

Oh My God 641

Chapter 641: Create A Show of Strength

When Xiong Wei reached Golden Tooth's headquarters, the hall was already full of people. The middle and top management of the gangs was all present.

When Saber Jin Wanhao was around, Golden Tooth often had such a grand spectacle in its headquarters.

If the Underground Emperor so much as cleared his throat, the gang members would rush over and listen to his orders. They would not dare to loaf around when it concerned him.

However, Xiong Wei believed that this would be the last time Golden Tooth's hall would be so lively.

From then on, the grand spectacle would move to Black Bone!

Just as he expected, once he came in, dozens of gang members surrounded him and started flattering him, praising his act of catching the wanted criminals and killing the former Reaper Squad members until it sounded like some grand feat worthy of the best medals.

Some people even eagerly expressed their loyalty, blatantly stating that since Jin Wanhao had already passed away, Xiong Wei was definitely the one who would be calling the shots in the lair, and that everyone had already come to the decision that they would look at Black Bone as their leader!

Xiong Wei did not show any emotions on his face, just nodded at the people as thanks.

But he felt a little disappointed.

The people who came to please him and express their loyalty were the leaders of third-class gangs in the lair. They only had a few members under them and did not even have fixed bases. What they did were the most despicable and worthless of tasks, like thievery.

It did not matter to him whether he had these people's support or not.

The gangs in the lair were generally split into three classes.

The ones at the top were naturally Golden Tooth, Black Bone, and Poison Scorpion.

Golden Tooth and Poison Scorpion would not readily submit to him, but Xiong Wei never thought that he could easily make the two gangs submit to him in the first place.

The gangs of the second class might not be as great as Golden Tooth, Black Bone, and Poison Scorpion, but they still controlled a large portion of the black market, gambling sites, coliseums, and special weapons forgeries.

They were the strength that Xiong Wei wanted to conquer the most.

If all the second class gangs joined him, Golden Tooth and Poison Scorpion would have to submit to him even if they did not want to.

However, as Xiong Wei looked around, he found that plenty of the top and middle management members of the second-class gangs were gathered in corners and discussing something among themselves. The atmosphere about them was lively, but also strange.

Even when they saw him, they did not show any intention to come over and greet him. They appeared to be distant and aloof.

And aside from a handful of attendants from Golden Tooth and Poison Scorpion serving the crowd, he saw none of the top and middle management members from these two gangs.

Could it be that they were thinking about pulling some trick behind Black Bone?

Xiong Wei's mind raced, but he instantly rejected this possibility.

No matter what, they were allies in name, and zombies as well as monsters were their greatest enemy. In the past, even when the gangs engaged each other in overt and covert battles, they would never attack each other in broad daylight.

Otherwise, the Supernatural Tower's fierce might would descend on them, and that would be no joke.

Besides, Xiong Wei did not think that the unskilled fighters from Golden Tooth and Poison Scorpion could do anything to him.

With that thought in mind, he scoffed and strode forward.

On the surface, he appeared to be observing the situation with a cool expression, but in truth, he sent his spirit energy to his cochlea and eardrums so that he could hear the whispers of the top and middle management of the second-class gangs.

Just as he expected, Xiong Wei heard something really interesting.

"Jin Wanhao is indeed dead, and the lair is absolutely wrecked right now. There's chaos everywhere. Even if the wanted criminals and former Reaper Squad members have been captured and the abnormal beast seems to have left temporarily, how are we going to rebuild the lair and protect our interests? That's still a major problem!"

"That's right. The headquarters, markets, gambling sites, coliseums, and material warehouses of the gangs have been severely damaged, and we suffered pretty bad losses. Quite a number of gangs couldn't take it and disbanded. The lair is definitely going to have a major change of power in the future!"

"I'm fine with us going through an internal change of power. As long as no outsider benefits from it, I'm fine, even if it means that we'll end up with a major problem on our hands. I'm just worried that outsiders will interfere. The lair has maintained decades of independence, but it's all thanks to Saber Jin Wanhao's absolute power. Without the Underground Emperor's protection, how can the lair withstand the storm from the outside world?"

"In my eyes, the lair is destined to be unable to rule over this particular piece of land and do whatever it wants like it did in the past. I won't talk about the other matters just yet. Let's just talk about the number of buildings that collapsed, the underground pipes that exploded, and the number of refugees

and casualties who lost their homes. The gangs were also badly injured, so it's impossible for us to depend on our own strength to rebuild the lair."

"Besides, if Dragon City obtains full victory during the pitched battle, the mega corporations and the other major forces of power will grow at an unprecedented pace. They will not tolerate the lair as a place full of filth where the good and bad mix together."

