gao Ye knew each other?”

“I believe so,” Ye Xiaoxing said. “We found the two companies that have been working for a long time with Lin Chuan. We took some of the agreements he signed with them, and based on them, we can be certain when Lin Chuan came back to Dragon City. Then, we took Gao Ye’s medical reports from the hospital to determine the dates he went to the hospital every month. What do you think we discovered?”

“Basically, every time Lin Chuan returned to Dragon City, it coincided with the date Gao Ye went to the hospital for his treatment. The pictures you saw are also taken on the same day that they appeared in Blue Home.”

“This is...” Meng Chao’s mind raced.

Both Lin Chuan and Gao Ye were related to the Supernatural Entities. They had theories that were full of circular logic and seemed correct, but were actually false. However, even Meng Chao had to admit that they were very convincing theories.

If they appeared at the same time, it was clear that this was not a coincidence.

“Just what sort of organization is this Blue Home?” Meng Chao asked.

“Blue Home was set up more than ten years ago. In the beginning, it was a harmless organization that sought to preserve and spread Earth culture so that Dragon Citizens would remember their status as Earthlings,” Ye Xiaoxing said.

“Based on our investigation, in the beginning, Blue Home was formed by a group of bored scholars. At that time, Dragon City was going through a major education reformation and had to tread on the path of prioritizing cultivation.

“Language classes, geography, and history brought from Earth had less class time and their contents were vastly reduced. A lot of the teachers and scholars who could not get used to the development of the era were very displeased. They gathered together to grumble about it and help each other. This slowly formed Blue Home.

“Our home planet is a blue planet. Blue Home’s name definitely means that Dragon Citizens are to forever remember that Earth is our true home.

“They’ve never done anything out of bound, though. They just gather books, items, and video recordings from Earth, recite poems, create sandboxes of famous mountains and rivers from Earth, or dress up in the fashion of ancient Earthlings from thousands of years ago to reminisce about the glorious years of our civilization, or something like that.

“The most outrageous thing they did was to wear ancient clothes when they went to fight against the Survival Committee reducing language classes and history classes by saying something as stupid as forgetting history is betrayal.

“At that time, there were plenty of organizations like this, and Blue Home did not catch a lot of attention.”

Meng Chao nodded.

After transmigrating for fifty-seven years, Dragon City was still unable to cut off its ties with its home planet.

Besides, the humans who were born in the Other World longed for the home planet because of its peace and quiet, its beautiful world, its vast pool of resources, and how everyone could enjoy a peaceful life there.

Even to this day, there were still a lot of non-governmental societies that dreamed about the beautiful lives on their home planet.

There were also a lot of Earth museums and Earth clubs that used items from Earth and where the members dressed in ancient clothes. The club members used all sorts of light effects to make the people forget about their troubles in the Other World and feel like they had returned to Earth, which was practically heaven to them.

Ye Xiaoxing continued, “But around four or five years ago, Blue Home merged with the Home Party. Meng Chao, you know about the Home Party, right?”

Meng Chao nodded. “Yeah.”

The Home Party was also known as the Return Party. They were the party standing against the main party—the Colonization Party.

They firmly believed that with Dragon City’s strength, it was impossible for them to conquer the Other World, and even if they managed to win the colonization war, Dragon City would be spread out and corrupted by the Other World. Their societal system and civilization would be twisted into... something a true Earthling would never be able to accept.

Compared to colonizing the Other World, it was more important for them to develop transmigration technology and obtain contact with their home planet.

As for their main plan, the Home Party was against endless expansion. In fact, they wanted to form an impenetrable defense line made of firm walls around Dragon City. Humans could then stay inside and gather all resources while they leisurely developed transmigration technology. They believed that they could open up the tunnel connecting the Other World and Earth and would be able to obtain the support of billions of Earthlings.

That would be the perfect time to conquer the Other World.

They had beautiful plans, but unfortunately, up to the moment the apocalypse arrived in Meng Chao’s previous life, the development of transmigration technology was still a dream, and it was nowhere near being brought to reality.

Chapter 357: Home Rises

Ye Xiaoxing continued, “The members of Blue Home were originally a bunch of nostalgic old geezers who had a lot of complaints. They gathered together only to recite poems from Earth and admire movies made on Earth. They didn’t cause much of a ruckus.

“But the Home Party is different. Its members are mostly explorers and developers of transmigration technology. Even if it’s impossible to develop controllable transmigration for the time being, they’ve mastered a lot of runic symbols and spirit energy magnetic fields through their research, and they’re continuously increasing their realms and fighting power.

“Also, once the Home Party’s plan becomes something workable, they will build a super defense line around Dragon City that is even more amazing than the Maginot Line. All of Dragon City will then turn into an impenetrable fortress.

“If they build a defense line and fortress, they will definitely end up gathering a lot of interest from groups with industries related to it, and countless machine masters and engineers will earn a living through them.

“Since this will be a conflict of interests, it will be much more brutal than a competition of ideals. The parties involved will also be much firmer in their stances.

“A lot of developers of controllable transmigration, architects of fortresses, machine masters, engineers, and experts as well as elites from various industries have joined Blue Home. This quickly turned this organization from an ununited and useless club used only to reminisce about the times on Earth into an organization with its own ideals, interests, and strengths.

“Originally, the Colonization Party had absolute advantage in Dragon City, and the Home Party kept a relatively low profile when it came to their activities. Blue Home never caused much of a ruckus either. They just invited the developers of controllable transmigration to organize lectures, machine masters and engineers to share their experiences at creating defense lines, and talked about Earth’s culture.

