

Oh My God 361

Chapter 361: Li Jue's Choice

"What?!" Xiao Fanghua raised her voice. She looked so anxious that it scared the class rep.

She quickly comforted the class rep before she said to Meng Chao, "I'm sorry, Meng Chao. Why don't you sit here for a while? I have to check on Li Jue. He... is a good student with the best talent in this class."

After saying that, she walked out quickly with a hand supporting her waist.

Meng Chao was worried about letting a pregnant woman walk around alone in a shelter, so he quickly followed after her.

Xiao Fanghua moved through the maze of tents with familiar ease. Sometimes, she jumped over piles of household waste or bent her back to move through a large layer of bedsheets.

Each tent had a number. Piercing noises came from Tent 1341. A middle-aged woman came out of the tent swiftly and stomped to the north. She nearly knocked Xiao Fanghua over.

Meng Chao quickly supported her.

Xiao Fanghua gave Meng Chao an apologetic look and shouted into the tent. "Mr. Li?"

Shuffling sounds could be heard within the tent. Soon, a man with a deformed nose and eyes came out. The muscles on his face twitched neurotically, and there was a wary look in his eyes. But there were also a lot of other emotions hidden beneath it.

"Ms. Xiao, you're here, again," the middle-aged man said stiffly.

"Mr. Li, I'm here to ask a question. Why won't you let Li Jue go to school when things have been going well for him?" Xiao Fanghua asked.

The man's eyes turned bloodshot, and he said, "What do you mean 'things have been going well for him'? After Li Jue practiced the martial arts from your class, he coughed up blood three times! What sort of harmful martial arts are you teaching him?! I won't let him go to school anymore!"

"Mr. Li, that's not the case!" Xiao Fanghua said anxiously. "Didn't I explain it to you last time? Li Jue has begun to activate the supernatural power hidden in his brain because of the mind attack by the monsters who descended during the last fog. His body is still young, so he can't withstand that power and coughed up blood.

"The monsters' mind attack didn't just target Li Jue alone. It attacked everyone in a large area, but since he has really good talent and is sensitive to spirit energy and vitality magnetic fields, he's showing signs of early awakening. This is good!

"As long as he takes the gene medicine and nutritional fluid I recommended every day and practices the stances and meditation methods we teach in school, those symptoms will disappear soon. His strength will also increase by leaps and bounds. He will definitely be able to score well during the high school entrance examination next year.

“Mr. Li, did you give him the gene medicine I recommended every day?”

Li Jue’s father’s eyes became even more bloodshot. “Gene medicine, my foot. It’s all a scam. I won’t fall for it!”

“That’s...” Xiao Fanghua was at a loss at what to do. “Mr. Li, how could you say that? The gene medicine we recommend in class is produced by a large legit company. Besides, the donation given by Blue Home should be enough to subsidize each child. You just need to pay 70% of the cost price, and Li Jue’s cultivation will rise to another level. The other children in the class are persevering through gritted teeth, so it’ll be a pity if Li Jue gives up halfway through. After all, he’s the one I value the most!”

Some part of those words must have stabbed Mr. Li where it hurt, because his eyes turned so red that they looked like hot iron. “I said he won’t be going to class, so he won’t!” he yelled. “Everyone knows your tricks by now! You said that we only need to pay 70% of the cost price?! But who knows what the truth is! It’s a lie! It’s all a lie!”

Because of his shouts, quite a number of citizens in the area peeked out of their tents and observed Xiao Fanghua and Meng Chao curiously.

Meng Chao frowned a little and whispered to Xiao Fanghua, “Big Sis Ya, what sort of drugs do you give the children when they cultivate in class every day? What price did you offer the students?”

“There’s bone cell growth medicine for teenagers produced by Photocreations, rapid healing serums for muscle fibers made by Mighty Dragon Pharmaceuticals, and the high-efficiency blood replenishment serums by Ancient Pharmaceuticals...”

Xiao Fanghua mentioned the names of six gene medicine and high-calorie nutritional fluid before she said, “We’re working directly with these factories through Blue Home to help the citizens who lost their homes. We get these products at cost price from the factories, and we’re not earning a single cent from it.

“We also collect donations from members of Blue Home to cover 30% of the price.

“70% of the cost price is already the lowest possible price. They just need to spend a few hundred yuan every day for the children to have a future in cultivation!”

Meng Chao nodded.

Superstar sold raw materials from monsters and worked together with the pharmaceutical companies and biochemical modification companies Xiao Fanghua mentioned. He had heard about them and knew that they were legal companies who were famous in the industry. They would definitely not use a single monster to produce nutritional fluid for three years.

Recently, Superstar had been working together with Spirit Creation Creatures as well, so Meng Chao had a general idea of the price for the middle-grade gene medicine and high-calorie nutritional fluid for teenagers.

Xiao Fanghua was not trying to scam any money with the price she mentioned just now. Not only did it not earn her any money, she had to get donations from everywhere to cover the cost.

The best way to judge that would be by using Bai Jiacao.

Ever since the Meng family was able to earn some money, the family prepared the most luxurious cultivation set meals to help with high school entrance examination. Even if Meng Chao excluded all other fees and calculated only the price for her gene medicine and high-calorie nutritional fluid, they spent two-three thousand yuan per day, and in a month, the cost almost reached one hundred thousand yuan.

If they hadn't spent that money on her, however, it would have been impossible for her to get into the experimental class in Construction High by relying on the Night Demon Blood alone.

Once she entered high school, Bai Suxin once participated in a parents meeting so they could exchange experience in taking care of children. When other parents learnt that the Meng family only spent thousands of yuan every day for cultivation fees but still managed to send Bai Suxin into Construction High's experimental class, they were all shocked.

The cultivation families spent more than ten thousand yuan on their children's daily education fees.

Xiao Fanghua was very kind and considerate about the poor children. She carefully came up with a plan to ensure that the children who could only spend a couple hundred yuan per day would get a cultivation set meal that was carefully crafted with the best cost-price ratio.

When Meng Chao realized it, he felt a little frustrated.

His expression turned dark, and he stepped in front of Xiao Fanghua. "Mr. Li, it's your freedom to decide whether your son will attend class or not. In any case, Ms. Xiao has been using her free time to help the children get extra classes.

"But Ms. Xiao never scammed even a single coin from you. She has been forking out her own money to subsidize your son, and yet you're biting the hand that fed you and spitting on her kindness? This will disappoint her, and you might even make others unwilling to help the children in the shelters too. Isn't this bringing harm to yourself and others?"

"I'd like to give you a word of advice: Cast your sights further. The world in the future will definitely belong to superhumans. Since your child has talent for cultivation, he should cultivate properly. This is the only way for him to change his destiny!"

Meng Chao's voice was not loud, but it was enough to make the neighbors around them understand what was going on.

Li Jue's father's expression turned really strange. It was as if the mask of wariness and anger shattered, revealing the incredibly frail man underneath.

He went back inside and stumbled around inside.

Meng Chao and Xiao Fanghua looked at each other before they went inside.

Li Jue's father had sat down on a narrow folding hand and buried his head buried in his hands.

The big man's shoulders trembled. He was weeping silently.

Meng Chao could smell a faint stench.

He looked around for the source of the smell and noticed that Li Jue's father's right leg was bound by a few layers of gauze and bandages. Even so, there was still suspicious liquid in shades of green and purple oozing out.

"You're poisoned," Meng Chao said with a frown.

"When the fog descended, I was hit by a monster's poison. In the beginning, I went for treatment and they dug out all of the rotten flesh. I thought I was fine, but the poison had invaded my bones. After working for a few days in the ruins, the poison acted up."

Li Jue's father rubbed his face hard a few times before he gradually calmed down. He whispered softly, "I'm sorry, Ms. Xiao. I argued with my wife just now, so I was in a bad mood. I wasn't thinking straight, so I said some really bad things."

"I know that you're a good person. You're all good people. I also know that the price for the gene medicine is already very cheap. But... no matter how cheap it is, it still costs hundreds of yuan a day. Even if I worked without sleeping in the ruins, I couldn't afford it, let alone now that I'm in this state."

Xiao Fanghua looked at the empty tent and asked, "Were all your belongings in your house? You didn't bring anything with you?"

"No. Everything was burnt to a crisp. We didn't manage to take anything out."

"The public welfare organizations must have arranged to provide free treatment, right?" Xiao Fanghua asked hesitantly. "Your leg..."

"There's free treatment, but we need to queue up for it. We need to wait a few days for even the simplest debriding and dressing. After all, simply too many people were hurt during the fog," Li Jue's father said.

"Besides, the poison has invaded my bones. It keeps on acting up, and treating it is a major problem. I've been thinking about acting ruthless and borrowing some money for an amputation so that I can get a prosthetic leg."

"That way, I could soon look for a job, but my wife won't let me, and Li Jue refuses it too. In any case, it's not easy looking for jobs now, and even if I manage to find one, the salary wouldn't be high. I don't know when I'd be able to return the money for the amputation and prosthetic limb, much less let Li Jue cultivate."

Xiao Fanghua and Meng Chao fell silent for a while.

"No matter what, your son must not fall behind in his cultivation," Xiao Fanghua said. "Mr. Li, please let Li Jue go to class for now. The teachers, volunteers from Blue Home, and I will think about how to solve the problem with gene medicine and high-calorie nutritional fluid."

"Forget it, Ms. Xiao. You've helped Li Jue a lot. Our entire family is grateful to you, so we won't be causing you anymore trouble." Li Jue's father smiled bitterly. "Li Jue is the one who said himself that he doesn't want to go to class anymore."

Xiao Fanghua was shocked. "Why?"

“He said that cultivation is not something that can be done overnight. The further you go down the path of cultivation, the more resources you need. Even if he can get your help and solve the problem of gene medicine and high-calorie nutritional fluid for the time being, what about a few months later? What about next year and the year after that?”

“Even if he manages to get into a key high school, it doesn’t mean that he will definitely become a superhuman. The classes in key high schools are even more strenuous and the competition is harsher. Without sufficient resources, it’ll be very easy for him to go through spirit energy deviation and lose himself.

“At that time, he won’t be able to awaken to supernatural powers but will end up wounded instead. He won’t even be able to take up a normal job and just end up causing trouble to the family.

“Li Jue is a sensible child. We’re poor, so it’s impossible for us to support him in becoming a superhuman. He is thinking about using the time he would spend cultivating to work so that he can pay my medical fees.

“I-I’m sorry, Ms. Xiao. I’m sorry for disappointing you. Don’t blame Li Jue. If you want to blame someone, blame me for being a useless father!”

Chapter 362: Full Of Complaints

The middle-aged man lowered his head and curled up on the folding bed. He was too ashamed to look at them but had nowhere to hide himself.

Meng Chao sighed.

But Xiao Fanghua seemed to have seen a lot of such situations. She continued speaking patiently, “Mr. Li, Li Jue is still young. He doesn’t know how important cultivation is. But he’s a good boy who loves his parents, which is precisely why we must be careful while thinking about his future.

“Let me think about this. Right now, I can’t promise you anything, but there are a lot of members in Blue Home who would be willing to help someone as talented as Li Jue.”

“Ms. Xiao, I...”

Li Jue’s father looked up. His lips quivered, and he rubbed his hands together. He did not know what he should say.

Meng Chao then remembered that he had sounded a little harsh just now. He spoke up by the side as well. “That’s right, Mr. Li. You’re facing your toughest moments right now, but I believe that with the help from the Survival Committee and the Supernatural Tower, everything will become better.”

But it would have been better if he did not say this, because he seemed to have stomped on where it hurt for Li Jue’s father. His eyes turned bloodshot again, and he said resentfully, “Don’t even mention the Survival Committee and Supernatural Tower. What help can they give us?”

“Well...”

Meng Chao was a little stunned.

He seldom ran into normal citizens who would use this tone when they mentioned the Survival Committee and Supernatural Tower.

Or at the very least, he seldom saw anyone using that tone in this life.

“If the Survival Committee and Supernatural Tower really want to help, it would have been easy. They could just send our children to the schools outside the shelter,” Li Jue’s father said. “Even if the normal school lacks space and resources and each class is stuffed to the brim, the aristocratic schools for the rich must have space to help our children, right? Why can’t they send Li Jue and the others in there for a time being and let them make do for a few months?”