"Speaking of which, does that mean that the gangs have means of survival?"

"Of course not. There is a way, and it's a bright one. The prerequisite is that we must change our way of thinking and proactively embrace the changes. Instead of waiting for external forces to interfere with lair affairs, it would be better for us to take the initiative and work with the outside world. If we can make the pie called reconstructing the lair big, the profit we can share might become ten times greater than in the past."

"That's..."

"Of course, compared to the mega forces that control Dragon City, the gangs are just nobodies and misfits. If we go and talk with the outside world individually, we might end up getting swallowed without being able to make a sound.

"That's why, we must be united and take swift actions. Before the outside world can take the chance to interfere with the lair affairs, we must unite everyone to form an organization to reconstruct the lair. Once everyone has the same thoughts, we can negotiate as one with the outside world and fight for the biggest slice of the pie!"

When Xiong Wei heard this, he cocked his eyebrows.

The ones who could become gang leaders in the lair were not easy to deal with, indeed. These people's thoughts were the same as his.

Right now, he was the temporary highest ranking commander, and he was just here to capture the wanted criminals and former Reaper Squad members. That was why he could mobilize the people from the gangs and get their data and resources.

Once the situation stabilized, more gangs would take back their authority and no longer listen to his commands. Some conflict may even stir up between them and Black Bone.

If they wanted to reconstruct the lair and form an organization that had long-term authority and could bring the resources from the gangs together, then he had to become the leader of the organization, because this was the only way for him to completely control the lair.

The leader of the Lair Reconstruction Committee?

Not bad. This title was very pleasant to the ears. He liked it!

But what he heard next was something Xiong Wei did not like.

"I heard that Golden Tooth and Poison Scorpion are already discussing things and want to set up the Lair Reconstruction Preparation Committee. They invited all the gangs to join and discuss how we want to

reconstruct the lair as well as distribute profit. We will also be able to use the name of the committee to get fees from the Survival Committee and ask for donations from the outside world.

“Meng Chao and Lu Siya have already responded to the call. They openly declared that once the Lair Reconstruction Preparation Committee is set up, they will donate ten million yuan to the lair in their own names, and this money will be used to rebuild the houses of the lair citizens. Also, Meng Chao and Lu Siya will mobilize their connections to help gather more donations for the lair to join the reconstruction project.”

Meng Chao?

Xiong Wei’s pupils shrank.

Even though he had not killed Meng Chao with one slap after they exposed Red Brows Su Lun’s true colors, this did not mean that he liked this young adult who personally killed his beloved son.

Also, Xiong Wei could sense a dangerous presence from Meng Chao. He felt that the boy was an unstable variable that he could not read.

However, in the last twenty-four hours, he had been busy expanding his territory in the name of pursuing the enemies. He did not have time to care about Meng Chao.

He did not think that the boy could cause any trouble to him within a short twenty-four hours and make a mess of the lair.

Xiong Wei’s expression turned dark, and he continued listening.

“Speaking of Meng Chao, he’s really good. We’re all members of society, and the thing we value the most is righteousness. The boy is pretty good to the lair! I mean, let’s be honest here, if we were in his shoes, would we risk our lives to this extent? In any case, I wouldn’t. That’s why I truly admire Meng Chao!”

“Now that I think about it, if we’re really going to have to open our doors and work together with external forces when it comes to reconstructing the lair, Meng Chao’s Superstar, Broken Star Club, and Blue Home are really good choices.”

“Think about it. Superstar was just formed two years ago, and it’s a high-tech enterprise that is on a roll now, but it’s not as rich as the nine mega corporations, and its foundation isn’t as great either. If we work together with Superstar, both sides will be on a similar level. We won’t need to worry about him bullying us because of his power or swallowing us whole.”

“Broken Star Club has more than two hundred thousand members, and it has 70% of the channels leading to the residential areas in Dragon City. They can promote goods to the first-tier consumers and draw a few hundred thousand normal citizens into the lair to spend their money on entertainment.

“In the past, plenty of citizens didn’t dare to enter the lair to spend their money due to this place being too chaotic and dangerous. If we seize the chance and change the lair completely during reconstruction, and if Broken Star Club provides some sort of guarantee, the number of customers who are willing to come and spend money in the lair will increase more than ten times!”

“There’s no need to even mention Blue Home. They have always supported the ideals of the Home Party and advocated allocating more of the city’s budget into modifying and upgrading old residential areas. The lair can be said to be the oldest super residential area in Dragon City. Now that it was destroyed by the abnormal beast and looks absolutely horrid, there’s a good chance of an astronomical budget being given to us if we can gain the support of the Home Party politicians through Blue Home!”