“However, over the past year, more Dragon Citizens, especially normal citizens, started leaning toward the Home Party, and Blue Home started growing.”

“Yeah...” Meng Chao thought about it. “Recently, I saw a lot of posts online agreeing with the Home Party, and when on the streets, I often see people handing out leaflets related to the ideals of the Home Party. There are also people from my residential area talking about it. They want to build the tallest and thickest wall to surround Dragon City.

“Even my mother mentioned that since our lives are getting better, there’s no need for Dragon City to conquer the Other World. The Other World is big, and it might have existences that are even more terrifying than monsters. She is wondering when all the fighting will come to an end. All that conquering and colonization may just make the citizens suffer.”

Ye Xiaoxing smiled a little helplessly. “That’s right. There are only a handful of people who are fighting maniacs. The superhumans may long for battle, because it’s only by fighting that they can get extra resources and reach higher levels, but to normal citizens, peace is the most valuable thing.

“In the past, Dragon City had been adamant about conquering the Other World. In truth, it was the motivator for all the citizens to keep their spirits up, because the city faced a life and death crisis. So, by saying that, they could set the most idealized goal.

“At that time, Dragon City was disorganized, and we didn’t enjoy peace. Our civilization was about to be destroyed. If we didn’t use grand ideals to motivate the people and look down on our enemies with strategies, we wouldn’t have been able to last until today.

“Do you think that the higher-ups of the Survival Committee and the Supernatural Tower don’t know how hard it is to conquer all of the Other World with just one city? The monsters are already so terrifying, so if the Other World locals have intelligence and their own civilization, they will definitely be even more terrifying. They know this very well. They can also calculate just how great of a price Dragon City would have to pay and how many people would have to die if they really tried to conquer all of the Other World.

“The higher-ups know it far too well.

“But they have no choice. When Dragon City faced its life and death crisis, only the slogan of conquering the Other World could motivate the people and make them advance toward death with a smile. They couldn’t say, ‘The Other World is too big and terrifying. Even if we kill all the monsters, enemies who are even fiercer than monsters will pop up.’ If they did, morale would crumble instantly.”

Meng Chao had thought about this problem before.

Humans were only able to survive when they had something to look forward to. It was the same thing for a civilization.

“Conquering the Other World has always been the hope of Dragon City. But the situation is different now,” Ye Xiaoxing said. “After we obtained victory at the northern frontlines and all sorts of new martial arts, secret techniques, machines, runic symbols, and technology were born, including the Ultimate Style, Dragon City seems to have won the Monster War.

“Now, it only needs to expand itself over the Monster Mountain Range and use the mountain range’s natural barrier to form a super defense line. This is something that is absolutely possible.

“As long as we expand our survival space four or five times, we will be able to solve the problem of Dragon City’s lack of space and lack of resources. As for searching for a consumer market for the extra production power in Dragon City? That’s another problem. It might not need full-on war to be solved.

“Let me put it simply. In the past, Dragon City had nothing. When we fight with nothing to our name, we always win, because we have nothing to lose. So naturally, everyone supported the slogan.

“Right now, however, Dragon City has entered a new area. We have forward operating bases in all four cardinal directions, and there’s a good chance of welcoming a peace among us, which means that we have a lot of opinions now. The people are starting to wonder whether we should stop and be content so that we can keep a firm hold on the home that we spent a lot of effort to get.

“Don’t forget, it’s not as if we have no exit. We have Earth behind us. Going back to Earth has been the dream for generations of people. Who knows whether controllable transmigration will be developed tomorrow?”

Meng Chao opened his mouth to say 'But controllable transmigration might not be developed even after one hundred years have passed', but then changed his mind.

When he thought about it, he found that the more accurate statement would be 'Without my interference, controllable transmigration was never developed even when the apocalypse arrived in my previous life.'

Changes had occurred because of him in this life. They obtained full victory in the northern frontlines, and controllable transmigration had always been regarded with great importance, so the whole city researched this problem. With their success in other areas, it would also obtain a lot of research funds and resources. He wondered whether one day he would see the tunnel that connects the Other World and Earth.

If it were possible, Meng Chao would want to return to Earth as well.

And he would do it with his parents and little sister. They could go back to the home planet none of them had seen before but dreamed of and which occupied their thoughts constantly.

They would go to a world that was as beautiful as heaven and live carefree and peaceful lives.

"With Blue Home as its leader, many of the Home Party organizations rose up in Dragon City," Ye Xiaoxing said. "People from all sorts of backgrounds joined them, and it changed the nature of these organizations further.

"Over the past half a year, Blue Home has become more extreme. Not only do they want to build a defense line around Dragon City, they also want more resources put into the development of controllable transmigration. They're also asking for the limitation on the power of high-grade superhumans, the division of the nine great mega corporations, the shrinking of the difference between normal people and superhumans, stricter monitoring standards over the superhumans who have great destructive powers, and fairer distribution methods of crystals, spirit energy, superbeast materials, and other tactical resources.

"In any case, they're saying the same things as Lin Chuan and Gao Ye. It's those things like 'Demonic Halberd Pigs and Nine-headed Crystal Dragons are not the same kind.', 'normal people must have the power to keep superhumans in check.'"

Meng Chao pondered over this. "Are you saying that Lin Chuan and Gao Ye found their ideals in Blue Home?"