Meng Chao frowned a little.

He could not describe the feeling in his heart.

Li Jue’s father said angrily, “We’re not coveting the resources in those aristocratic schools, but at the end of the day, the Survival Committee and Supernatural Tower are responsible for why we ended up in this state, right?”

“The ones living in those luxurious mansions in Dragon City No.1 are all superhumans above Heaven Realm. They have matchless power, so there is no monster who is stupid and blind enough to rush into Dragon City No.1. They’d be reduced to mince meat at any moment.

“There’s no need for places like Dragon City No.1 and the aristocratic schools affiliated to Dragon City No.1 to have defense systems. They don’t need any machine gun towers, anti-aircraft guns, electromagnetic towers, or high-voltage electricity nets. The powerful people only need to release their killing intent, and all the monsters would piss their pants.

“But the Survival Committee and Supernatural Tower just had to set up airtight defenses in those high-end residential areas. There are even layers to those defense systems!

“And look at the old residential areas of normal working class people. The last time we had a complete maintenance upgrade for our defense system was a few years ago. Many of the defense systems have not been maintained for a long time, they’re old, and we don’t have enough ammunition. When it’s distributed to the families, we only get a couple hundred bullets. How can we possibly fight against the monsters’ crazed charges like that?”

“When you think about it carefully, it just doesn’t make sense. The ones staying in old residential areas are all normal people. Shouldn’t they give us better defense systems around our residential areas precisely because we can’t fight against the monsters? Why is it that the construction of those defense systems are all beside the houses of those high-grade superhumans?”

“And look, when the fog descended, the monsters were intimidated by the presence of the powerful and didn’t dare to rush to places like Dragon City No.1. But it’s common sense that you always target the weak, right? So they rushed to old residential areas like ours.

“Not a single bullet was fired by the defense systems in Dragon City No.1, but the defense system in our area was brought down in no time at all. Even the school beside the residential area was destroyed by the monsters.

“There are plenty of specialists and smart people in the Survival Committee and Supernatural Tower. If they really wanted to help normal people, they would have taken better precautionary measures for just such an event. At the end of the day, the superhumans aren’t together with the normal people. They don’t care about the lives and deaths of normal people!”

Li Jue’s father vented his rage and indignation to his heart’s content.

But right after he said those things, he remembered that Xiao Fanghua was a superhuman. “I’m sorry, Ms. Xiao,” he said in embarrassment. “I’m not talking flack about you. You’re definitely a kind person through and through. You know that I’m talking about those high-and-mighty superhumans.”

“It’s fine.” Xiao Fanghua smiled at him. “Mr. Li, my husband is working in the defense system industry for residential areas. Based on what I know, the defense system for high-end places like Dragon City No.1 are paid by the residents themselves. They pay for the set up, maintenance, and upgrade themselves. They’ve never used a single cent from the taxpayers.”

“I-I know.” Li Jue’s father’s anger bled away from him, and his expression turned gloomy. “At the end of the day, the lives of the rich are much more valuable than the lives of the poor. This isn’t the fault of the Survival Committee and Supernatural Tower. I’m to be blamed for being useless, and that’s why Li Jue has such a bad life.

“Money... Right now, you need money for everything. If you want to fight against monsters, you need money. If you want to cultivate, you need money. But that makes sense. They say that when you’re poor, you can only be a scholar, but when you’re rich, you can be a cultivator. They say that cultivating can change your fate, but the poor don’t have the right to cultivate.”

He curled up on the folding bed and placed his poison-infested leg on the bed while he stared at the stains on the bandage dully and unwrapped it.

Meng Chao remained silent for a while before he suddenly asked, “Mr. Li, are you the one who thought about what you said just now?”

Li Jue’s father stared at him in puzzlement.

“The part where you said that superhumans are not one with the normal people,” Meng Chao said.

Li Jue’s father was taken aback for a moment before he said, “That’s what everyone says.”

“Everyone?”

“Everyone in the temporary shelter,” Li Jue’s father said in slight embarrassment. “I-I know that a lot of the superhumans are good people, like you guys and the volunteers who always help us. We’re grateful to you and have no other opinions about you guys. It’s true. If anyone says anything bad about you, then their hearts are really rotten to the core.

“But we couldn’t do anything when our houses collapsed right in front of us. We had to watch the ruins burn, unable to even rush in to save a few photos. The shock from that was too great. Everyone has bitterness welling up in us, and we have nowhere to vent it.

“Besides, the ones who are injured can’t serve as any labor power. We can only gather together without anything to do. So we grumble a bit, but please don’t take it to mind.”

"It's fine. I won't be bothered by it." Meng Chao smiled. "But do you know who was the first person to make such complaints?"

"Who would know?" Li Jue's father said. "When it comes to complaints, they spread like wildfire. No one can say who was the first to have some complaint. Anyway, that's what everyone has been saying."

Meng Chao wanted to continue asking, but Xiao Fanghua gently tugged at his sleeve.

Meng Chao thought about it. It was unlikely that he could get a lot of information from Li Jue's father. Once he bade farewell to the man, he walked out of the tent together with Xiao Fanghua.

While they were on their way back, Meng Chao was contemplative.

"Plenty of the citizens here have PTSD," Xiao Fanghua said. "They often start screaming at night due to nightmares, which creates a chain reaction through the entire shelter, just like how the soldiers of Imperial China would start shouting in a camp when one of them started screaming at night. Everyone is too tense, so it's normal for them to complain. We're already used to it. Meng Chao, don't take it to heart, okay?"

"I'm okay with it. The fog this time has led to the monsters destroying dozens of residential areas, and this is definitely on the Survival Committee and Supernatural Tower. It's not wrong for the normal citizens to criticize them a little." Meng Chao cast Xiao Fanghua a glance. "Big Sis Ya, have you heard these complaints for a long time now?"

Xiao Fanghua nodded.

"Are there more?" Meng Chao asked. "Are there other types of complaints?"

"How could there not be?" Xiao Fanghua said. "Recently, aside from the temporary shelter in the east of the city, all the temporary shelters in all the cardinal directions are full of people with a lot of complaints, since they all lost their homes.

"Some people grumble like Li Jue's father. They ask why the Survival Committee and Supernatural Tower set up defense systems that are as tough as nails around high-end residential areas for high-end superhumans but completely overlooked the frail defense systems that have not been maintained for years around the old residential areas of normal people.

"Some people also complain that the prices for all sorts of cultivation resources have increased recently. Even the gene medicine we bought at cost price from factories has become 20% more expensive. I heard that they're going to increase further next month.

"The rich might be able to handle it, but to poor families like Li Jue's, whose father lost his job and who originally could only perform manual labor, this no doubt means that their hopes for cultivation are crushed.

"Logically speaking, Dragon City just obtained a major victory on the northern frontlines, so they should be able to get more resources, right? So why are prices increasing nonstop?"

Meng Chao was silent for a while before he said, "Lately, Dragon City has been working hard on expanding, and it's deploying soldiers in all directions. This requires several times the amount of resources compared to the past. It's inevitable that there's a shortage of resources in the city."

"I know, right?" Xiao Fanghua smiled. "That's what is mentioned on the news too. But there are plenty of people in the temporary shelters who don't believe it. They don't think that it's because of expansion, but because there are people hoarding the resources and earning massive amounts of money because of price gouging during disaster.

"But let's not talk about that for the time being. There are even people saying that the superhumans are the ones who lured the monsters here."

"That's..." Meng Chao was stunned. "What sort of absurd theory is that?"

"Meng Chao, didn't you realize that the monsters have become smarter? The scale of the fog this time might have been huge, but it's not as if we've never encountered something like this before. Still, the destruction caused by fog descents of similar scale pale in comparison to this one," Xiao Fanghua said.

"Right now, there is an opinion among the people that there are a lot of sentient creatures among monsters. There was originally a chance that we could live harmoniously or at least not bother each other.

"But since the high-grade superhumans are ambitious and want to reach a state surpassing that of humans, they want to kill all of these highly intelligent monsters as quickly as possible, which is why we now face the vengeance of these highly intelligent monsters.

"The high-end superhumans are naturally not afraid of the revenge from the highly intelligent monsters. You heard just now that they live in places like Dragon City No.1 and are protected by defense systems that are as tough as nails, right?"

"But the normal people end up suffering. They took the place of the high-end superhumans and faced the wrath of the highly intelligent monsters."

Chapter 363: An Evil Doctrine Misleading the People

Meng Chao was dumbfounded for a long time. "And there are people that believe this outrageous rumor?"

"There were originally none, but you know that plenty of monsters who are skilled in mind attacks had appeared during the fog, and many citizens' mental strength indices plunged so low that their minds broke." Xiao Fanghua then appeared as if she had something to say, but did not know how to put it into words. "Besides..."

Meng Chao frowned. "Besides what?"

"Besides, the homeless citizens can see the superhumans living in high-end residential areas with tight defenses and luxurious decorations. When they look at their own children, they see them in tents cultivating to the point of coughing up blood, while in the meantime, the children of superhuman families get the best education in aristocratic schools.

"The citizens also see themselves cradling their broken limbs and moaning on folding beds while the superhumans are able to split mountains and soar in the sky. Besides, while the citizens can only eat the cheapest canned food and drink recycled water to keep themselves alive, the superhumans with connections hoard items and get rich through it.

“Some normal people even have to watch their wives sell their own bodies to superhumans so their families would be able to live better.” Xiao Fanghua sighed softly. “In such despair, resignation, and rage, it’s not strange for them to believe in such outrageous rumors.

“Besides, that rumor isn’t the most outrageous of them all.”

Meng Chao sucked in a deep breath. “There’s something that’s even more outrageous?”

“Yes.” Xiao Fanghua smiled. “There are rumors stating that when superhumans march deeper into the Other World to conquer it, they will abandon Dragon City and all the normal people.”

Meng Chao was stunned for a long time. “How could that be possible?”

“Why not? Superhumans aren’t the parents of normal people. Why must they be bound to normal people? We’re only bound together by the identity of Earthlings, that’s all. But we’ve already transmigrated here more than half a century ago, and who knows whether we’ll live to see the day we return to Earth.

“The meaning behind being an Earthling had been growing weaker among us, has it not?” Xiao Fanghua said. “The rumors are going around saying that to the superhumans, normal people are clumsy and not helpful at all.

“They’re a burden, and if the superhumans want to conquer the Other World, there’s no need for them to bring normal people with them. They could just use modified biochemical beasts or automatized runic symbol machines to create an army that would listen to them completely.

“Of course, right now, our biochemical modification technology and runic symbol machines technology isn’t perfect. The fighting power of an unmanned army might not be able to win against an army formed by normal people, but there’s an advantage to it. It’s cheap, and their cost-price ratio is high!

“If we use an army formed by normal people, if they die, the army will need to reward them or give their families compensation fees. Right now, the resources used for rewards and compensation fees each year just to protect Dragon City are enough to cripple Dragon City’s financial budget. Are we supposed to use an army made up of normal people to march thousands of miles around the Other World to conquer its civilizations? That’s just not worth it.

“There are even rumors saying that even if there are local intelligent lifeforms in the Other World, they are definitely in the tribal stage, which is a very low stage of civilization. The superhumans can just use their great individual fighting strength to move around elusively.

“Their advantage of high mobility will make them the Gods of those local tribes. As Gods, they will be able to enjoy all the benefits of the Other World. Why should they bring normal people along and split the benefits with them?

“Take last time as an example. We obtained full victory in the northern offense. We managed to get a lot of resources from Shattered Starlake, Graveyard Forest, and under Raging Waves, but did any of these resources end up in the hands of the normal people? They were all snatched away by superhumans in the name of cultivation and defending Dragon City. All that was left for the normal humans was the wrathful vengeance from monsters.

“The northern battlefield is the perfect model of our future right now. Even if there comes a day when the superhumans really conquer the Other World, it will have nothing to do with the normal people. After all, we’re not united at heart. Even if we fought together during the decades when we just transmigrated here, that was because we could share our woes and sorrows together. There’s no way that we can share our wealth together as well!”

Meng Chao cast a deep glance at Xiao Fanghua.

The baby-faced teacher looked at him with a smile.

Meng Chao had never known that Xiao Fanghua’s words could be so sharp. It was as expected of a teacher.