“Everyone, the more I think about it, the more I think that this suggestion is plausible.

“We’re all on the same side and not worried about us spreading bad rumors about the lair to the outside world, because I know we won’t. Let’s be honest, over the past twenty years or so, the lair hasn’t had a good public image. Most of the citizens think that the lair is dirty and dangerous, and those who dare to come into the lair aren’t good people.

“This rigid image didn’t affect us during the warring era, but as Dragon City gradually stabilizes, we have to earn money and develop! If we don’t change the lair’s image, we won’t make this pie big!

“How are we going to change the public’s impression of the lair within a short time? We definitely can’t do it on our own. But if we can get a young adult who is a war hero, a model superhuman, the youngest Heaven Realm superhuman in Dragon City, and has a good impression among the citizens to be the ambassador of the lair, wouldn’t we get instant results?”

Chapter 642: Everything Is Within The Former Golden Tooth Gang Leader’s Control

The more Xiong Wei listened, the more he thought that something was off.

Meng Chao’s name was appearing too many times.

Also, the people were talking up Meng Chao one after another, even completing each other’s sentences. Were they really not fibbers?

Xiong Wei was all too familiar with creating public opinion.

Just half a day ago, he hired dozens of fibbers to brazenly declare that Jin Wanhao was irresponsible and only cared about hiding to treat his wounds. He did not care about the survival of the gangs and the lair’s citizens, which was why such a major tragedy happened.

Xiong Wei could smell a scheme from a mile away.

He wanted to narrow his eyes and see the people who were fervently advocating Meng Chao.

But suddenly, a commotion rose in the area ahead of him. Song Jinbo, a group of senior Golden Tooth members, Poison Scorpion, and around eight higher-ranking members of second-class gangs walked out together.

Xiong Wei’s heart let out a loud thump.

Song Jinbo and the senior Golden Tooth members had a bloody black gauze on their arms.

This was a symbol that an important person in a gang had passed away.

But aside from grief and worry, there were also hints of excitement on their faces.

Meanwhile, Poison Scorpion and the eight higher-ranking members from the second-class gangs had really strange expressions.

The gazes they cast on Xiong Wei were really unfathomable and profound.

Before Xiong Wei could think further into it, Song Jinbo arrived in front of the microphone. He cleared his throat and used a grave voice. "Everyone, thank you for protecting the lair with Golden Tooth for so many years. You're all good friends of Golden Tooth. During these complicated and dangerous times, you responded to Golden Tooth's call and gathered here to be a part of the committee to plan the lair's development.

"However, before we focus on the main topic, with a grieving heart, allow me to first represent all Golden Tooth members and announce a news that everyone has been guessing for a long time. It is also one that has caused everyone to worry.

"Indeed, half a day ago, our gang leader fought against the mastermind who destroyed the lair, and during his battle against the Vortex, he perished!"

"What?!"

The moment he said those words, the crowd burst into a ruckus.

Thanks to the rumors Xiong Wei released, everyone knew that Jin Wanhao had died long ago.

Didn't he suffer from brain death and multiple organ failure? They heard that he died in his medical cabin and left behind this major problem in the lair, but no one could take that problem into their hands.

What did he mean by saying that Jin Wanhao died in battle?

Also, he mentioned that he wanted to announce this before entering the main topic. Could it be that the main topic was not as simple as announcing Jin Wanhao's death?

For a period of time, the gang leaders of the third-class gangs were all dumbfounded, and they looked at each other. After all, their information network was never very up-to-date. In the end, they simultaneously cast their gazes on Xiong Wei.

He narrowed his eyes and stared at the gang leader of a third-class gang. This person was usually very close to Black Bone and could practically be considered to be an affiliate of Black Bone.

This gang leader groaned in his heart, but he braced himself and said, "What?! Did Golden Tooth's gang leader really die in battle?! Why did we hear that he has not been able to eat since a few months ago due to being in a coma?! He couldn't take care of the gang affairs and, in the end, passed away!"

"I heard about it too." Song Jinbo's face was calm. "But these are just rumors released by the abnormal beast. Anyone with a bit of common sense wouldn't believe it. If anyone believed such clumsy rumors and rode the tides to spread them, they either have ulterior motives or have joined the abnormal beast's side."

With just one sentence, he managed to render the third-class gang leader silent. His face turned red, and he stuttered, "I-I'd naturally not believe it. I just heard it."

“From the moment the zombie crisis started, the gang leader of Golden Tooth has been risking his life for the lair. Up until now, he protected the lair for nearly half a century. Even if he died, he would never give up on the lair and cast it aside.”