"At the very least, I believe they were influenced by Blue Home," Ye Xiaoxing said. "If they were just exchanging ideas and using lawful methods to push for reformation and improvement in Dragon City, that would not be a problem.

"However, we're worried that there are abnormal beasts lurking in Blue Home and using secret mind techniques to plant dangerous seeds in human brains so that they become more extreme and frenzied. It then makes them walk down completely different paths compared to their real ideals.

"Lin Chuan and Gao Ye's ideals might have had merit, but they chose paths that doomed them for eternity. It's hard for me to say whether it could have happened without the influence of abnormal beasts."

Meng Chao nodded.

“The White Spirit wasn’t modified by Lin Chuan and Gao Ye didn’t help him create it either. It must have some connection with the satellite cities in the fog.

“So, we must figure out the true identity of Blue Home and what their core ideals are. We need to know what sort of methods they plan to use to carry out their ideals and whether the abnormal beasts are playing tricks behind their backs.”

Ye Xiaoxing tapped the table lightly and said, “Meng Chao, are you interested in joining Blue Home?”

Meng Chao was a little taken aback. “What?”

“We need someone we can trust to join Blue Home and investigate the organization,” Ye Xiaoxing said. “Even though Blue Home has public activities and has been mobilizing a lot of manpower to help the citizens who lost their homes so that they can seize the chance to spread the ideals of the Home Party, what they spread publicly are just the same old things. They’re just talking about building a super defense line and developing transmigration technology. It’s impossible for us to figure out the full extent of their thoughts.

“We’ve thought about sending some good investigators over to enter the internal circle of Blue Home, but our investigators have received too much professional training and are just too much like secret agents. Besides, before we joined the abnormal beast research department, most of us were part of the army, secret police, and other disciplinary forces. It would be very easy for them to figure out that our investigators are from the abnormal beast research department if they look into our background.

“Siya is also interested in the mission. But she’s an official member of the abnormal beast research department and also part of the nine great mega corporations. Since she is from Sky Pillar Corporation, it’d be difficult for her to obtain Blue Home’s trust.

“As we thought about it, we found that you’re the best candidate.”

Meng Chao thought about it for a while and asked, “Why?”

“First, you’re not an official member of the abnormal beast research department. Even if they figure out that you have been working closely with us recently, that’s fine. A good citizen has the duty to work with the disciplinary organizations, anyway,” Ye Xiaoxing said.

“Second, you’re still a university student. Even though you’re not a normal university student, they’ll most likely lower their guard around you.

“Third, you had a very good relationship with Lin Chuan. Everyone knows that you’re the Weeping Reaper’s junior, and Gao Ye also admired you. Even now, he is still sending you his experiment logs. I believe that this shows that Lin Chuan and Gao Ye thought that you agree with Blue Home’s ideals and may become one of them.

“Fourth, you’re the club leader of Broken Star Club. Based on what I know, many of the broken-star superhumans have joined Broken Star Club and Blue Home. If there is anyone in Blue Home who is coveting your large number of connections, they will definitely think of a way to recruit you.”

Chapter 358: Lost Person

The Broken Star Club was not a secret organization with a really strict structure.

Meng Chao had said himself, "The members of the Broken Star Club are not that much different compared to members of broadcasting platforms or supermarkets."

A broken-star superhuman could join more than ten similar organizations at the same time if they wanted.

Even if there was really a broken-star superhuman who joined the Broken Star Club and Blue Home at the same time and was enthralled by the abnormal beasts lurking in Blue Home, the fault would never be on the Broken Star Club's head.

However, Meng Chao was indeed interested in Blue Home.

Lin Chuan was his senior and good friend. He also saved Meng Chao a few times when they were under Raging Waves.

Gao Ye might not be close to him, but based on how sincerely they spoke with each other and the remarks he left behind in his experiment logs, he was not the Supernatural Entity from Meng Chao's previous life. That creature was pure evil, incredibly ruthless, and only knew how to destroy things.

Meng Chao really wanted to know how the two men were influenced by Blue Home and walked down the road to the abyss.

The only problem was...

"But how can I join Blue Home?" Meng Chao asked. "I can't just go to their headquarters and ask to join, right?"

"Of course you shouldn't do it so crudely." Ye Xiaoxing brought out another picture and tapped the head of the person in it. "This person is Zhao Feixuan. Based on our investigations, he's a core member of Blue Home. He's also a mutual friend of Lin Chuan and Gao Ye. We've noticed that he has exchanged emails with Lin Chuan and Gao Ye. Of course, there's nothing that stands out from the emails."

"Zhao Feixuan?" Meng Chao found this name a little familiar.

It was a familiarity that caused his heart to jump in fear.

He went over to take a closer look. The photo had a machine master with broad shoulders and a thick waist. He swung a multi-function machine arm and wore a uniform that had dozens of pockets. The uniform was covered in grease. Since it was already washed so many times that its colors were beginning to fade away, he looked a little sloppy.

The face of the person wearing the uniform was handsome and honorable. Even if there were wrinkles on his face, Meng Chao could still admit that he was handsome. The grease on his cheeks brought out his pearly white teeth, and he smiled really brilliantly.

Meng Chao was silent for a while. Since he did not know any Zhao Feixuan in this life, it meant that this was a name he had heard in his previous life.

Countless memories fragments danced like crystalline butterflies in the depths of his mind.

Meng Chao's consciousness was like a nimble tentacle that moved past those memory butterflies.