Now that he thought about it, the rumors coincided with Lin Chuan and Gao Ye’s opinions. In fact, they were even more bewitching and destructive.

But the problem was, who was the one who started those rumors?

Could it be Xiao Fanghua’s husband, Zhao Feixuan? One of the ten great lost people of future Dragon City?

“Ms. Xiao, you know these rumors really well, huh?”

“The school where I work is a normal middle school in an old residential area,” Xiao Fanghua said. “During the fog descent this time, it was also attacked viciously by the monsters. Nearly all of its defenses were torn down, so the citizens used their own bodies to stop the offense. During that battle, we suffered a lot of casualties. So, even if I want to pretend that I can’t hear the citizens’ complaints about the current situation, I can’t.

“The adults are still pretty okay, but the innocent children sometimes will pop questions that I don’t know how to answer.”

“What sort of questions are they?” Meng Chao asked.

“There’s a pretty girl in the class I teach. Her results were originally really good, but after the fog descended, her results started slipping. She also appeared to be in a daze all the time. It was as if she had become someone else,” Xiao Fanghua said.

“I called her to my office and asked her privately about what happened. We had a pretty good relationship, so she could not help but say that her parents were fighting and asking for a divorce. The reason behind that was because her mother was flirting with a superhuman.

“The girl said that when her parents fought, her mother yelled at her father for being useless and a normal person. When the monsters attacked, he could not even protect their family. It was her misfortune to have married a normal person like him.

“The girl then asked me, ‘Ms. Xiao, is marrying a normal person a misfortune?’

“The girl then immediately asked me another question too, ‘Ms. Xiao, don’t they say that superhumans should protect normal people? So why is that superhuman bullying my mother?’

“When I stayed quiet, she asked, ‘Ms. Xiao, don’t they say that the Supernatural Tower has forbidden superhumans to bully normal people and that the adjudicator court immediately captures the superhumans who bully normal people? Why is the adjudicator court not capturing the superhuman who bullied my mother?’

“I couldn’t answer even one of the three questions.”

Meng Chao was silent for a moment before he said, “The adjudicator court only cares about the crimes committed by superhumans. They can’t fault them for having messy private lives.”

“That’s right.” Xiao Fanghua smiled. Her tone was still as gentle as ever, but the words she said were chilling to the bone. “After the fog descended this time, the parents of many children from the classes I teach divorced. A lot of the wives believe that since their husbands are normal people, they are not able to protect them. They also cannot earn a lot of money, so they cannot get a lot of cultivation resources, either.

“They aren’t able to help their children walk a better path, so it would be better for them to ride on the superhumans’ coattails. They do not need a legitimate status. As long as they can get some scraps from the superhumans, it would be enough for them to live much better lives than before.

“In that sort of situation, it’s inevitable that the husbands who were cast aside would believe those rumors, right?”

“What about you, Ms. Xiao?” Meng Chao looked at Xiao Fanghua seriously. “Do you believe in those rumors?”

Xiao Fanghua looked down and did not answer him directly. Instead, she threw another question at him. “Meng Chao, do you know what about you impresses me the most?”

Meng Chao shook his head and said, “There’s nothing about me that is worth admiration. I’m just a normal superhuman.”

“What impressed me the most about you is not that you created the Broken Star Club, not that you developed the Ultimate Style, and not your performance during the national college examination,” Xiao Fanghua said earnestly.

“Ninth High School is just a key high school in the region, and you were only a normal student. It was difficult for you to get to the top one hundred in the city and get into Agricultural University’s martial arts course, then take first place during the admission test of the martial arts course’s freshmen.

“Others might not understand it, but as a teacher, I know all too well just how much you’ve worked to get this result.

“Many people treat your results as a miracle, but unfortunately, miracles cannot be replicated. It’s very rare for them to happen again.

“As Dragon City’s system is perfected and the spirit energy and cultivation system evolves, the prices for the cultivation resources will continue getting higher. It’ll be even more difficult for poor children to stand out.

“The standards of the school in which I teach are much worse compared to Ninth High School. It’s just a normal high school.

“But ten years ago, when I just joined the teaching staff there, around ten of our top students could get into a key high school, despite us being just a normal high school. Among them, there were always a few who could awaken to supernatural powers and return to their middle school in glory to report the good news.

“But over the recent years, the number has been dwindling. Three years ago, there were twenty-five of ours who went to key high schools. Two years ago, there were seventeen. Last year, nine. This year, we ran into a fog attack. Many of the students’ families were affected, so the results will probably be worse.

“It’s strange. Even though I can’t say that I’m an ace teacher, I’ve still been working for ten years, and no matter what, my teaching experience should be great. Why is it that the success rate of the students I teach is getting lower?”

Xiao Fanghua cradled her stomach and stared at Meng Chao with sparkling eyes.

“Meng Chao, it’s not important whether I believe those rumors or not,” she continued softly. “If the normal schools that serve the poor citizens can only send dozens of students to a higher level key high school each year and only three-to-five of the students who make it in can become superhumans, I believe that all the parents will still see hope, and no one will believe in those exaggerated rumors.

“But if schools like ours continue falling in terms of performance and we become unable to produce even a single superhuman, the parents will know from the first day they send their children to school that their children will never be able to become superhumans. Aside from those rumors, what else can they believe in?”

“I agree with what you told Mr. Li. The Other World in the future will belong to superhumans.

“But it makes you wonder. How are the normal people supposed to survive in a world of superhumans?”

Chapter 364: Lost Person, Zhao Feixuan

Meng Chao sank into deep thought.

He was not just pondering over what Xiao Fanghua told him.

He also thought about whether Zhao Feixuan’s wife, Xiao Fanghua, was connected to the fact that he turned into one of the ten great hunted lost people in Dragon City in the future.

Xiao Fanghua was not actually hoping that Meng Chao could give her an answer. She just smiled and continued moving forward.

A commotion was ahead of them.

A tent had collapsed and something was moving under it.

Many people surged forward in a disordered mess to look at it.

A lot of people pushed the curious away from the tent while shouting, “Zombie!”

Meng Chao and Xiao Fanghua looked at each other. They could see the urgency in the other's eyes.

The Dragon Citizens had a lot of bacteria in their bodies. Usually, they achieved a subtle balance with their bodies' immune system. Those bacteria could even stimulate a power hidden deep in their genes, which would allow normal people to turn into superhumans.

But once a person was gravely wounded, their immune systems would collapse. If they were bitten by pests with venom, the bacteria would also be activated. Then, it would turn a living person into a terrifying zombie who was completely wild.

Granny Wang had been Meng Chao's neighbor, but after she was stabbed by the fangs of a Demonic Halberd Pig, the bacteria was activated in her, and she turned into a zombie.

After each fog attack, the Survival Committee would perform a zombie virus check on all the citizens who came into contact with monsters.

The examination of the citizens who had to enter a temporary shelter was especially strict.

However, as the large number of viruses and bacteria humans brought from Earth wreaked havoc in the Other World, the zombie virus continued evolving. Up to then, there were already dozens of subtypes.

Some of the mutated zombie viruses had especially long incubation periods, so it was especially difficult to find them. Other mutated variations were drug resistant. Even if the carrier were to be given all sorts of vaccines or gene medicine to combat the virus, it would be useless.

There were also some mutated zombie viruses that reacted intensely. Once a person was bitten by a pest that carried the virus, it would react within a short few minutes. It could burn the mitochondria hidden deep in a person's cell, which would make a normal person instantly release the power of a superhuman, and after around ten minutes or so minutes, they would end up combusting.

Hence, zombies occasionally appeared in temporary shelters, which led to massive casualties, and people growing fearful.

As superhumans, Meng Chao and Xiao Fanghua had the duty to handle the situation.

Both of them worked hard to squeeze through the crowd.

Then, they heard a hiss ahead of them. The sturdy tarpaulin above the tent was torn open by a pair of pus-covered claws with red nails.

A zombie with messy hair and deformed limbs crawled out.

Based on its features, they could tell that it had been a rather pretty woman.

But now, her eyes were red, and thick blood vessels as well as nerves spread out from her eyes in a radial fashion.

Her human features were also replaced by animalistic ones. She was obviously hungry.

Drool that looked like blood dribbled out from the corners of her mouth as she stared at the citizens around her. She growled from the back of her throat, and it sounded like cackling.

“This is bad. Her eyes are red. The blood vessels around her eyes have protruded on her skin in a radial fashion. This is the most domineering mutated zombie virus.”

Meng Chao frowned a little.

Even though he could not identify the precise type of the mutated zombie virus, based on the woman’s monstrous appearance and her burning vitality magnetic field, he could tell that her cells were going off like explosive cartridges. She had turned into another life form that was incredibly dazzling and terrifying, but would only remain alive for a short while.

The citizens around her cried out in surprise.

Everyone knew their stuff.

If she were a normal zombie, they would not need to be too afraid. As long as they were careful about not being bitten, they could all surge forward and kill the zombie.

But if a mutated zombie had such a terrifying appearance, their fighting strength would be of secondary importance. The most crucial thing was that the virus in them would be especially infectious. Forget about being infected through scratches or bites, if its drool or blood splashed on someone’s skin, there would be a certain chance for them to become the next monster.

Hence, the citizens who originally wanted to help started screaming while retreating. They crashed into a few tents and made them collapse. The situation was incredibly chaotic.

Once the mutated zombie was stimulated by the noise, the blood vessels around its eyes protruded even further. It looked as if its bloodshot eyes had grown five times their original size, and they now occupied its entire face.

The zombie bared its teeth and took two steps toward the crowd.

Suddenly, crying sounds could be heard behind the zombie.

Something moved under the collapsed tent. Soon, a girl of about four crawled out through the gap that the mutated zombie had torn in the tent.

She had to be the mutated zombie’s child.

The activation period of the mutated zombie virus was very short. Perhaps a few minutes ago, the mother had been pleasantly telling a story to the girl or playing a game with her. She might even have been cooking a simple but warm meal for her.

But due to a small wound on her body, in just a few minutes, the mother turned into another person.

The girl had yet to wrap her head around it.

She opened her mouth and with a dazed expression stood in front of the zombie.

It might have been because she was scared stiff, but it also might have been because she could tell that the zombie was her beloved mother based on the clothes she was wearing and she thought that she would never hurt her.

A conflicted look appeared in the mutated zombie's eyes, which were like red vortices by then.

But as the virus swiftly reached the brain and her final human consciousness was devoured by the rampaging instinct to feed, the zombie brought its sharp claws high up into the air.

Meng Chao swiftly brought out the mini-submachine gun he had hidden at his waist and aimed at the zombie's temple.

The exquisite gun was no larger than half the size of his palm, but it had unique bullets with crystals embedded in them and runic symbols carved into them. Besides, Meng Chao's Basic Gun Technique was already at Perfect Level, so he could definitely split the mutated zombie's head open.

"Don't!"

Meng Chao was about to pull the trigger when he heard someone shout at him.

Then, a nimble figure shot between the zombie and the girl like an arrow. He hugged the girl and revealed his spine to the mutated zombie.

Whoosh!

The mutated zombie virus could allow a normal person's cells to enter an "awakened" state for a short period of time. They would then possess strength that was equivalent to that of a superhuman.

When the mutated zombie swiped at him, the person's back was clawed open, and white bone could be seen.

The person grunted, but he did not bother about his own well-being. Instead, he tossed the girl in Meng Chao's direction. "Catch her!"

When he saw that Meng Chao had caught the girl, he did a back kick like a scorpion thrusting its tail backward. He hit the mutated zombie legs, and it fell to the ground. The man then brought out a pouch that released a nice fragrance.

The mutated zombie fell down swiftly, but jumped up just as swiftly.

That person grabbed something that looked like powder or paint. Then, he turned around and smeared it all over the mutated zombie's face.

His fingers twisted in five different directions. They moved like snakes and drew five profound and complicated runic symbols at the same time on the mutated zombie's face.

The mutated zombie became stiff, as if a petrification spell had been cast on it. Even its growls were frozen in its throat.

The man couldn't care less about the blood flowing down his back. He had a focused expression as he continued mumbling under his breath. He moved his hand freely and used his blood as well as the runic ink in his pouch to draw more than one hundred runic symbols on the mutated zombie's face, chest, stomach, and limbs. His movements were dazzling.