Song Jinbo did not stop and continued his story. “It is true that since half a year ago, the gang leader has not appeared in public. He let Vice Gang Leader Red Brows Su Lun handle all the affairs in Golden Tooth and seemed to have gone underground, ignoring all affairs of the world while he focused on cultivating. That is how the traitor and abnormal beast took advantage of the situation.

“But no one knew that this was just the gang leader’s plan to lure the enemy out of its lair.”

“Lure the enemy out?” Many of the top and middle management members of the gangs were surprised.

“That’s right. With his sharp instincts and outstanding intelligence, our gang leader noticed that the abnormal beast, wanted criminals, and former Reaper Squad members had infiltrated the lair. He even noticed that there was a traitor among the gangs.”

Song Jinbo spoke while swaying his head. “The problem was, the abnormal beast could change its shape however it wanted, and it was really cunning. The wanted criminals and former Reaper Squad members were also real humans. We couldn’t distinguish them easily, much less the traitor.

“Over the past few years, the gangs have been working happily with Red Brows Su Lun. He was the God of Wealth who brought endless cash to everyone. Before we exposed his true colors, did any of you once suspect that he said anything that would harm you?”

“That’s...”

Originally, Golden Tooth had suffered a major blow because its vice gang leader had turned traitor.

But Red Brows Su Lun was not a traditional gang leader. It would be better to say that he was a professional manager Golden Tooth hired to make the relationship between the gangs better, then organize as well as draw out the full potential of their shared resources.

Xiong Wei’s youngest son alone had worked plenty of times with Su Lun.

The other higher ups of the gangs also gained a lot of benefits from Su Lun.

If they really accused Golden Tooth of hiring a traitor, while Golden Tooth would have a hard time defending itself, the other gangs would also be unable to keep themselves clean. They did not have the grounds to accuse Golden Tooth for not discovering the true colors of the traitor sooner.

“In truth, our gang leader suspected a few people, including Su Lun.” Song Jinbo changed the topic then. “But Su Lun was involved in plenty of gangs’ businesses, and our leader didn’t have any concrete evidence. His suspicions alone didn’t allow him to just kill the person straightaway. If he really did that, none of you would have agreed to it, right?”

“Besides, the gang leader suspected that his actions were being monitored by the abnormal beast. If he continued staying in the public eye, the abnormal beast could find a chance to use all sorts of despicable and shameless tactics to harm him. That’s why he decided to retreat and lure the enemy out.

“On the surface, he pretended to be sick and suffering from multiple organ failure, so he had to go underground and get treated in private.

“In truth, the gang leader secretly contacted the two most outstanding young adults of the Golden Era in Dragon City—Meng Chao and Lu Siya. He asked them to help him secretly investigate the truth.”

“W-What?!”

His final sentence stirred up a huge ruckus. Everyone was shocked. “Gang Leader Jin contacted Meng Chao and Lu Siya a long time ago?”

“Of course. Everything was within Gang Leader Jin’s plans. Otherwise, why do you think Meng Chao and Lu Siya would have appeared out of the blue in the lair?” Song Jinbo continued calmly.

“During the case of Blessed Paradise’s murderous pets, Meng Chao and Lu Siya entered the lair to investigate the truth. Even though they caused quite a stir, Gang Leader Jin saw their methods and valiance, and he admired these two outstanding members of the Golden Era. They remained in contact, and he provided them with guidance, so they became friends despite their age difference.

“Once he noticed that there were unidentifiable enemies in the lair, Gang Leader Jin immediately realized that he would be alerting the enemy if he relied on the gangs to investigate the truth. The enemies might also be monitoring our every move, so he had to bring in external forces, which were Meng Chao and Lu Siya.

“You all saw the results. With Gang Leader Jin’s strategy, Meng Chao and Lu Siya did manage to find the truth and discover the traitor. They destroyed all the flames that could have destroyed the lair, and all of this was within Gang Leader Jin’s plans!”

The more Song Jinbo spoke, the more ridiculous it sounded.

There were plenty of details that would expose that he was lying if anyone questioned him at all.

The people started to talk to each other and discuss things. Their voices became louder, as if they were about to turn the hall into a market.

Xiong Wei saw that the third-class gang leaders who had been enthusiastically trying to join Black Bone’s side were starting to become fainthearted because they were intimidated by Song Jinbo.

He could only go up personally with a dark face. “Manager Song, this is a major matter. You can’t joke around with this. Since you said this, you must have concrete proof.”

“Indeed, Gang Leader Xiong. This is a serious matter. Without concrete proof, I wouldn’t have dared to spew nonsense.”

Song Jinbo smiled. Then, his face became full of grief and he let out a long sigh. “Everyone, what you saw within the past twenty-four hours was just a small part of Gang Leader Jin’s ingenious plan.