"Twelve years ago, Zhao Feixuan graduated from the University of Technology's machine course with flying colors and became an outstanding machine master. Later on, he joined the Red Dragon Army and developed weapons for a period of time. He's especially good at creating defense-based weapons, such as machine gun towers, electromagnetic towers, and chained minefields," Ye Xiaoxing introduced him.

"He can be considered to have extraordinary talent when it comes to developing weapons. Many of the defense-type weapons that he developed or modified are still being used at the frontlines and many of the residential areas.

"But after a few years of research and development, he felt that pure research in the field of machines can't show any essential breakthroughs. Hence, he became interested in researching runic symbols.

"He passed Runic Symbol Master Shi Xunmo's test and became his youngest disciple. Later, he showed that he was his best disciple too.

"He has both talent in machines and runic symbols, so he stood out very quickly among Master Shi's disciples. He's believed to be the person with the greatest qualifications to inherit Master Shi's legacy.

"But Zhao Feixuan was from a poor family. He didn't have a strong background, so in the end, Master Shi handed his legacy and the runic symbol workshop to his own son.

"It seems like Zhao Feixuan's relationship with Master Shi went sour because of this. Even though they didn't end up as enemies, they're like strangers now.

"Zhao Feixuan soon left Master Shi's runic symbol workshop and the Red Dragon Army. He joined the Standard Firepower Security Company, which sets up defense systems for the various residential areas in Dragon City.

"He's a machine master and a runic symbol master. He also has experience in creating defense lines and fortresses for the military. So, it's natural that he would be very familiar with creating defense systems for normal residential areas as well.

"Over the past few years, Standard Firepower has set up the defense lines of at least twenty-three middle-grade and high-end residential areas.

"Zhao Feixuan made use of his outstanding talent to become a high-ranking manager and partner of Standard Firepower. Now, he's the vice president of the company and is in charge of the daily tasks of their business."

Meng Chao rubbed the photo gently.

After he heard Ye Xiaoxing's introductions, the image of a business elite with outstanding aura popped up in his head.

But why was it that the alarm bells in his head were ringing even louder?

Suddenly, Meng Chao's pupils shrank, and he shuddered.

He remembered now. He remembered just who Zhao Feixuan was in his previous life.

He was a lost person!

After Dragon City transmigrated to the Other World, they faced three types of threats. The first was zombies. The second was the monsters. The third was the superhumans who used their superpowers to bully the weak and enslave their own kind. They were evil superhumans who refused to be bound by the law and morals and rejected the might of the Survival Committee and the Supernatural Tower.

There were actually quite a lot of evil superhumans.

But due to understandable reasons, the Survival Committee and the Supernatural Tower were both unwilling to paint the evil superhumans in an overly terrifying light. They also did not want the normal citizens to realize the truth that compared to superhumans, normal people were just chickens waiting for slaughter.

“Superhumans are the weapons of human civilization. When their minds are awake, they are definitely the guardians of all humans, not the assailants and slave masters.”

This was something the Survival Committee and Supernatural Tower unanimously agreed on.

But unfortunately, the superhumans did not always remain alert. All sorts of reasons led to superhumans falling into the darkness and turning into demons.

One of the examples was excess spirit energy crashing into a person’s brain, which sent them into spirit energy deviation.

Another example was someone gaining all sorts of PTSD symptoms after facing multiple monsters skilled in mind attacks. The monsters would target their cerebral cortexes viciously, and their mental strength indices would fall to zero.

Yet one more example was someone being controlled by abnormal beasts.

The Supernatural Tower refused to admit that people who had walked down the evil path were still superhumans. Instead, they put their names in another list and gave them another name—lost people.

The meaning behind it was that they had lost their sense of self in the spirit energy storm. It was not their intention to kill, perform arson, or do something even crazier. They were also not related to other superhumans.

Naturally, the Supernatural Tower was only content after it killed all the lost people.

The main targets of the adjudicator court were the lost people. Most of them received their due judgment soon after they broke the law.

But a handful of lost people were able to flee into places like Golden Tooth Lair. They relied on all sorts of lawless organizations and used the safety of a large number of normal citizens as their leverage to run around in circles with the adjudicator court.

Some of the really audacious, ruthless, and eccentric lost people even swaggered around and committed crimes with a straight face despite being hunted by the adjudicator court.

In resignation, the adjudicator court could only announce a bounty rank for these lost people.

Meng Chao was able to remember Zhao Feixuan because in his previous life, this person was an infamous criminal. He had risen to the top ten lost people rank based on bounties offered by the adjudicator court, and his infamy was unmatched by others!

“Hiss...” Meng Chao gritted his teeth while enduring the pain when information rushed out from the depths of his brain.

The mottled images before his eyes turned into clear information, and he remembered everything.

In his previous life, Zhao Feixuan had killed a lot of higher ups and researchers of core projects.

Since he was a machine master and a runic symbol master and had also participated in the design and setting up of defense systems of a lot of residential areas and important facilities, he could also be considered a machine expert.

The organization he was attached to could be used to fend against monster invasions, but it could also help him kill without leaving a trace.

All he needed was a screwdriver, and he could change the target of a few machine gun towers and electromagnetic towers.

He could also turn tools, facilities, household appliances, and even spirit energy pipes that could be seen everywhere into powerful killing machines.

His methods surpassed those of assassins, and he practically became a God of Death!

But Meng Chao could not quite remember why Zhao Feixuan suddenly started murdering people when he was a higher-up in a company with a bright future.