When he drew a runic symbol that was as small as a fly on the mutated zombie's last toe, he sighed in relief and pressed his palms together. His spirit energy then spread out swiftly.

Something unbelievable happened.

Within a short half a minute, the more than one hundred runic symbols drawn on the mutated zombie's body began to shine brilliantly, as if they were lightbulbs connected to electricity.

The mutated zombie twitched violently, as if it was dancing some strange dance, but based on its expression, it was not in great pain.

On the contrary, as the runic symbols burned, drops of dark red blood flowed out of the mutated zombie's pores. The smell was foul, but it was instantly dispelled by the flames of the runic symbol.

In a short moment, the protruding blood vessels on the mutated zombie's face became flat. The red eyes that resembled red vortices and occupied half of its face slowly returned to normal.

A sound came from the zombie's throat, which resembled a ball of air rising up. A faint red, poisonous fog gushed out, and the zombie fell face first. As the sharp nails fell off, it seemed to have returned to being an asleep woman.

When the person saw that the mutated zombie was no longer moving, he exhaled and put on a charming smile. He gestured at Meng Chao to help him.

Meng Chao hesitated for a moment.

It was not that he was unwilling to help. It was just that he had managed to recognize the person.

Zhao Feixuan, one of the ten great lost people of the Dragon City in his previous life, a criminal who had killed countless people and might have been even more terrifying than the Supernatural Entities.

"Old Zhao!"

Before Meng Chao could adjust his emotions, Xiao Fanghua rushed forward.

When Zhao Feixuan saw his wife suddenly appear and glare at him, he looked like a student who had done something wrong and was caught red-handed by his teacher.

But he then remembered that his wife was pregnant, and his expression changed drastically. He waved his head and said, "Don't come! It's dangerous here!"

"You have the guts to tell me that it's dangerous?!" Xiao Fanghua was angry and anxious. As she looked at the terrifying wound on his back, her heart ached for him. She stomped on the ground and said, "Then why did you rush over?! This is a problem that could have been solved by a gun!"

"If we used a gun, she would have definitely died." Zhao Feixuan smiled. "I can use runic symbols to control her vitality magnetic field, so her cells would enter a state of suspended animation, as if they've entered hibernation. I can get rid of the virus for her, which will give her a chance to survive."

The acute mutated zombie virus might have astonishing damage, but since it activated too quickly, it could not fully invade all of the organs and most of the brain in a human body.

However, destroying the virus and helping an infected person return to normal was just a theoretical possibility.

Meng Chao went forward and found that while the mutated zombie was enveloped by Zhao Feixuan's runic symbols, it was still breathing lightly and its heart was beating. But the frequency was very low. The woman only breathed once or twice per minute. The same went for her heartbeat.

Perhaps she could be considered to be sleeping in a state between life and death.

Meng Chao cast a glance at Zhao Feixuan's back. The wound was rotting away, and red was swiftly spreading all over the place. He frowned and said, "The zombie virus has already activated. Even if you want to save her, the chances are very low. You didn't have to take that risk. Even superhumans can't fight all the viruses."

"Even if the hope is small, it's not zero." Zhao Feixuan was in such pain that he was twitching. Even so, his eyes remained bright. "Besides, the girl is right in front of us. She might have a psychological trauma she will never be able to get rid of if she sees her mother's head blasted open before her eyes. Even if we can't do anything to treat her, at the very least, we should let the girl remember her mother at her most beautiful, don't you think so?"

Chapter 365: An Upright, Good Man

His clear eyes confused Meng Chao for a moment.

He began to wonder whether the memories from his previous life were wrong. No matter how he looked at it, Zhao Feixuan did not look like the lost person who was said to have fallen down the dark path and become a total lunatic.

But as he thought about it carefully, even his adorable little sister, Bai Jiacao, had ended up as the Dark Witch.

And before Lin Chuan revealed his true colors, his image as the Weeping Reaper was very deceiving.

As his mind raced, Meng Chao stepped forward and treated Zhao Feixuan's wounds.

The superhumans had spirit energy protecting their bodies, so their immune system and cell regeneration were very strong. They were not worried about normal poison and superficial wounds.

As a harvester, Meng Chao always brought with him a lot of tools, and they could also be used to treat wounds.

He had Xiao Fanghua support Zhao Feixuan. Since his scalpels were as thin as a cicada's wing, they could be bent however he wanted. The scalpels were the color of mica, and Meng Chao brandished them with familiarity. Soon, the rotten flesh tainted by the zombie's poison was completely dug out.

When Meng Chao saw that Zhao Feixuan had a lot of spirit energy and vitality, and his wound was already showing signs of closing, he knew that there was no need for him to suture the wound. He just used a large amount of medicinal powder and dressing to stop the blood flow.

After Meng Chao's smooth actions, some color returned to Zhao Feixuan's face.

A notification popped up at the corner of Meng Chao's eyes.

[You helped treat elite citizen Zhao Feixuan. Increased contribution points by 12.]

'Elite citizen, huh?' Meng Chao thought about it. 'My sister was a special citizen right from the start because she has the Night Demon Blood in her body, so she may be corrupted at any moment. But Lin Chuan was a pseudo-heroic citizen at the start. That's because I never saw his true colors, and I didn't have enough information, which led to me making a wrong judgment.'

'But now, based on the information I have, Kindling could tell me that Zhao Feixuan is a special citizen. Even so, Kindling still categorized him as an elite citizen.'

'Does this mean that Zhao Feixuan isn't like Bai Jiacao, who was born with Night Demon Blood, and the matter that has caused him to turn into a lost person hasn't happened yet, so there's still hope to save him?'

Xiao Fanghua stared at Meng Chao treating her husband.

When Meng Chao placed the last piece of dressing, her husband's face gradually turned a healthy shade of red. Once there were no signs of the zombie virus further invading his system, she sighed in relief.

She glared at Zhao Feixuan with her eyes speaking volumes.

But they were in public, so it would not be good for her to fly into a rage. She could only say, "Thank you, Meng Chao. I didn't introduce him to you just now. He is—"

"Zhao Feixuan," Zhao Feixuan said brightly and extended his hand with a smile. "Club Leader Meng, you're the brightest star among the golden era. You first shone brilliantly at the northern battlefield. Then, you built the Broken Star Club and united most of the broken-star superhumans in the city. The things you did over the past half a year are more exciting than what others have done over the past five years. There's no need for anyone to introduce such a young and talented person like you."

"I was just lucky," Meng Chao said quickly. "Just now, I told Ms. Xiao that the Broken Star Club was made with all the broken-star superhumans in the city. Many people are more qualified to be the club leader compared to me. I just benefited because of the Ultimate Style."

"But I often hear about you and Standard Firepower on the news and the internet. Under your guidance, Standard Firepower has become one of the largest contractors for the defense systems in Dragon City, right? This is what I call having a real business achievement!"

"Well, that's..." Zhao Feixuan scratched his head and cast a glance at his wife. He looked a little embarrassed as he smiled and said, "Leader Meng, what you said is something of the past. I've just handed my resignation letter to the board of directors of Standard Firepower. Right now, I'm alone, so I can't be said to have a business anymore."

Meng Chao was slightly stunned.

Based on the information from the abnormal beast research department, Zhao Feixuan was the vice president of Standard Firepower and in charge of most of the core contracts. There should be no one who could challenge his position.

And as the monsters began to show signs of having clear targets during their invasions and become more cunning as well as brutal, the market for community defenses should be very wide. There should not be a problem in terms of operations.

Did he find a better and larger platform if he resigned at this moment? Was it related to the abnormal beasts?

Xiao Fanghua seemed to have known about her husband's decision long ago, so she said, "Old Zhao, have you finally made your decision?"

Zhao Feixuan nodded and said a little shyly, "Dear, you won't blame me for being too rash, right?"

"No way. No matter what decision you make, I will fully support you." Xiao Fanghua caressed her belly with a gentle expression. "Besides, I hope that our child can live in a better world too."

Meng Chao was absolutely baffled when he heard this.

Zhao Feixuan could tell that he was confused, so he explained it readily. "I have no conflicts with Standard Firepower. It's just that our ideals don't match."

"Ideals?"

"That's right. Standard Firepower is a contractor that designs defense systems for middle-range and high-end residential areas. Of course, in the current Dragon City, only the people living in middle-range and high-end residential areas have the money to hire contractors to design their defense system and pay extra to upgrade them," Zhao Feixuan explained.

"But the residents in those places are already above average powerful fighters. They can use their own strength to suppress monsters that invade their areas. There's no need for them to take the extra step and make their residential areas as tough as nails!

"Instead, the old residential areas of normal people are places where the residents only have limited power, and they rely a lot on their defense systems. But these people who need the defense systems can't fork out the money to upgrade them. That's why they suffered such devastating losses during the fog descent this time."

Meng Chao cast Xiao Fanghua a glance.

The couple saw eye to eye. They were thinking about the same problem.

Zhao Feixuan continued, "In the past, when I was the vice president of Standard Firepower, I contacted my colleagues many times to appeal to the government so that they could modify the defense systems of all residential areas. However, the fees to modify them were naturally astronomical.

"The Survival Committee doesn't have the money for it. The money is all in the hands of the nine great mega corporations behind the Survival Committee. But mega corporations don't have the duty to help the normal citizens for nothing, right?"

"My words hold no weight, and I can't do much. But after the fog this time, I saw that a lot of the residential areas of normal people were destroyed by monsters, while the work that I've poured all of my blood, sweat, and tears into is placed outside the luxurious mansions of superhumans. I set up defense systems that they aren't using at all, and I feel like... I've done something completely meaningless.

“I was conflicted for a long time, and I thought about it again and again. I hesitated constantly. I originally thought that I should endure it for the sake of our unborn child. After all, the treatment given by Standard Firepower is pretty great.

“But after becoming a volunteer in the temporary shelters a few times and seeing so many normal citizens without their homes, I just can’t stand it anymore. So I handed my resignation letter along with a group of my colleagues. Hahahaha! Now that I think about it, I feel like I’ve been a little too rash.”

His words caused Meng Chao to respect Zhao Feixuan.

But he was well aware that he had once respected Lin Chuan and Gao Ye too.

“Big Brother Zhao, what do you intend to do next?” Meng Chao asked in an attempt to get some answers.

“I intend to set up a new community defense company with my colleagues, and we’ll be targeting the low-end market. We’ll be specifically providing services to the old residential areas of normal citizens.”

Zhao Feixuan smiled. “Those who are rich have ways to protect themselves, and those who are poor need their own ways to protect themselves as well. We can’t just let normal citizens fight with their fists and sabers against the monsters’ claws and fangs just because they don’t have money, right?”

“Leader Meng, once we really set up our business, we might end up forming connections with the Broken Star Club. After all, most of the broken-star superhumans are from poor families and were born in normal residential areas with defense systems that have been poorly maintained.

“Many of the broken-star superhumans are still in normal residential areas. They’re the leaders of their communities, and they’ll be the ones who will be acting as the go-between for our business. At that time, we’ll have to trouble you.”

“Don’t mention it,” Meng Chao said with a smile. “I won’t hide it from you. I’m staying in Blessed Heavenly Garden. If your new company opens up for business, I’ll have to trouble you to take a look at our broken defense system.”

“Is that so?” Zhao Feixuan’s eyes lit up. “Leader Meng, why are you still—”

“Staying in Blessed Heavenly Garden?” Meng Chao shrugged. “Can’t help it. Houses are too expensive now.”

Zhao Feixuan was a little stunned, then he howled in laughter.

But even as he laughed, he knew very well that over the past few months, even though the prices for middle-range and high-end houses had increased like crazy, it made no difference. With Meng Chao’s strength, they were not high enough that he could not buy a new house.

Even if he imagined the worst possible scenario and thought that Meng Chao was short of money because of the Broken Star Club, he would still have no problem renting a house in a middle-range or high-end residential area.

There was only one reason for him to continue staying in Blessed Heavenly Garden, and it was to protect the people there.

When Zhao Feixuan looked at Meng Chao, his gaze became different.

“Speaking of which, I should have thanked you a long time ago,” Zhao Feixuan said. “Ms. Xiao’s greatest regret is that she injured her spirit meridians when she awakened to superpowers. She couldn’t increase her cultivation realm and understand all the secrets in the world of spirit energy so that she could teach the children.