“Gang Leader Jin, Meng Chao, and Lu Siya worked together to secretly set up an ambush. Gang Leader Jin used his own life as bait and finally lured out the Vortex, who had originally wanted to run away. Then, they killed this heinous demon in Golden Tooth’s underground chamber!”

“They really killed the Vortex?”

“That’s impossible!”

“I thought that thing could disguise itself as anyone and seep through any crack. How did they manage to capture and kill it?”

The crowd was puzzled.

Xiong Wei also snorted and did not believe a word he said.

“Gang Leader Jin, Lu Siya, and Meng Chao’s achievements are absolutely true,” Song Jinbo said. “Even though the Vortex didn’t have a fixed shape and was burnt to ashes and bubbles, we still managed to gather some of its remaining tissue. We will be sending it to the abnormal beast research department for verification.

“Please believe me. This is a serious matter. Even if Golden Tooth had the courage to deceive all of you, we wouldn’t have the courage to lie to the abnormal beast research department and the Supernatural Tower, right?”

Song Jinbo spoke with certainty, and the originally skeptical crowd sank into deep thought.

The lair had suffered a major blow, and it was closely tied to the serial robberies caused by the Deification Capsules in the outside world a few days ago. Both might have come from the same mastermind, so these cases would definitely be investigated side by side.

This was not something that the lair could shut its doors and solve on its own. The secret police, abnormal beast research department, and even the higher-ranked core organizations within the Supernatural Tower would have to be involved.

Meng Chao and Lu Siya were the ace investigators of the abnormal beast research department. Without concrete evidence, they would not help Golden Tooth make such a huge lie.

Chapter 643: The New Gang Leader Takes the Stage!

When Xiong Wei saw that the crowd had partially believed him, he became anxious.

No matter what, Jin Wanhao had intimidated the lair for decades, and his might remained even after he died. If he had really died in battle, this achievement would be enough to grant endless bounties to Golden Tooth.

This was naturally not good for Black Bone’s rise to power.

“Manager Song, it’s not that the other gangs and I do not trust you, but this is a serious matter, no matter what. Please tell us the details of the battle in the underground chamber,” Xiong Wei said with a dark expression. “How did Gang Leader Jin die, and how was the Vortex killed?”

“Gang Leader Xiong, please calm down. We don’t know whether the remnants of the monster civilization lurking in the lair have been completely eradicated. This is highly classified information, and we won’t readily reveal it to the public,” Song Jinbo answered calmly.

“However, once the crisis in the lair ends, we will take the initiative to invite the experts from the abnormal beast research department to enter the underground chamber and investigate matters. We believe that the best martial artists, forensic scientists, and trace evidence experts will give a satisfying explanation to all the people, including Golden Tooth.

“Right now, I can only say that the battle that happened half a day ago was a shocking final battle that would shake even the toughest souls.

“Even though they successfully lured the Vortex into their trap, this abnormal beast has been modified with outstanding biochemical technology. Its fighting strength did not lose to that of the Apocalyptic Beasts causing a rampage at the borders of Dragon City.

“Meng Chao and Lu Siya are outstanding members of Dragon City’s Golden Era. They risked their lives and did everything they could, but they still could not kill the Vortex.

“In the end, Gang Leader Jin had to burn the last of his life and will to deliver an unparalleled Celestial Tyrant’s Star Shattering Slash to the Vortex. Meng Chao and Lu Siya then worked together to attack the Vortex once again. The three of them cooperated until they finally killed the Vortex.

“Gang Leader Jin fought his entire life for the lair, and his body was already laden with all sorts of hidden injuries and chronic illnesses. Over the past few years, he has been in a bad condition, and that is the truth.

“But it’s just as I’ve said, Gang Leader Jin has always treated protecting the lair as his responsibility. Even when he was near death, he could not tolerate the Vortex wreaking havoc in the home he protected his entire life. In the end, he perished in the most heroic manner!”

When Song Jinbo said this, his eyes turned red. He bowed his head and said nothing more.

Hundreds of Golden Tooth members had appeared on the sides of the hall at some point in time. They also had the black-bordered armband with the blood-red emblem on their arms. They lowered their heads at the same time and offered a moment of silence as a sign of their respect.

When the others saw this, they bowed their heads as well and paid their final respects to the man who had ruled over the lair for his entire lifetime and who had intimidated most of Dragon City.

It did not matter what their opinions toward the Underground Emperor were. Without Jin Wanhao, there would be no Golden Tooth Lair. This was something no one could deny.

The atmosphere in the hall became grave.

Without anyone’s notice, the rhythm of the entire event fell into Song Jinbo’s control.