Could it be that he was the same as Lin Chuan and Gao Ye and was bewitched by an abnormal beast too?

After thinking about it, Meng Chao said, “Since this Zhao Feixuan is connected to Lin Chuan and Gao Ye and is also a core member of Blue Home, we should capture him quickly.”

Ye Xiaoxing sighed in resignation/ “We can’t do that. Knowing Lin Chuan and Gao Ye is not a crime. Joining Blue Home is not a crime. Spreading the ideals of the Home Party and going against the idea of colonizing the Other World is not a crime too.

“We don’t have proof that Zhao Feixuan enticed Lin Chuan and Gao Ye with his words. Standard Firepower is also a very famous company in the industry. There are also a lot of leaders from the Home Party among the core members of Blue Home. They’re people with their own businesses, and they’re all famous.

“There are also people who are participating in the development of controllable transmigration among them. The research department and the adjudicator court might be able to act first before we make any reports, but we can’t do anything to these people.

“Got it.” Meng Chao was silent for a while before he asked, “So, how should I get closer to Zhao Feixuan?”

Ye Xiaoxing took out a photo and handed it over.

Meng Chao cast a glance at it and his eyebrows shot up. “Ms. Xiao?”

“You should know this woman.”

“Yeah. She’s... Xiao Fanghua, a teacher in a school located in the south of the city. She’s also one of the first members of the Broken Star Club.” Meng Chao recalled her very easily. “During the first few months, she came frequently to the Broken Star Club and often asked me for advice on how to cultivate branch meridians. Since her talent is high, she improved very quickly. She should soon become a two-star superhuman.

“But for some reason, over the past few months, she has seldom appeared. Even so, we’re quite close privately. After the fog descended, she approached me a few times online and bought a batch of sandworm meat cans through me. Then, in the name of the Broken Star Club, donated them to the citizens who are in trouble.”

“Xiao Fanghua is Zhao Feixuan’s wife,” Ye Xiaoxing said. “Now, do you understand why I said that you’re the best person to carry out this mission?”

Chapter 359: Spending a Huge Amount of Money

Meng Chao had a pretty good image of Ms. Xiao.

He remembered that she was a smart and passionate woman.

Perhaps it was because she was a teacher, she was really good at teaching. She had once helped Meng Chao compile some of the skills and cultivation methods of the Ultimate Style into a small booklet that was easy to understand so that the broken-star superhumans who did not receive a lot of education could learn from it.

If it were not because she was too busy with her daily tasks as a teacher, did not have a lot of time to serve the Broken Star Club, and had tactfully declined the offer, she would have been elected as a director of the Broken Star Club with support from many members.

Meng Chao did not expect that her husband would be one of the ten great lost people in the Dragon City of his previous life.

When he thought about it, Zhao Feixuan should not have started committing any crimes yet. He wondered whether he could stop the man in time.

“Three days latter, there will be a large volunteer event at Temporary Shelter No.15, which is located in the east of the city. Broken Star Club, Blue Home, and five other public welfare organizations have registered for the event. At that time, we will arrange for the Broken Star Club to be together with Blue Home,” Ye Xiaoxing said. “You don’t have to do anything. When you see Xiao Fanghua, just greet her. I believe that Zhao Feixuan has long since known about you through his wife.

“You’re Lin Chuan’s junior, and you once livestreamed with him online. You’re also an alumni of Gao Ye. It’s not a secret that Superstar worked together with Spirit Creation Creatures either. If Zhao Feixuan and Blue Home are really interested in you, he will definitely take the initiative to approach you.

“If he doesn’t approach you on his own, that’s fine. We’ll think of some other method.”

Meng Chao thought about it and asked, “What if Zhao Feixuan contacts me on his own? Should I sneak into Blue Home and search for evidence of their crimes?”

“Stop. It’s not as dangerous as you think it is.” Ye Xiaoxing did not know whether he should laugh or cry. “We’re not filming a spy movie here. You’re not an official member of the abnormal beast research department, either. We don’t want to put you in danger.

“Don’t take the initiative to do anything. If they ask you to join Blue Home’s activities, you should join them honestly, but keep your eyes and ears open to what’s happening around you. If they want to recruit you and make you a core member of Blue Home, don’t be reckless. You just need to make sure what they want to do.

“I believe that Blue Home has a lot of professionals and leaders in the business field supporting them. Their core activities may not be strictly within the law, but they can’t flaunt it blatantly.

“If you must do something, pretend that you agree to the ideals of Blue Home. That’ll be enough. But don’t act too passionate about it, or it’ll have the opposite effect.

“Of course, if you really do passionately believe in the ideals of Blue Home, that’s fine too. In fact, it’d be great.”

Meng Chao’s eyebrows shot up. “Even if... I believe them like Lin Chuan and Gao Ye? Is that fine too?”

“That’s fine,” Ye Xiaoxing said seriously. “Lin Chuan and Gao Ye’s ideals weren’t crimes. Dragon City is at the center of a storm right now and we’re facing an unprecedented era. Before us are countless forks that are as complicated as a maze. No one knows just which path leads to a truly bright future.

“The politicians in the Survival Committee and the peddlers all have the right to think about the path that leads to a bright future. I believe that not even God knows whose version of the future is the correct one.

“Perhaps some parts of Lin Chuan and Gao Ye’s thoughts are correct. But that’s not important.

“We’re the abnormal beast research department, not a thought research department. We don’t care what sort of ideals you uphold or if you’re bewitched or controlled by abnormal beasts.