“I was originally a machine master. Later, I studied runic symbols for a while with a hope to heal her injured spirit meridians with them. Unfortunately, I didn’t learn the craft well, so I couldn’t think of a perfect way to solve the problem.

“Then, the Ultimate Style took the world by a storm. Leader Meng, you didn’t decide to keep this style to yourself, either. Under your careful guidance, Ms. Xiao was no longer stuck as a broken-star superhuman. She could figure out some of the secrets of spirit energy.

“I’m in a club called Blue Home, and many of our members are broken-star superhumans. Recently, they have been going to the Broken Star Club, where they received good treatment and could cultivate well. Their cultivation realm and fighting power have been increasing, and I’m really happy for them!”

Blue Home had been set up many years ago.

The members were high-end superhumans who advocated the ideals from the Home Party, the middle-range or low-end superhumans who were not part of the nine great mega corporations or cultivation families, and normal people.

Naturally, there were a lot of broken-star superhumans among them as well.

But the Broken Star Club was a new organization that rose to power by cruising on the Ultimate Style.

If the members from both organizations had a lot of contact with each other, it was all because of the Broken Star Club recruiting members who were already in Blue Home.

‘But...’

Meng Chao observed Zhao Feixuan discreetly. The man appeared to be really grateful and like he was holding no grudges. His generous heart was easy to see, and he could be considered to be an upright, good man.

Chapter 366: A Chance to Enter the Main Circle

“I’ve also heard of Blue Home from many of my friends. I have run into them during a few of my volunteer work,” Meng Chao said with a smile. “But I’ve never had the chance to understand it properly. Just what sort of organization is Blue Home?”

“We’re just an organization that loves Earth culture.” Zhao Feixuan grinned. He seemed fascinated. “Earth will forever be our home. It has blue skies and white clouds, mountains and rivers. It has oceans that expand for thousands of miles without an end. There are no zombies, no monsters, and no difference between normal people and superhumans there. Everyone is equal, and we can all live harmoniously and happily together. That’s heaven!”

“Yeah...” Meng Chao felt sentimental. “Compared to the Other World, Earth is truly heaven. If it was possible, I would really want to transmigrate back to Earth with Dragon City.”

Meng Chao was being honest here.

After all, if Dragon City had to stay in the Other World, it would have to suffer against a lot of creatures from the Other World invading and wreaking havoc in it. In the end, it would even have to face the apocalypse.

Zhao Feixuan observed his expression, and his eyes suddenly lit up.

“Leader Meng, if you’re really interested in returning to Earth, why don’t you come and observe our activities when you’re free?”

He smiled. “Most of our members are people who love Earth culture. They will definitely speak the same language as you. Occasionally, we even invite experts of transmigration technology to give talks. We then draw on collective wisdom to search for ways to return to Earth.”

“By the way, Lin Chuan, the one who died a hero in the northern offense, was also a member of Blue Home. I was pretty good friends with him. Even though we seldom had the chance to meet each other, every time we met, our talks went late into the night. It’s only like that we could talk to each other to our hearts’ content.

“I remember that you had a good relationship with Lin Chuan, right?”

Since the White Spirit Case was still under investigation, everything that happened under Raging Waves was not revealed to the public.

The reports given by the news only mentioned that Lin Chuan did his best to stop the Red Radiance Jade mine from exploding fully.

They did not mention anything about him and the White Spirit.

Hence, in the hearts of the public, Lin Chuan was still a perfect hero.

If Zhao Feixuan was really connected to the creator of the White Spirit, perhaps he knew the truth behind what happened to Lin Chuan.

But Meng Chao could not find a single clue about it on his face. He seemed to not know about it.

However, since he invited him so passionately, Meng Chao would naturally seize the chance.

They went to the medical center of the temporary shelter and performed a zombie virus check on Zhao Feixuan to make sure that he showed no signs of turning into a zombie.

Then, they sent Xiao Fanghua to the school before they returned to the spots where their volunteers worked.

Once the volunteer work was over, Meng Chao and Zhao Feixuan brought the people from the Broken Star Club and Blue Home to eat together at a cheap restaurant that served good food beside the temporary shelter.

Since it was a restaurant that served normal citizens, there were naturally no delicacies on the menu.

Fortunately, everyone had similar backgrounds and were about the same age. Since they had decided to serve Dragon Citizens, there were even a few of them who were both Blue Home members and Broken Star Club members simultaneously. With just a few words, the atmosphere between them instantly became lively.

Everyone at the restaurant chatted in a lively manner, and all of their faces were flushed with excitement.

After drinking and eating a few dishes, Meng Chao and Zhao Feixuan ended up as pretty good friends.

Meng Chao also noticed that sneaking into Blue Home was not a very difficult task to accomplish, because he had a lot of common topics he could talk to with Zhao Feixuan.

For example, they shared the same opinion about Dragon City being unlikely to conquer all of the Other World with their small territory. Even if they managed to win a few battles, Dragon City would be slowly devoured and corrupted by the large populations of the other races.

They also thought that the distribution of resources in Dragon City was unfair. The mega corporations and cultivation families just kept growing, and it brought about the Matthew Effect. The powerful fighters were just getting stronger while the weak became weaker. If things continued this way, it would be far too easy for a rift to open in the social strata between normal people and superhumans. Then, the enemies could use that rift to attack Dragon City.

They also thought that the nine great mega corporations that created the Survival Committee were unwilling to truly submit to the might of the Survival Committee. There were signs of insubordination to the Survival Committee, and if things persisted this way, who knew where Dragon City would be headed.

In the end, when the other volunteers left, the two of them weren't even halfway into their conversation.

When Xiao Fanghua ended her night class and came to find them, they were still sitting at the entrance of the restaurant while staring at the dilapidated temporary shelter as well as the luxurious mansions that were lit brilliantly in the distance while they criticized this ugly sight.

"Over the past few months, I seldom have seen Old Zhao this happy." Xiao Fanghua supported Zhao Feixuan while he staggered with a red flush due to being drunk. She smiled and said to Meng Chao, "Old Zhao is someone who likes delving into problems that can't be solved, so he doesn't have a lot of friends. Weeping Reaper Lin Chuan was one of his friends, and Gao Ye of Spirit Creations Creatures was another one of them. He got to know both of them in Blue Home.

"In the end, these two friends ran into accidents recently. Old Zhao has been sighing a lot about this and has become even more morose than before.

"Since both of you two hit it off so well, you're welcome to come to my house at any time, Meng Chao. I know that you're a busy person, but if you have time, you can come over."

"I will," Meng Chao agreed to it sincerely.

Zhao Feixuan and Xiao Fanghua lived in a residential area for normal people. It was located in the south, and it was quite noisy.

Over the next month, Meng Chao dropped by twice at their house. He did not just chat with Zhao Feixuan, but also talked to Zhao Feixuan about organizing public welfare activities in the name of the Broken Star Club and Blue Home.

They also discussed the idea of the members from the Broken Star Club providing one-to-one guidance for the children in the schools set up in the temporary shelters, because they had trouble cultivating after their schools were destroyed.

Zhao Feixuan, in the meantime, set up his new company, which he named Absolute Defense.

He told Meng Chao that this did not mean that his defense system could definitely ward off all monster invasions. It meant that defending the home of humans was an unconditional sacred mission. Regardless of the poor or rich, all citizens in Dragon City had the right to obtain the same defenses.

Meng Chao discussed it with his father and fulfilled his promise to become the first client of Absolute Defense.

Superstar hired Absolute Defense and paid the company to fully maintain, modify, and upgrade the defense system in Blessed Heavenly Garden.

Of course, Superstar was still going through its large scale expansion. They did not have a lot of cash that they could use, so they could only offer a price that made Meng Chao feel embarrassed when he heard it.

But Zhao Feixuan was very happy about it.

“The money doesn’t matter. The most important thing here is for us to be friends!”

His words were something that Meng Chao had once said.

Through this, Meng Chao was able to join a few activities hosted by Blue Home.

It was just as Ye Xiaoxing thought. It was impossible for the abnormal beasts to show up at the events where those who were not members could just walk in. These events also did not hide any sort of schemes or plots.

The members who joined those events were all righteous people who had lawful identities.

The kind volunteers who joined community services were the pillars of various business, passionate students, and a lot of cute girls.

The events hosted in the club were also things Ye Xiaoxing had introduced to him before. The participants just wore ancient clothes from Earth, recited classic poems, played old movies, imitated scenes from movies, and other things.

Aside from these events, they also talked about how Earth was a perfect heaven. They would then shout slogans such as “we must return to Earth”. For the time being, Meng Chao could not obtain more clues.

But he knew that Blue Home was not that simple.

Would Lin Chuan and Gao Ye have gone through spirit energy deviation and ended up the way they did just by wearing Earth's ancient clothes and watching old movies showing the good old days?

Meng Chao might have decided to participate in the mission from the abnormal beast research department to take revenge for Lin Chuan, but now, he also had another reason.

He sincerely thought of Zhao Feixuan as his friend and did not wish for him to end up like Lin Chuan and Gao Ye and walk down the path of a lost person, just like it had happened in his previous life.

Besides, he also got to know a lot of passionate people who were in his age group in Blue Home, along with a lot of superhumans who would be working hard in their industries in the future Dragon City.

He did not want these people to be enticed by the abnormal beasts and turn into their puppets.

Meng Chao eagerly wished to get into the core circle of Blue Home.

But the more he wanted something done, the more impossible it was to reach it. He could not be impatient about it.

After he showed great interest by joining more than ten of these external activities from Blue Home, his chance arrived.

Zhao Feixuan came to him for a favor.

The matter started because of the newest law imposed by the Survival Committee.

As monsters continued evolving, they started targeting specific things in Dragon City, and their attacks became even more discreet than before.

Often, they caught the defenders by surprise and attacked the warehouses that had a lot of resources stored in them using blitz attacks or suicide missions. Every time, they were able to destroy half a warehouse, a gene farm, or pollute a water source.

On the surface, Dragon City did not seem to suffer major losses. But when the news was released, the people became fearful, and the prices for resources skyrocketed. The economic order in Dragon City then faced great pressure.

When it came to the resources related to cultivation, such as crystals, raw monster materials, gene medicine, high-calorie nutritional fluid, and rare metals used to create weapons and runic symbol machines, the prices changed daily.

Many of the superhumans chose to save up for a rainy day and started storing up large amounts of cultivation resources.

The powerful companies also decided to hoard items and monopolize various cultivation resources so that they could profit from it.

Not only did the normal citizens grumble about it, the middle-range and low-end superhumans who did not have connections also felt angry, because their daily cultivation was affected.

When they saw that the daily cultivation order of superhumans was affected, the Survival Committee was forced to impose a law that forbade the citizens from hoarding items. All superhumans could only

store up half a month's worth of resources they needed, and those who violated the law would be strictly punished.

But there were black markets all over Dragon City.

There were also all sorts of underground auctions.

As the northern frontline was developed, the people kept on privately mining resources despite being repeatedly prohibited to do so.

Zhao Feixuan went to Meng Chao because a member from Blue Home had accidentally discovered an underground warehouse. It had a large amount of cultivation resources that had never been reported to higher authorities.

There were raw crystals that had just been mined, raw monster materials who had gone through initial processing, and boxes of gene medicine and high-calorie nutritional fluid that did not have any labels on them. The resources stored in the storage were enough for hundreds of cultivators to cultivate for years.

Clearly, this underground warehouse was not something that could be possessed by any Tom, Dick, or Harry.

If they wanted to figure out who owned the warehouse and bring him or her to justice, they would need to use various channels to do so.

Chapter 367: Hoarding Items to Sell at a High Price

Zhao Feixuan told him that he had already mobilized the members of Blue Home and were determined to reveal the truth to the world.

But the owner of the warehouse had to be someone powerful who could cover up his crimes. Blue Home's strength alone would not be enough.

He hoped that Meng Chao and the Broken Star Club could help them so that justice would prevail and they would be able to maintain the normal cultivation order in Dragon City.

Meng Chao did not agree to it rashly.

Instead, he went to a small forum with few members, registered an anonymous account, and posted the pictures, videos, and the entire story Zhao Feixuan gave to him on the forum.

He tapped send lightly, and at the moment his post appeared on the forum, a notification popped up at the corner of Meng Chao's eye.