Even someone as domineering as Phantom Bear Xiong Wei could not destroy this solemn atmosphere while everyone was grieving for Jin Wanhao.

They stood in silent tribute for a total of three minutes before Song Jinbo looked up once more. Flames burned in his eyes.

“Gang Leader Jin might have left us, but he did not cast aside the lair.” Song Jinbo’s voice became excited once more. “At the last moment, he held Meng Chao’s hand tightly and asked him to inherit his

will and carry out his final wish, which was to build the Lair Reconstruction Committee. He wanted Meng Chao to gather all the resources of the gangs so the damaged lair would gain a brand new image and be reborn!

“And Meng Chao swore to Golden Tooth Saber that he would definitely not let him down. Just like right now, he will fight for the interests of the lair!”

The more Xiong Wei listened, the more he found that something was off. “Wait. Let’s not talk about whether he will gather all the resources in the lair and reconstruct the lair first. Even if we do want to build an organization that will allow us to pool all of our resources together, what does that have to do with Meng Chao? This is the lair’s internal affairs, and Meng Chao is an outsider. What right does he have to lead the lair to be ‘reborn’?”

Song Jinbo cast Xiong Wei a faint glance.

Xiong Wei’s eyelids twitched, and the veins on his forehead popped, making him look enraged.

In the past, Song Jinbo had never dared to use that gaze to look at him.

Was he looking down on him?

No, it was not just Song Jinbo. Even Poison Scorpion and the eight higher-ranking members of the second-class gangs behind Song Jinbo were looking down on him! How dare they!

Wait, there was a person huddled up behind them. Who was that person in the hooded cloak? His face was covered in shadows. What a strong presence! It belonged to a hungry and mad dog!

It was Wild Wolf! Wild Wolf of Leprosy Village’s Wild Wolves!

Xiong Wei’s pupils shrank into two dots.

The leader of Leprosy Village had actually appeared in Golden Tooth’s headquarters? Why were so many of them standing on the same side? What did this mean?

“Gang Leader, it seems like you do not know this yet, but Meng Chao is not an outsider.”

When Song Jinbo saw Xiong Wei’s shocked expression, he felt pleased, as if he had drunk good wine. He grinned and explained, “In truth, since the first time Meng Chao entered the lair, Gang Leader Jin really admired him. They became friends, and Gang Leader Jin often provided him with martial art guidance so that he could become the youngest Heaven Realm superhuman in Dragon City.

“Meng Chao also admired Gang Leader Jin as a person and Golden Tooth’s ideals. He joined Golden Tooth in secret a long time ago, so he’s one of us. Otherwise, how could he have secretly tried to uncover the traitor in Gang Leader Jin’s place?

“You’ve all personally witnessed the results of Meng Chao’s investigation and his achievements too. If it weren’t for Meng Chao, more than half of you would have died already!

“Besides, when Meng Chao fought against the Vortex, his fearless and heroic performance gained high praise from Gang Leader Jin. He thought that Meng Chao was the most suitable person to inherit his

legacy, and he left a will written in his own blood for us, the people who have been following him for decades.

“All of the senior members agreed with the gang leader’s thoughts, and we welcomed Meng Chao into our midst.

“That’s why I represent all members of Golden Tooth in officially announcing here that Meng Chao from now on is a gang member of Golden Tooth!”

If Song Jinbo announcing Saber Jin Wanhao’s death was like a stone being thrown into a pond, which created multiple ripples, then his words now were like a huge, astonishing meteor that entered the ozone layer from outer space and created dazzling sparks. It created huge waves once it fell in the ocean.

“What?”

“How is that possible!”

“Jin Wanhao actually handed over his position to Meng Chao, that’s too... too...”

Hundreds of higher-ranking members of the gangs looked like they were struck with lightning. They could not recover from their shock even after a long time.

Xiong Wei’s mind raced, and he instantly realized the pros and cons of the situation. He could not help but fly into a rage and growl. “That’s impossible. Jin Wanhao would never hand over his position to Meng Chao!”

Once he said this, the entire hall fell silent.

Even though there were plenty of higher-ranking members who shared the same thoughts as Xiong Wei and remained skeptical toward the entire matter because they believed that there were unspeakable, under-the-table trades that were carried out, only the domineering and fearless Phantom Bear Xiong Wei had the courage to publicly suspect the candidate for Golden Tooth’s gang leader in the hall of Golden Tooth’s headquarters.

In the silence, an amazing presence that gushed out like the blood of hell rose from behind the hall. It was as if someone had driven hundreds of Hell Beasts into the hall.

“Gang Leader Xiong, are you suspecting Gang Leader Jin’s will, or do you think that I don’t have the right to take over Golden Tooth?”