“Our goal is to cast a long line and catch the abnormal beasts. We don’t want to just catch humans who are bewitched by abnormal beasts.”

Meng Chao nodded with a contemplative expression.

Ye Xiaoxing continued, “As long as you don’t act recklessly, this mission shouldn’t be dangerous. But I have to give you a reminder.

“After Lin Chuan and Gao Ye’s cases, you must have become the abnormal beasts’ target. I don’t think that the abnormal beasts will kill you directly, but they might think of a way to bewitch and control you so that you’ll turn into the next Lin Chuan or Gao Ye.

“Gao Ye has been incessantly sending you experiment logs, and that might be one of the methods the abnormal beasts are using to bewitch you.

“So, even though we really want to know the situation in Blue Home, you have the right to refuse it, because once you are deep in Blue Home, no one can guarantee that you won’t be bewitched by the abnormal beasts. If you turn out like Lin Chuan or Gao Ye, we can’t guarantee that we will be able to turn you back.”

“I won’t reject it,” Meng Chao said firmly. “If I become the abnormal beasts’ target and they wish to bewitch me, they can do it anytime, can’t they? Instead of being caught off guard and hypnotized by them, it would be better for me to just jump into their nest. At the very least, I’ll know what I’ll be facing.”

Ye Xiaoxing smiled and brought out a memory card, which he handed over to him.

Meng Chao’s heart skipped a beat. “What is this?”

“Your reward. You’re not an official member of the abnormal beast research department, so we can’t give you a salary and insurance. But when you carry out missions for us, we have to give you rewards,” Ye Xiaoxing explained.

“That anonymous donor is very pleased with the progress of your cultivation. They believe that since you’re now a three-star superhuman, you should try practicing higher-level martial arts. This card has a few spirit energy magnetic field diagrams the donor customized for you based on the status of your cultivation. If you can master them and really run into danger, you will be able to hold back the danger for a while, until reinforcements arrive.”

“The donor customized killing moves for me?”

Even if Meng Chao had already known that the mysterious donor who supported the development of the Broken Star Club was a peerless fighter ranked among the top five in Dragon City, he was still shocked by the large donation.

Spirit energy and runic symbol cultivation had been developed for more than half a century. While it was not perfect, it had still evolved to the point that it was pretty well-developed.

Right now, they were no longer in the era where the powerful fighters could create brand new spirit energy magnetic fields just by looking at the wide sky and gaining epiphanies from it.

Even veteran fighters and researchers like Gu Jianbo and Li Yingzi had to accumulate a lot of experimental data and work hard for a long time to create one or two brand new spirit energy magnetic fields, but even those might not be usable in real fights.

But this mysterious donor had CASUALLY created a few brand new spirit energy magnetic fields for Meng Chao?

Meng Chao felt a little overwhelmed.

“May I thank this anonymous donor personally?” he asked.

“It’s not necessary for the time being. But I believe that once you reach Heaven Realm, you will definitely have the chance to receive guidance face-to-face from this anonymous donor.” Ye Xiaoxing said with a smile. “Aside from your personal cultivation progress, the anonymous donor is also very satisfied with the development of the Broken Star Club.

“Until now, the broken-star superhumans were a sleeping force. Now, they’ve woken up because of the Ultimate Style and long to stand on larger stages.

“It’s impossible for this strength to be overlooked for a long time. If the Broken Star Club didn’t bring them together, they might have been attracted by organizations like Blue Home.

“The anonymous donor believes that in your hands, the Broken Star Club will definitely be able to contribute more to Dragon City’s future.”

“Of course, I’ll do it,” Meng Chao said firmly.

Three days later, Meng Chao was at Temporary Shelter No.15, which was in the east of the city.

When he looked over, he saw large gray and silver inflatable tents at the perimeter of the shelter. The center had simple sheds with three or four levels. Between the tents and sheds were narrow paths filled with moving crowds.

Tens of thousands of citizens who lost their homes had gathered here for the time being. Since they lacked water, they could not bathe, and the trash from their daily lives piled up into mountains. The air in the shelter had a vivid stench.

The old homes of these citizens were either destroyed by monsters who corroded them with acid so much that they were swaying and about to collapse at any moment or poisoned until they were unlivable.

Dragon City had relatively advanced construction skills. It was not difficult for them to remove debris and build a few buildings again.

The problem was that the ground was corroded by acid and held poison as well, and the combination of the two attracted pests. They spread all sorts of fatal plagues, including zombie virus.

If the city did not handle it and built new buildings on the ruins, once the citizens moved into these places, they would contract all sorts of diseases or even be bitten by rats. Then, the possibility of them turning into zombies would be five times or ten times higher than the average.

Hence, aside from clearing the debris, they also had to dig three to five meters of earth and rock strata to disinfect and purify it.

Based on the level of corrosion, the purification process took from around three months to half a year.

And with the time needed to build and furnish the buildings, the citizens would need to wait at least a year before they could live in the new houses. But this was an estimate made when the Survival Committee had a sufficient budget for reconstruction and did not run into any large-scale monster invasions.

Everyone knew that the Survival Committee's budget was never enough. There was not a year when Dragon City did not face a monster invasion.

Hence, no one knew just when the citizens living in tents and simple sheds could live in new houses. It was one of the reasons behind why the citizens in Golden Tooth Lair never left the lair and lived in new houses.

Meng Chao called Qin Hu over and brought a few built broken-star superhumans to bring out boxes of canned food and drinkable water.