[The Fire Relayer has revealed the criminal act of a high-end superhuman hoarding items to sell them at a high price. You have defended Dragon City's harmony. Increased contribution points by 7.]

As the netizens read his post and commented on the matter, his contribution points continued increasing.

This meant that the information Zhao Feixuan provided was real.

Since that was the case, Meng Chao would not let go of the chance to get rid of a bad trend and foster proper social trends.

During a gathering in the Broken Star Club, he brought out the items Zhao Feixuan gave him and used his name to swear that the things he provided were all legit.

Originally, Meng Chao just wanted to see whether there were any members in the Broken Star Club who worked in related departments and could provide protection to them as they investigated the truth.

He did not expect that this single stone would cause multiple ripples. All the members in the Broken Star Club regarded this criminal act of hoarding the items with great disgust and anger.

But when Meng Chao thought about it, it made sense.

Normal citizens did not have high demands for cultivation resources in terms of the number and quality.

When the price for cultivation resources increased, it just meant that the normal citizens would have less time to cultivate. In any case, they were just aiming to make their bodies stronger. They were no longer hoping to awaken to supernatural powers.

But it was different for broken-star superhumans.

With the help of the Ultimate Style, they had a brand new cultivation path opened for them, and they were in need of large amounts of cultivation resources to reach greater heights.

But lately, the prices of many crucial cultivation resources had inflated to a ridiculous degree. In just a short month, they had increased anywhere from 50% to 80%.

Even Meng Chao felt that he could not handle paying for the cultivation resources at cost price, despite the fact that he had channels to various factories that were willing to sell him those items directly.

Normal broken-star superhumans were the pillars at the frontlines of various fields, and they took up crucial positions. Their annual wages fluctuated from two hundred thousand to five hundred thousand yuan. Some of them were also able to get some shares from the company. IN the eyes of normal people, they had a high salary and were already at the peak of their lives.

Someone with an annual salary of five hundred thousand yuan could naturally live a dignified life.

But they had to buy all sorts of costly cultivation resources, and if they wanted to provide a good cultivation environment for their children, they had a hard time doing so.

Cultivation was similar to going upstream on a boat; if someone did not practice for a while, they would regress. If they did not take in a certain amount of cultivation resources each month, their cultivation realms and fighting strength would fall.

Right now, the competition in various industries was very intense, especially in the positions which could stay comfortably in Dragon City and did not need to risk their lives in the wild with monsters. There were countless people coveting such positions.

One month without cultivation was still fine, but if they did not take in enough cultivation resources for three or more months, they would not be able to handle the intensity of their work, because they had to

work fourteen hours a day six days a week, sometimes more, and they had to to take their boss' call at any moment. And that was if they did not consider the problem of their work efficiency.

If things progressed in this manner, they would definitely be eliminated from the high-end job positions in the market.

When Meng Chao revealed the matter of the hidden resources, a broken-star superhuman said angrily, "I earn 28,000 yuan a month. Sounds like a lot, right?"

"But I need at least 8,000 to 10,000 yuan to buy cultivation resources to maintain my current power.

"Since I have to work for long hours, I don't have time to take missions from the Supernatural Tower and earn Supernatural Coins, so I have to buy most of my cultivation resources from the black market.

"Over the past month, the prices for resources in the black market have increased by at least 50%. The brain cell activation fluid I usually take has even increased by 100%. Because of it, the cost for my cultivation has increased to around 15,000 yuan. It's about half of my salary!

"But now, the monsters have become smarter, and they know how to damage certain parts of the city, so they caused quite a stir and everyone is afraid. A lot of the industries are shrinking their line of business. It's the same for my company. They said that they're either going to cut our salary or lay off people.

"If this continues, even if I have the Ultimate Style, without a sufficient amount of crystals, gene medicine, and high-calorie nutritional fluid, how can a broken-star superhuman like me ever stand out?"

"At first, I thought that the monster invasion caused the lack of resources, so we would all just grit our teeth and tide over this dry spell. We would eventually be able to get through it.

"But when I think about it carefully, that doesn't sound right. Didn't we win in the northern offense? We should be able to get more resources. So, where are those resources?"

"And today, when Leader Meng brought out the evidence, I finally understood it! These crooks have been hoarding! They want to profit from our misery!"

"Those guys are ready to use everything in their disposal to obtain resources so that they can become high-end superhumans, but this cuts off the chances of the ones who became superhumans later. This cannot stand!"

This broken-star superhuman voiced the opinions of a lot of the members. Hence, without Meng Chao needing to fan the flames, the evidence was passed around and spread among the one hundred thousand members of the Broken Star Club.

Soon, all the websites, forums, media, social platforms, and various chat groups in Dragon City exploded in rage.

The tens of millions of Dragon Citizens used various channels to find more concrete evidence.

Once things progressed this far, there was no longer any power that could suppress this matter.

The powerhouses in the Survival Committee and Supernatural Tower were enraged and demanded to learn the full truth behind this matter.

As they carried out investigations, their clues led them to Thundercloud Corporation.

Thundercloud Corporation was the same as Universe Corporation and Sky Pillar Corporation. It was one of the nine great mega corporations that had formed the Survival Committee and rebuilt order in their civilization when Battle God Lei Zongchao summoned them.

Thundercloud Corporation dabbled in the refinement of metal, research of martial arts, creation of weapons, business, property management, and all sorts of industries in Dragon City. It was a true business giant.

The Yun family was in control of Thundercloud Corporation. They were a cultivation family that intimidated all of Dragon City, and it had three Deity Realm fighters in it. All of them were outstanding people who could make Monster Mountain Range shake with a stomp of their feet.

But even a giant like this was unable to ward off the anger from all the citizens in the city. Even though the investigation was still ongoing, a vice president from Thundercloud Corporation took the blame and resigned.

The master of the Yun family publicly announced that he would work together with the Survival Committee and Supernatural Tower to carry out the strictest investigation, and if anyone were involved in this matter, no matter how high their rank was in the corporation and whether it would affect the master himself, the Yun family would uphold the ideals of superhumans and offer a suitable explanation to the citizens. At the same time, he would deliver the harshest judgment to the shameless people who ruined the reputation of the Yun family, Thundercloud Corporation, and all superhumans.

The master of the Yun family stated in great distress, "The people who did this aren't superhumans at all. They're lost people who have been bewitched by monsters and have fallen onto the evil path!"

Yet the scandal continued festering, and it no longer involved just Thundercloud Corporation. The investigation gradually expanded to all the nine great mega corporations.

The people who were observant realized that this was not a single accident. Instead, a storm that would sweep through all of Dragon City was already brewing and roaring at the horizon.

Even Lu Siya went to Meng Chao to ask him what had happened. How did the Broken Star Club end up getting involved with Blue Home and causing such a major event?

"You should know that I'm trying to gain Blue Home's trust!" Meng Chao said. "Besides, right now, the investigation reports state that the evidence they had was real. Some people in Thundercloud Corporation were indeed the black sheep of superhumans.

"Their act of hoarding cultivation resources not only harmed the interest of a large number of broken-star superhumans and middle-range and low-end superhumans who have no connections, they also indirectly hurt the interests of tens of millions of citizens. It's possible that we will lose the war because of them, so shouldn't we expose them?"

“Or are you trying to tell me that Sky Pillar Corporation and the Lu family have done something similar to this and are worried that the flames will end up burning them once they get hotter?”

Lu Siya pouted. “That will depend on how you define hoarding. Regardless of whether it’s Thundercloud Corporation’s Yun family or Sky Pillar Corporation’s Lu family, both of us are big families with big businesses. We have around one thousand superhumans that are the core of our families. There’s nothing wrong with us hoarding some resources to satisfy these people’s cultivation needs.

“Cultivation isn’t just a science, it’s also an art. In fact, it’s an art that cannot be measured accurately with numbers.

“Some people only need ten sets of cultivation resources to reach Heaven Realm, but some people are only at the peak of Earth Realm even after they used up one hundred sets of cultivation resources.

“And here’s the problem, who would know how much resources they would need before they start cultivating?”

“The Survival Committee might have mentioned that each superhuman can only store half a month’s worth of cultivation resources and it sounds great, but it’s not realistic, and it can’t be carried out at all.

“Forget it, even if I tell you these things, it’s useless. In any case, your feet are glued firmly to the normal people’s side.

“Anyway, even if Sky Pillar Corporation and the Lu family are found to be hoarding, the flames won’t burn my tail. I’m just a third generation member of the family who is sent to work unimportant jobs and will never accomplish anything. The Red Radiance Jade mine has also been snatched away from my hands. Now that I think about it, it’s a blessing in disguise. I’m mainly worried about you.”

“Worried about me?” Meng Chao was a little taken aback.

“Duh. You don’t even know that you were used by someone? Are you an idiot?” Lu Siya said impatiently. “This matter has now created a huge ruckus. Do you really think that this is solely due to Blue Home and the Broken Star Club?”

Meng Chao’s mind raced, and he immediately understood what Lu Siya meant.

The warehouse Thundercloud Corporation used to hoard stuff would definitely not be noticed by some random nobody “accidentally”.

The investigations were also going on vigorously, to the point that they forced the master of the Yun family to present a public apology. This could not be because Blue Home and the Broken Star Club had exposed them.

This matter was very complicated.

But Meng Chao would not turn back.

The contribution points flashing nonstop at the corner of his eyes told him that he was doing something right, and he was pushing Dragon City to a brighter future bit by bit.

Chapter 368: Movie Watching Session for Core Members

Meng Chao felt that Lu Siya was actually pretty decent, aside from the fact that she was ruthless, blind to everything besides profit, ambitious, and would do anything to achieve her goals.

He thanked her for her kind reminder, but he did not intend to change his methods.

But because of this, he did beat around the bush when he asked Ye Xiaoxing about the abnormal beast research department's attitude toward his actions.

"Attitude?" Ye Xiaoxing looked at him strangely. "You're not an official investigator of the abnormal beast research department. We've never signed any contract hiring you or asking for your service. Your records are with Agricultural University, not the research department. Should I have any opinions toward your actions?"

"As for Zhao Feixuan, he can't even be considered as a suspect. We don't think that he's the mastermind who bewitched Lin Chuan and Gao Ye. We just want to find some clues from him. It's fine if you're friends with him.

"If I must say something, then I'll say that the abnormal beast research department is only in charge of capturing abnormal beasts. Hoarding or attacking hoarders has nothing to do with us. As long as you're certain you're not bewitched by abnormal beasts, no matter what you do and what friends you make, we won't be able to interfere with it.

"By the way, how goes your training of the martial arts given by the anonymous donor? There's a cultivation room next door. Why don't we go and spar? When the anonymous donor sees our sparring video, the donor can provide you with some remote advice.

"Also, the Broken Star Club has caused quite a stir recently. It should attract more members. If you run into any problems, you can mention them. The anonymous donor is very satisfied with the Broken Star Club's growth in this short half a year. The donor is also pleasantly surprised by your abilities and potential."

This meant that the donor supported the collaboration between the Broken Star Club and Blue Home.

Meng Chao found it interesting.

The Broken Star Club and Blue Home had recently led the public opinion, which created a storm, and their target was the nine great mega corporations, with their main target being Thundercloud Corporation. This meant that Meng Chao was infringing on the interests of the nine great mega corporations and the peerless elites behind them.

Based on Gu Jianbo and Li Yingzi's analysis, the mysterious person who supported the Broken Star Club unconditionally was a matchless fighter ranked at the top five in Dragon City.

Yet this unparalleled fighter was not affiliated to the nine great mega corporations and the nine great cultivation families behind them. Just who was he?

But before Meng Chao could think about this problem, Zhao Feixuan extended him a new invitation.

It was an old movie viewing hosted by Blue Home.

Meng Chao had participated in a few similar activities, but had never found anything valuable.

Yet the location for the event caused his heart to freeze.

Dragon Tiger Bridge No.31.

It was an important location for Blue Home, since Lin Chuan and Gao Ye had both appeared there before.

By the looks of it, after the “fight” to expose the act of mega corporations hoarding cultivation resources, Zhao Feixuan chose to treat Meng Chao as a trustworthy “comrade” and decided to invite him into the core circle of Blue Home.

Meng Chao did not dare to be inattentive toward this matter. He arrived half an hour ahead of the time stated on the invitation card.