Thud! Thud! Thud!

Song Jinbo and the others parted like the Red Sea.

Meng Chao looked like he was wearing invisible armor. With each step, he left a footprint on the ground. After arriving before the crowd, he looked down on Phantom Bear Xiong Wei with a gaze as sharp as a blade.

At that moment, he wore a black nano fighting suit. There was the emblem of Golden Tooth on his chest and a bloody-red armband on his arm. It was a simple getup, but his continuously growing presence gave him a unique charm and presence.

Meng Chao could sense Hell's Blood flowing nonstop in his body, and it raged due to the presence of the Apocalyptic Version Meng Chao. A terrifying aura gushed out of his pores, which made the expressions of veteran gang members change. Even if they could grit their teeth to prevent them from clattering and their legs from trembling, they could not stop cold sweat breaking out on their skin and wetting their back.

"Is that really Meng Chao?"

"How could this be? How did his aura become so much stronger in just half a day?"

"Is there a mistake? Didn't he fight continuously and get injured during the past forty-eight hours? He should be exhausted and covered in wounds, so why... does he look like he just mastered an amazing martial art and overcame a wall in his cultivation?"

"Could it be... Jin Wanhao really gave him his legacy and Golden Tooth?"

"Such an amazing aura... How could he just have reached Heaven Realm as the public records say? Even if he ran into someone at the peak of Heaven Realm, he could hold himself in the fight!"

The powerful fighters from the gangs had a good eye.

They cast their gazes on Phantom Bear Xiong Wei, eager for a good show.

Everyone in the lair knew Xiong Wei's thoughts.

If Song Jinbo was the only pillar left to support Golden Tooth once Jin Wanhao died and Su Lun was captured, there was a possibility that Xiong Wei would seize it by force and merge it into Black Bone.

But now, Golden Tooth actually chose Meng Chao to go up against Xiong Wei, and by the looks of it, even if he did not inherit Jin Wanhao's legacy, he had gained some amazing blessing.

No matter how arrogant Xiong Wei was, he was an old man from the same generation as Jin Wanhao. He would definitely be unable to keep his glory for long.

And even if Meng Chao's strength on paper was not as great as Xiong Wei's, he was a rising star, so he had a bright future ahead.

If Xiong Wei wanted to devour the youngest Heaven Realm superhuman in Dragon City, he might end up knocking his teeth out!

Xiong Wei's pupils shrank and dilated repeatedly.

From the moment Meng Chao appeared, his expression had turned incredibly grave.

At that moment, he also cast his gaze on Meng Chao's waist. He saw a saber bound by an Apocalyptic Beast's pelt.

At first glance, it was dark and had no shine. It looked like a rotten piece of wood.

But when its owner injected a bit of spirit energy into it, the “rotten piece of wood” released a dark and quiet light that resembled black bronze. It also revealed the patterns of dragon scales.

“That’s...”

Very soon, the powerful fighters of the gangs saw the same thing as Xiong Wei. All their gazes were attracted by the saber.

It was Golden Tooth Saber that once intimidated the lair and would continue doing so in the future!

Chapter 644: Intimidate the Crowd

“Whoosh!”

Meng Chao held the saber horizontally, and his blood vessels expanded. His spirit tattoos appeared, and he drew the saber.

The crowd felt their vision blur. It was as if a raging, golden aquatic dragon had been drawn.

Golden Tooth Saber’s core was an Apocalyptic Beast’s horn. It also had more than one hundred metals and crystals unique to the Other World.

Its greatest characteristic was that once spirit energy of a certain frequency was put in, it would resonate with the atomic electron shell of the saber and release a dazzling light.

That light was equivalent to the sun at noon. It was brighter than a high-power searchlight, and it could dazzle all enemies’ eyes.

Saber Jin Wanhao had often used this weapon to blind the enemies, then, at lightning speed, kill them with Celestial Tyrant’s Star Shattering Slash.

Such a method was simple and brutish, but even after it was used for decades, it still worked.

Naturally, only Jin Wanhao knew the characteristics of the one hundred or so materials used to form Golden Tooth Saber. If he did not personally tell someone, no one would know what frequency their spirit energy should make for the weapon to shine at its brightest.

At that moment, Golden Tooth Saber was like a ball of burning flames in Meng Chao’s hands. Golden flames gushed out in varying degrees of height, causing others to be unable to see the blades outline and brilliance clearly.

It was obvious that he had gained Jin Wanhao’s teachings.

The crowd believed him even more now.

And when they saw how relaxed Meng Chao was, their trust in him grew.

But Meng Chao’s performance had yet to end.