He had participated in more than ten such volunteer events, so he was already familiar with the process.

It did not matter to him whether he earned contribution points from it. The main point was that most of the residential areas taken down by the monsters were similar to Blessed Heavenly Garden. They had not been maintained for years and were all old residential areas with relatively weak defense systems.

On that day, it happened to some other residential area, but the next day, Blessed Heavenly Garden might meet the same fate. When he saw the citizens who had lost their homes, Meng Chao always sympathized with them. If he did not do something to help them, his consciousness would scream at him.

Meng Chao and Qin Hu handed the canned food and drinkable water to the citizens.

He also helped check whether the citizens had tiny wounds. After a fog descent, even the scratches and bites from pests were not minor matters. The pests carried fatal viruses and could turn humans into zombies at any moment.

Soon, Meng Chao saw volunteers with Blue Home's emblem working in an area near them. They were all young adults full of passion. Their eyes were bright, and they worked with gusto; they did not care that the place stank or that it was messy. They were really serving the citizens.

"Club Leader Meng?"

Suddenly, Meng Chao heard Xiao Fanghua's delighted cry.

Chapter 360: As Long As We Have Hope

When Meng Chao turned around to look, he saw a woman in her thirties with a full figure.

She had a baby face that was always smiling. If it were not for the wrinkles at the corners of her eyes and lips, people would mistake her for a girl who had just graduated from university. At that moment, she carried a rather large and heavy wooden box in her hands. There was a Blue Home's emblem on her arm.

When she saw Meng Chao staring at the emblem on her arm, Xiao Fanghua's face turned red. She explained herself with slight embarrassment.

"Club Leader Meng, I'm really sorry for not showing up in the club for the past few months. It's just that I've been too busy with work. When the fog descended, a group of monsters snuck into a school in the east of the city and destroyed the entire place. Many of the teachers sacrificed their lives to protect the students living in the school..."

“Over the past few months, I’ve been teaching at my own school in the south during the day, and at night, I come with my colleagues to teach the children here. I just don’t have the time to come to the club. Honestly, I have a few questions regarding cultivation that I would like to ask you! As for this...”

She swung her arm to show off her emblem. “My husband is a member of Blue Home. He also has an event here today, so I came here to help him.”

“It’s fine, Ms. Xiao,” Meng Chao said. “You don’t have to tell me this. The Broken Star Club is similar to Blue Home. In any case, it’s fine as long as we all help the people.”

“Also, please stop calling me Club Leader Meng. The members developed the Broken Star Club together, and I didn’t do much. We’re not at the club, either, and you’re older than I am. You’re even a teacher. You can just call me Little Meng or Meng Chao.”

“That won’t do.” Xiao Fanghua barely suppressed her laughter. “Aren’t you calling me Ms. Xiao?”

Meng Chao thought about it and went along with the flow. “Big Sis Xiao!”

“Well then, I won’t be so polite with you anymore, Meng Chao.” Xiao Fanghua grinned and approached him. “Speaking of which, I’ve been wanting to go to the club to look for you, Meng Chao. There are a few academic questions I’d like to ask you.”

“Oh? Please, go on, Big Sis Ya.”

Xiao Fanghua’s face turned red, and she whispered, “I’m pregnant. I’m three months along now. Can I still continue practicing the Ultimate Style?”

“Is that so? Congratulations! That’s great!”

‘It’s no wonder why I thought Ms. Xiao is... rounder than a few months ago,’ Meng Chao quietly thought to himself.

He was sincerely happy for Xiao Fanghua.

But when he thought about it, Ms. Xiao’s child would be the blood of Zhao Feixuan, one of the ten great lost people of the future Dragon City.

His expression turned a little strange when he thought about that. To hide it, he cleared his throat and grabbed the big wooden box from Xiao Fanghua’s hands.

It was rather heavy, so he curiously asked, “What is this?”

“Teaching tools for the children. They’re simulation models of guns and monsters,” Xiao Fanghua said.

“Meng Chao, I’ll do it. I’m over the three month mark now, so I’ll be fine.”

“It’s fine. We’re just distributing canned food and drinkable water, anyway. I’m not necessary there. I’d like to see the children in the class with you.” While walking alongside her, he asked, “So, you didn’t come to the club because you’re pregnant?”

Xiao Fanghua’s cheeks turned red, and she said, “Honestly, I’m not that fragile. But it’s the first time my husband will become a father. When he heard that I’m pregnant, he was so happy that his head stopped functioning.”

“He treats me like I’m made of glass and thinks that I’ll break if I fall on the floor. He’s even worried that I’ll crack when he holds me. Forget about practicing the Ultimate Style, he even wants me to immediately resign from being a teacher and just stay at home to take care of the child.

“I’ve argued with him a few times, saying that the girls in Dragon City aren’t as fragile as the women on Earth. Even when hearing the roars of monsters, we will still give birth to our children, and when they’re born, they won’t be missing even a single finger.

“After I used everything at my disposal to persuade him, he finally agreed to let me go to work and organize these classes. But I have to take a step back and set aside practicing the Ultimate Style for the time being.

“Now, I’m over the first three months. The doctor said that the baby is strong and stable. There shouldn’t be any problems with me going through basic training. I don’t care about what my husband says anymore. Meng Chao, the Ultimate Style cultivates the branch meridians, and it’s a neutral and peaceful cultivation method. It should be fine for the baby, right?”