But he seemed to be overthinking things. The place did not give off a dangerous aura as if it was controlled by abnormal beasts.

It was just a simple club salon with Earth relics that had an ancient beauty. There was also a small projection hall in it.

There were already quite a number of Blue Home members gathered in small groups. They spoke to each other about the flaws of their society.

Meng Chao found them quite familiar.

They were probably the elites of their respective fields, specialists from certain areas, heroes with a lot of outstanding war achievements, and people whose photos often appeared on the news and forums.

Based on the spirit energy circulating faintly around them and their burning vitality magnetic fields, they were superhumans with great strength. Quite a number of them were already at Heaven Realm.

Meng Chao was very careful. He did not carry any recording or transmission devices. He just opened his ears and remembered the discussions of the core members of Blue Home.

There were three refined middle-aged men standing under a huge globe of Earth to the left of the hall. Their faces were red as they spoke loudly.

“...the hoarded items we found at Thundercloud Corporation are just the tip of the iceberg. The nine great mega corporations and the nine great cultivation families behind them as well as the outstanding Deity Realm elites have all privately collected resources that are worth astronomical figures. None of them regard the law the Survival Committee set with any importance.”

“That’s right. The heroes who protected Dragon City in the past have all turned into selfish coots. Those Deity Realm elites might have declared that they fight for Dragon City, Earth, and humans and rushed to the monster hordes regardless of their safety, but now, even if they’re still willing to pick up their weapons, it’s only to fight for their families and businesses!”

“The Survival Committee actually said that they will investigate this matter to the end... What a joke! The Survival Committee was built by the nine great mega corporations. Right now, more than half of the politicians are from the nine great mega corporations. The remaining half are connected to the nine great mega corporations.

“Asking the Survival Committee to investigate the problem of the nine great mega corporations storing resources privately is the same as the same person being the referee and the player. They’re just investigating themselves.”

Meng Chao blinked. He then shifted his attention to the right of the hall. There was a painting of a torrential river on the wall, and two old men who looked like teachers standing next to it. Though their hair was white, they were still very high-spirited.

“I thought that as time passed, the Survival Committee would gradually gain supreme might and control the nine great mega corporations as well as the peerless fighters behind them. I didn’t expect that the nine great mega corporations would use the Survival Committee as a shield to grow into invincible giants. Those Deity Realm elites who stand above us have gradually come to surpass humans, and they’re now existences that no one can keep in check.”

“Honestly, this is something we should have guessed. Thirty years ago, the peerless fighters behind the nine great mega corporations were intimidated by Battle God Lei Zongchao’s absolute might. They faced the tragic reality that if they continued fighting against each other, they would all end up dead. That’s why they had to form an alliance and build the Survival Committee.

“Even though the peerless fighters are controlled by the Survival Committee in name, they have money, guns, resources, and good armor with all sorts of advanced equipment. The most crucial thing is that all of the peerless fighters continue reaching breakthroughs and have to use large amounts of resources. They aim to stand above all else, so there is no way that they will just accept the Survival Committee and all Dragon Citizens standing above them.

“Ah, but over the past few years, Battle God Lei Zongchao’s body has gotten weaker.”

“That’s right. As the pioneer of the superhumans, Lei Zongchao was the first to try all sorts of amazing martial arts that were dangerous and had great side effects. Even though he has become invincible, he faces all sorts of complications. When he was young, he could suppress the effects somewhat, but as time passed, he kept on getting attacked. He... must be nearing the end of his life.”

“Speaking of which, Battle God Lei Zongchao is really the model superhuman. He never built his own business or family. He doesn’t have a single child, either. He devoted his whole life to Dragon City. If it weren’t for the fact that his body is no longer as great as before, those who lost to him in the past wouldn’t be acting so conceited now, even if they’re the masters of the nine great mega corporations.”

Meng Chao sucked in a deep breath and headed deep into the hall.

He saw a few handsome young adults in another corner. They were dressed in the military uniforms from Earth, and on their wide-brimmed hats were the emblems of skulls. They also wore a red armbands with a “卍” sewn on it.

Meng Chao knew that it was the symbol of good luck among many religions on Earth.

The young adults spoke excitedly,

“If we think about Earth’s history, it’s easy to see that when a community faces a great disaster, a great storm, or there is a need for power to be gathered in one place, a leader, a voice, and a path is needed.

Under that leader, everyone will be equal and united. Then, they will be able to face unprecedented change.

“The army usually serves extremely important functions during these great changes to defend their civilization, and it becomes the first power that pushes the civilization forward.

“But Dragon City is in the hands of the nine great mega corporations. The peerless fighters are unwilling to forget their own interests and the interests of their families. The Survival Committee, which is in their hands, is then also unwilling to increase the budget of the Red Dragon Army.

“As long as the army is not the greatest martial power of a civilization, the peerless fighters are able to stand above everyone. They have their own interests and do not wish to unite. With that being the case, forget about conquering the Other World, we won’t even be able to win the Monster War.”

Meng Chao reached the end of the hall.

‘I knew it. The information from the abnormal beast research department is correct. Perhaps when Blue Home was initially built, the members were just people who loved Earth culture, but now, it has become quite complicated.

‘Lin Chuan and Gao Ye’s mindsets should have been established here.

‘Their ideas cannot be said to be wrong, but if I were an abnormal beast, I would definitely choose to bewitch them.’

“Meng Chao?” Zhao Feixuan popped up with a smile on his face. He gave Meng Chao a bear hug before he introduced him to the core members of Blue Home.

“Everyone, you must know that Thundercloud Corporation has recently been revealed to have been hoarding resources, right? The reason behind why justice prevailed so soon isn’t just because of Blue Home. The Broken Star Club also helped us!” Zhao Feixuan said loudly.

“This is Leader Meng of the Broken Star Club. I don’t need to give any further introductions to his deeds, but I think that some of you don’t know that Meng Chao is also someone who loves Earth culture. At the same time, he is also very concerned about Dragon City’s future. His penetrating views have allowed me to learn much, so you should try to get closer to Leader Meng!”

Immediately, the graceful middle-aged men standing under Earth’s globe, the high-spirited old men standing under the painting of the river, and the young adults who wore the black military uniforms from Earth and had the “卍” sign on the armbands surrounded them.

Chapter 369: Project 101

Zhao Feixuan introduced the people to Meng Chao.

The graceful middle-aged men were all tactical analyzers from consulting companies affiliated to the Other World research center.

There were four great research centers in Dragon City: zombie research center, monster research center, Other World research center, and the ruins research center.

Among them, the zombie research center was built the earliest. In the beginning, its researchers focused on zombies' fighting model and how to solve the problems they posed. Later, they started to research the zombie virus. When they realized that the zombie viruses could break the shackles on human genes and allow them to unlock superpowers, they gradually moved to researching spirit energy, runic symbols, and life sciences. It was the main research department in regard to superhumans' cultivation system.

The monster research center and ruins research center were just as their names suggested. They researched monsters and the ancient ruins under the Supernatural Tower, which brought a lot of advanced technology for the development of Dragon City.

The monster research center was close with Agricultural University. The abnormal beast research department was also under the monster research center, so it was the research center that Meng Chao was relatively familiar with.

The Other World research center explored the world behind the fog and was in charge of analyzing whether there were civilizations in the Other World. If there were any, they would also have to figure out at which stage these civilizations were, how much fighting power they had, how humanity should conquer them, and other things.

The Other World research center could obtain a lot more information regarding the depths of the fog and the world beyond Monster Mountain Range compared to normal industries.

The consultant companies under it organized this information. Once the tactical analyzers made predictions, they would give instructions to the other companies and superhumans.

The two high-spirited old men were lecturers from important departments in Dragon City University.

The young adults wearing the black military uniforms from Earth also had key positions in Dragon City.

The core members of Blue Home were all distinguished and talented people!

Meng Chao had awakened a lot of his memories and had been the club leader for Broken Star Club for half a year, so he could already be considered to have experience in society now. "I've long since heard that Blue Home has gathered all sorts of knowledgeable people in Dragon City," he said with a smile.

"Just now, when I heard your discussions, I felt enlightened. In the past, I never thought that there were such problems in Dragon City. It seems like I will have to ask for your advice."

One of the tactical analyzers from the Other World research center said, "I'm not worthy of giving advice, but we can discuss and think about Dragon City's future together. This is a responsibility that superhumans cannot cast aside.

"Dragon City transmigrated more than half a century ago. It first went through a dark era where order collapsed. Later, new things like spirit energy and superhumans popped up. How could it be possible for there to be no problems within the city?"

"But we shouldn't be afraid of problems. As long as all Dragon Citizens are united and face them bravely, we will definitely be able to solve the problems and turn Dragon City into a paradise that is like Earth."

The two lecturers from Dragon City University stroked their beards and said, "That's right.

“Earth’s civilizations might not have been perfect, but there was something good about them. Everyone was equal. Everyone had the right to chase after their dreams and fight against oppression. The powerful who could cover up their crimes and millionaires were the same as poor, homeless people. They were all limited by their weak physical bodies and could be killed by a bullet or a knife.

“This absolute fairness was the basis of our civilization. But after we transmigrated to the Other World and discovered spirit energy, some humans evolved into superhumans. The absolute fairness was broken, and the foundation of our civilization started shaking.

“Spirit energy tore apart our civilization and is increasingly turning superhumans and normal people into two different entities.

“If we don’t ponder over this problem and solve it, it will turn into a ticking time bomb with constantly increasing power, which will explode without warning.

“At that time, no matter how great our military technology is compared to the other civilizations, it will be difficult for us to conquer the Other World.

“But even if we do manage to conquer the Other World, we might end up being corrupted and devoured by its civilizations or scattered. We would no longer be a civilization from Earth and our descendants wouldn’t know that they’re Earthlings.

“So, before we solve the problem within Dragon City, we cannot recklessly step on the path to expanding our territory!”

The young adults dressed in the black military uniforms from earth swung their hands and said, “We must centralize the authority of Dragon City, and the superhumans and normal people must submit to this absolute power. Then, we might be able to conquer the Other World. It is only like this that we will be able to say that Earth’s civilization has conquered the Other World! Leader Meng, what do you think?”

The young adults stared intensely at Meng Chao.

He smiled wryly and said, “I’m sorry, I’ve never thought about such profound questions. It will take a long time to digest them, and I’ll just come up with a really flawed conclusion at first anyway. Why don’t you talk to each other first, and I’ll just learn from all of you seriously?”

“Leader Meng, you’re being too courteous. We’re just talking to each other and speaking our minds!”

The young adults looked like they wanted to get to the bottom of the situation. One of them thought of something and asked, “By the way, recently, the Survival Committee has clearly noticed the problems in Dragon City and tossed out two slogans. ‘The blood of the strong flows for the weak.’ and ‘Superhumans are the weapons of human civilization’. Leader Meng, what are your thoughts on them?”

Since the question was so specific, Meng Chao could not get away by trying to dodge it.

He felt that the young adults represented the core members of Blue Home and wanted to test his reaction to what they said and see whether he was on the same side as them.

Naturally, Meng Chao could scoff at the two slogans, just like Lu Siya.

But his mind raced. He felt that if he really did that, he would be going overboard.

He was silent for a while before he said slowly, “These slogans are good things. If anyone doesn’t believe in them, then they don’t have a conscience.”

“Oh?” The young adults looked at each other.

Meng Chao then changed his tone and said, “But while they might sound good, if anyone believes that these two slogans will make all the superhumans—especially the high level superhumans with a lot of power in their hands and bound tightly by their families, business, and personal interests—into selfless saints who will contribute everything they have to human civilization, then it’s not that they don’t have a conscience, but that they’re just plain stupid.”

The young adults were slightly taken aback, then snickered.

The tactical analyzers from the Other World research center could not help but smile as well.

Even the lecturers from Dragon City University had faint smiles on their faces after they carefully pondered over what Meng Chao said about having no conscience if they didn’t believe in the slogans, but being stupid if they did.

The atmosphere instantly became cordial.

When the people looked at Meng Chao, their gazes became much friendlier.

“Let’s go, everyone.” Zhao Feixuan said with a smile. “I will first invite all of you to enjoy an old movie from Earth. If you have other questions, once the movie ends, we can talk while we eat.”

The Blue Home members watched an ancient sci-fi movie.