“Um...” Meng Chao was stumped by this question. He thought about it and said, “Big Sis Xiao, don’t be in a hurry to go back to high-intensity training yet. Let me go back and ask my tutor. We’ve never encountered pregnant ladies who wish to practice the Ultimate Style before you.

“Even though the Ultimate Style is a relatively gentle cultivation method, we use bioelectricity to stimulate the spirit meridians. I don’t know if we need to make some minor adjustments in terms of the strength of the shock and the formula of the gene medicine. After all, the baby’s vitality magnetic field will overlap with the mother’s vitality magnetic field.”

They chatted like that while they walked. In a while, they reached the depths of the shelter.

The tents were all connected with each other over here, and there were more than five citizens in each tent. Since there were no spots for them to hang their laundry, they could only place their clothes, sheets, and washed bandages on the paths between the tents for them to dry. Meng Chao and Xiao Fanghua had to occasionally lower their heads to move past the clothes, and they felt like they were moving through a complicated maze.

The citizens staying in the tents were not in a very good mental state.

When the fog descended, most of them came under mind attacks and saw really terrifying scenes. Their mental strength indices had fallen to the point where they were at the verge of breaking down.

Even after resting for a lot of days, many people still had bloodshot eyes. There were also people with fearful and confused expressions. It was as if they were still trapped in the nightmare of that night and could not remove themselves from it.

Besides, the environment here was bad. The air was foul, and many people had their nerves high strung. Their negative emotions spread to others as rapidly as viruses.

Meng Chao looked in through the gaps in the tents and saw a lot of families that were similar to one another.

Most of the women held a handful of items they had managed to save from their old homes. Their expressions were numb while they mumbled under their breaths. It seemed like they were recalling the beautiful moments in the past.

The men were like fighting dogs with bombs strapped to their backs. The smallest conflict turned into a bloody fight.

Many people ended up in fights even though they did not really hate each other. They were just venting their despair, because they did not know when they could live in new houses and return to their normal lives.

While they were moving through the area, Meng Chao had already seen three fights, and he whispered to Xiao Fanghua, "The citizens here are in a really bad psychological state, huh?"

"Anyone in their place wouldn't be in a good mental state." Xiao Fanghua smiled wanly. "With the help from the Survival Committee, the Supernatural Tower, and many public welfare organizations, the citizens can finally settle down. If they don't crave tasty food, we can supply them with the synthesized food and recycled drinkable water. We can still satisfy their basic needs.

"But humans are never satisfied with just being able to survive. Many of the citizens didn't bring anything when they fled in haste, and all the valuable stuff is still in their homes. It was burnt or corroded by monsters.

"A lot of the residential areas and factory areas were damaged badly, so they lost their jobs too. The Survival Committee has arranged them to clear the debris, level the ground outside the city, dig trenches, or develop Dragon City.

"But these jobs can be done by large runic symbol machines and the army, and they'd be more efficient at them too. Letting the citizens do these things is just the government granting relief to the citizens by giving them employment.

"It doesn't give them a lot of money, though. They're just able to get a few more nutritious food cans for their families or some drinkable water that has been recycled fewer times."

Meng Chao nodded and sighed.

"Honestly, the adults can still overcome this. Once the difficult times end, they could go out and look for work slowly. The problem is the children."

Xiao Fanghua was never able to move the conversation away from her work. "Many of the children who lost their homes are adolescents, and it's their golden cultivation period. If they don't seize the chance to build their foundation, it'll be very hard for them to awaken to supernatural abilities in the future.

"There are dozens of third year middle school students in the classes we organize. They're going to take their high school entrance examinations next year.

"The school they originally studied in was normal. The teaching resources there weren't great and their cultivation machines were only decent, so only a few of them could get into First High School, Second High School, or Construction High.

“But now, the school and all the cultivation machines have been destroyed. Many of the teachers also died during the fog.

“Even though the government has mobilized a batch of teachers to come to the shelter to form a temporary school, the teaching space and cultivation resources here aren’t satisfactory.

“Besides, there are pests in the shelter. Viruses often bring trouble and zombies causing havoc. Full-on disinfection of the area has to be conducted often, so there’s no way that the children can learn like other normal students during the day.

“We can only give them extra classes at night to help with that. They’re all good students, and it’s a waste if their talents are left uncultivated like this.”

As Xiao Fanghua spoke, she led Meng Chao into an especially large double-layered tent.

It was different from other tents. There was no stench from household waste fermenting there, only the faint fragrance of ink and chalk fusing together.

Dozens of teenagers stood in stances and meditated inside it.

They were serious and gave off a quiet and level-headed air. It was a huge contrast to their parents’ fearful and frustrated expressions. It was as if the tent contained a different world from the one outside.

Meng Chao looked around and noticed that even though the class was small, it had everything. There was a blackboard at the front of the class, and another at the back. The blackboard in front had the secrets of the Nine Great Stances and the most basic general knowledge of runic symbol studies and spirit energy studies. The blackboard at the back was decorated with rows of skyscrapers covered in plants, along with colorful smiling faces.

It also had two words: Our Home.

Meng Chao felt warmth in his heart.

No matter how hard their current circumstances were, as long as the children were still full of hope, Dragon City would have a future.

Xiao Fanghua and Meng Chao placed the teaching tools in a corner, then she tapped her waist lightly and looked around. She frowned a little and asked a girl with a ponytail, which was next to them,, “Class rep, where is Li Jue?”

“Li Jue was called back by his father just now,” the class rep replied timidly. “I heard... that his father won’t let him join the class.”