It spoke about how the sun started aging rapidly and swelled up while they were all on Earth. It was about to devour half of the solar system within a short period of time.

To save themselves, humanity tossed out a brave plan—turn Earth into a wanderer. They would use all the power and create more than ten thousand super engines and thrustvectoring engines. They would push Earth away from the solar system, and in 2,500 years, they would reach a new home.

Since this was a classic sci-fi related to Earth, Meng Chao had naturally seen it countless times.

But it did not stop him from enjoying it.

The magnificent Earth, the endless natural scenes—even though they were all frozen—the people’s solemnity and heroism when they deployed the “saturated reinforcement” and the way Earth looked so tiny when it traveled through the galaxy and past the giant planets made it look incredibly mighty and touched Meng Chao’s soul. He was deeply immersed in the exciting plot and unable to extract himself from it.

Then, the high-spirited ending song rose. The lights in the projection hall were lit, and Meng Chao exhaled. He snapped out of being immersed in the Wandering Earth and returned to Dragon City.

He looked around. The members of Blue Home were like him. All of them were deeply shocked and appeared contemplative. They quickly started discussing the movie passionately.

“Only a population as great as that on Earth would be able to support a mighty civilization, right? Dragon City is still too small!”

“There weren’t any superhumans on Earth, but when the power of normal people was gathered together, they were able to make the flames of civilization burn to such a brilliant degree!”

“I really want the tunnel between the Other World and Earth to be opened soon and go back to our home planet to take a look. The real Earth must be a hundred times more beautiful than the harsh Earth depicted in the movie, right?”

While Meng Chao was still thinking about the meaning behind why Blue Home decided to play this movie, a middle-aged man he had never seen before suddenly stood up at the front row.

Based on the wrinkles at the corners of his eyes, male pattern baldness, and his creased, checkered shirt, he had to be an above average fighter.

He should have fumbled about in the darkness and went to sit at the front row when they were halfway through screening the movie.

Quite a number of people saw him and cried out excitedly.

‘Looks like he’s a high-ranking member in Blue Home,’ Meng Chao thought.

It was just as Meng Chao expected. Zhao Feixuan introduced him as a veteran researcher from the ruins research center who was involved in Project 101. His name was Wu Haibo.

Even though the ruins research center was established the latest, since their research target was the ancient ruins under the Supernatural Tower, it had the highest standards. It could come into contact with the most number of secrets, and it managed to excavate incredible amounts of advanced technology. They were basically the leader of the four research centers.

Even Meng Chao’s return to the past was somehow related to the ruins research center.

As for Project 101, it was not a secret. It was the project researching controllable transmigration.

From the moment Dragon City transmigrated to the Other World, the citizens had been thinking about returning to Earth.

Right after they stabilized social order, the project to develop controllable transmigration became one of the most important projects. It was set up right away and large amounts of resources were poured into it.

Unfortunately, based on what Meng Chao remembered, during the later stage of the Monster War, the project to develop controllable transmigration ran into a major setback. Apparently, an accident occurred, and an explosion happened. A group of crucial researchers died. The project was never able to recover from that. Even when Dragon City encountered the apocalypse, it was not able to open the space-time tunnel connecting the Other World to Earth.

For now, however, the accident had not yet happened. The project to develop controllable transmigration still had a lot of great researchers, and there were plenty of people supporting them in society.

Even Meng Chao's family had tightened their belts to donate money to the transmigration fund so that they could help increase the speed of developing transmigration technology.

The normal citizens, middle-rank superhumans, and low-end superhumans were all confident that they could return to Earth.

Chapter 370: City Spaceship

Most of the members in Blue Home were in the Home Party. They believed that there would come a day when the transmigration technology would be developed, so they gave a lot of funds to Project 101 and were very passionate about the project's development.

When they saw that Wu Haibo was present, they surrounded him and asked about Project 101's situation.

Wu Haibo said with a smile, "With your great support, we have gained a substantial breakthrough in Project 101. I believe that after a while, the experts will personally come to Blue Home to tell you the good news.

"Since today is a movie viewing day, it would be better for us to talk about the movie. What we saw just now was really magnificent and touching. But do you think that it's plausible to install engines on Earth and make the whole planet leave its orbit so that it can traverse for thousands of years?"

The group looked at each other. They knew that the transmigration expert did not just come here to talk about the details of the movie.

Meng Chao also started pondering over the meaning behind Wu Haibo's question.

After a moment, Wu Haibo revealed the answer himself. "Movies are just fabrications. Planetary engines might seem magnificent, but it's very difficult to make them a reality.

"First, Earth and a lot of the theoretically habitable planets need a lot of liquid and an ozone layer. Its surface must also be a levitating plate. If you imagine Earth's crust as an eggshell, then the whole planet is the eggwhite and the egg yolk.

"A planetary engine is like a needle poking the eggshell. The most possible scenario that will happen if you build one is not that you will push the egg forward, but that the eggshell will burst, which means that the crust will tear apart. Floods, earthquakes, volcano eruptions, and all sorts of destructive natural disasters will come one after another. You won't even be able to hide underground to avoid it.

"Second, based on the propelling force of the planetary engine and the resources it uses, the idea of taking thousands of years to reach a new home is just too beautiful of a dream. In reality, this journey would take more than ten thousand years. Before you reach your new home, all the resources on Earth will have been depleted and it would become a speck of dust that will gradually cool down in the dark universe.

"Third, even if we were lucky enough to reach a new galaxy and find a giant astronomical object that is like Earth, then fuse into the celestial motion of that galaxy, we might end up changing the orbital trajectory of that galaxy, and it would have consequences we cannot measure. The possibility of two

planets' orbits intersecting and them crashing into each other because they attract each other is also very great.

"Hence, the Wandering Planet might be a romantic idea, but it's not a way universal civilizations might use to move through the universe.

"Everyone, please expand your imagination and imagine as much as possible. If a civilization grew to the point that it could soar through the different ends of the universe, what sort of vehicle would it use? A planet, or a spaceship?"

The people started talking with each other. A young adult in Earth's black military uniform said, "Since it's impossible to use Earth as a vehicle, it seems like we can only use a spaceship."

"That's right. A planet is too big. Pushing a planet forward to travel through the universe will require too many resources, and the consequences would also be something we cannot imagine. If we don't run into a critical situation like the planet swelling up within a short time, like what happened in the movie, there would never be a reason for us to risk it all in such a way," Wu Haibo said. "Compared to using an entire planet as a vehicle, using a spaceship to travel through the universe is much better. It's also a piece of technology that is also much easier to realize.

"But spaceships have their own problems too. You can't fit a lot of people into a spaceship. Humans, or rather, carbon-based intelligent lifeforms are creatures that originated on the planet. They're born to need a large space and all sorts of resources to expand their civilization.

"In the vast universe, even Earth itself is an insignificant speck, and a spaceship that is billions of times smaller than Earth is even more so. It can't even be considered to be the size of a virus or bacteria.

"It's impossible to imagine a civilization using just hundreds of spaceships to move to another planet that is on the far side of the other end of the universe.

"Besides that, it's very difficult for a spaceship to retain the essence of a civilization because of its size."

Meng Chao understood what Wu Haibo meant.

It reminded him of the Dragon King Town that Ye Xiaoxing had introduced to him before. It was not easy for a human civilization to maintain the laws, morals, lifestyle, and reproductive methods of Earth in a town or a spaceship.

If Earthlings left Earth and rode in small spaceships with only a fragile shell separating them from the dark and cold universe, they would be destined to be devoured by the darkness, and gradually, they would develop another civilization and turn into other creatures. They would end up as people of the universe, not Earth.

Of course, if they could create a gigantic spaceship and fit an entire city into it, they might be able to solve the problem of their civilization changing into something else.

But with Dragon City's current technology, it seemed even more impossible for them to create that sort of super spaceship compared to successfully developing controllable transmigration.

"The planet is too big, and a normal spaceship is too small. Is there then a vehicle that is moderate in size and can carry the flames of our civilization and spread it through the entire universe?"

Wu Haibo smiled faintly and gave the answer. “Yes, there is—a city. A city is the crystallization of a civilization. All productions, organizations, and wars in human civilization were born in cities. The word city and civilization is the same in many languages. And when an archaeological team discovers a capital of a civilization, only then we are certain that this particular civilization once existed.

“Many humans once lived in villages and mountains, then, as our civilization began to become highly organized, societal production and the lives of humans became centralized in highly developed cities.

“This can help you imagine that if a planetary civilization developed to its peak, 90% of its people, technology, and societal production would be gathered in a few metropolises.

“Based on the mass of the entire planet, the metropolises and civilizations would occupy less than one percent of the entire planet.

“The remaining mass of 99/100 would be occupied by a small handful of farms, breeding grounds, and mines. Aside from them, there would be mountains, rainforests, deserts, and oceans. Their significance to the civilization is practically zero.

“If a civilization wants to spread to the four corners of the universe, there is no need for it to push the entire planet forward, like what you saw in the movie. They would only need to turn the city, which is the most essential core of the civilization, into a super spaceship that could move for hundreds of millions of light years.”

This wild method of moving through the universe left everyone dumbfounded.

Meng Chao’s mind raced, and sparks of excitement shone in his eyes.

“Turning a city into a super spaceship has clear benefits,” Wu Haibo continued calmly. “First, a city is large enough. It has a civilization that has at least millions or tens of millions of people. It’s large enough to retain the morals, laws, and lifestyles of the civilization in its home planet and make sure that the spirit of the civilization would never change, or at the very least, would not change in just a few hundred years.

“Second, the city is already constructed. After we descended to another world, we wouldn’t need to start from zero and start building things from scratch. Instead, it would be very easy for us to expand in the foreign world. As long as we could discover enough resources, we could grow by several levels. Even if we discovered other intelligent lifeforms, we’d be large enough to communicate or suppress them. In the end, the flames of our civilization would burn through the entire planet.

“Third, the amount of ‘fuel’ required to make an entire city travel through the universe might be astronomical, but it’s still much lower than what would be required to push a planet forward. Besides, the mass of a city can’t cause the trajectory of an entire planet to change. It’s relatively easier to control, and it’s also safer.

“Based on what I’ve said, I believe that when a civilization has the ability to travel through the universe, especially when it has dimensional transportation technology that is faster than the speed of light, they would definitely turn their cities into super spaceships. It’s this, or they would turn super spaceships into cities. The distinction between the two would soon become blurry, and in the end, they would become one.”

When he said this, everyone aside Meng Chao finally registered what he meant.

The tactical analyzers from the Other World research center said in a contemplative manner, “Mr. Wu, are you saying that Dragon City is a spaceship from an ancient civilization?”

Wu Haibo smiled faintly. “The time is not right yet, so I won’t say anything. Today is a movie viewing session, and I’m just voicing my opinion after watching the movie. It’s just ramblings of this old man.

“But it’s also a hypothesis. If Dragon City was really a spaceship from the ancient civilization, it would explain why it could transmigrate to the Other World; transmigration would have always been its true mission. This so-called transmigration is just us going on a trip based on the route that has been set for us.”

“But...”

Wu Haibo’s words stirred up a lot of thoughts. Many of the core members in Blue Home became excited. They began talking to each other.

“How could this be possible? Using a planetary engine to move a planet forward is understandable, but isn’t transporting a city that is an innumerable number of light years away harmlessly into a foreign land way too inconceivable?”

Wu Haibo shrugged and said, “It might sound a little unbelievable, but Dragon City has indeed transmigrated. Perhaps in the eyes of a civilization that can travel through the universe, the boundaries of mass and energy aren’t that clear. They can turn the city into pure energy, then use the fluctuations in high dimensional space to transport the city into another location in a 3D space before turning the city into substance again. Who said that the ancient civilization couldn’t create this sort of miracle?

“The truth is right before our eyes. The surface genes of Earthlings aren’t that much different compared to the monsters of the Other World. We can breathe the air here and be infected by this world’s viruses. We can sense the warm light and cultivate the mysterious energy. This means that our transmigration wasn’t random. This is our ‘destination’.”

This question had puzzled all the Earthlings after their transmigration.

The core members of Blue Home discussed it quietly.

Meng Chao raised his hand and said, “Mr. Wu, Dragon City was built bit by bit by Earthlings. There’s no way we could have given Dragon City the ability to move through high dimensional space without knowing it!”