He tightened his hold on Golden Tooth Saber and brought it up high. Then, he widened his eyes and roared.

The hellish flames had already been like tidal waves, but now, they gushed out like a volcano eruption and swept through the entire hall.

His ability to produce this was of no surprise, considering the fact that he had injected a lot of the spirit energy given to him by Hell's Blood into it.

The powerful fighters from the gangs smelled a thick, bloody scent.

Their eyes stung, and they started seeing things. The entire hall seemed to be covered by a sea of blood.

The invasive bloody flames wanted to seep into their bones through their pores and orifices.

Quite a number of weak third-class gang leaders grunted. Their expressions were full of pain and alarm, and they instinctively took a few steps back to stay far away from Phantom Bear Xiong Wei.

"W-What an amazing aura! It's like he's the only survivor from a mountain of corpses or a demon who escaped from the apocalypse!"

"That's impossible! I just met Meng Chao yesterday, and he wasn't like this at that time. What exactly happened to him within these short twenty-four hours?"

"Meng Chao's spirit energy is still increasing! What does he want to do?!"

"H-He's forcibly activating his spirit energy and sending it into Golden Tooth Saber so that he can unlock its second form!"

Some of the powerful fighters understood Meng Chao's intentions, and all of them were shocked.

Most weapons had shape memory alloys, overlapping molecules, the ability to interchange mass and energy, and other characteristics, so they did not have just one form.

Meng Chao's Bloody Soul had two forms—the heavy form and super heavy form.

The Underground Emperor's signature weapon had three forms.

However, it was not an easy task to completely master such a weapon and activate its second or third form.

A seven-year-old child was already playing with fire if they brandished a saber weighing dozens of kilograms. If they were careless, they might end up suffering a backlash.

If the saber had several blades smelted into it, was connected to two longswords, and even had a morningstar attached to it, the seven-year-old child would either be unable to brandish it, or would die the moment they managed to swing it.

When Meng Chao and Lu Siya planned to expose Red Brows Su Lun, they wanted to make Su Lun use a weapon that he should be unable to use, but Su Lun did not fall for it.

And based on what the people knew, only Saber Jin Wanhao could use Golden Tooth Saber freely.

Meng Chao should have already reached the limit of his abilities by making Golden Tooth Saber shine.

How could he possibly activate the saber and make it show its second form, which was even stronger?!

Just as they expected, even though Meng Chao's spirit energy erupted like a volcano for a long time and the light from Golden Tooth Saber reached eight meters tall and practically rammed a hole in the hall's ceiling, the saber never showed any physical changes.

"Is he pushing himself?"

"Jin Wanhao was a top-class fighter that could be compared to Deity Realm superhumans, and this weapon has been with him for decades. There's no way a four-star superhuman in his early twenties would be able to use it."

"Speaking of which, Meng Chao is just in his early twenties, and he managed to make Golden Tooth Saber release a glare that is eight meters tall. Isn't that already an unbelievable miracle? Give him another ten years, no, five, and he'll definitely be able to unlock Golden Tooth Saber's second form. Then, he'll reach the ranks of Dragon City's top-class fighters!"

"Could it be that Jin Wanhao saw his potential and gave Golden Tooth to him?"

Most of the gang fighters were fully convinced that Meng Chao was the successor chosen by Jin Wanhao.

Otherwise, it was impossible for him to hold Golden Tooth Saber and know the secret to unlock its power.

Even Phantom Bear Xiong Wei's brows were scrunched up together, forming a deep crease between them.

But to everyone's surprise, when they thought that Meng Chao had finished his performance, the true show started.

A few thick veins suddenly appeared on Meng Chao's face, and golden sparks that did not lose to the saber glare rose in his eyes. His spine also let out a series of pops that sounded like a dragon's roar.

The spirit flames that surrounded him were originally flying all around the place. At that moment, they gathered together and formed a dragon behind him. It rose into the air and soared!

Boom!

It was as if an invisible ordnance penetrator had descended from the sky and exploded in the hall. A visible shockwave spread out from Meng Chao.

Creak! Creak! Creak!

Crack!

The glass in the hall started letting out cracking sounds because of Meng Chao's aura.

It was so strong that intersecting cracks that looked like spider webs even appeared on the reinforced glass, which would not even break after monsters rammed into it.

"That's..."

At that moment, everyone's breathing froze.

No one could believe their eyes. They did not trust the goosebumps on their skins, much less the tremors that rose from the depths of their bones.

“Divine Nine Dragon Seals!”

“It’s Battle God Lei Zongchao’s famous technique! It’s THE Divine Nine Dragon Seals, the one countless people dream of mastering, but only a few people manage to!”

“How is that possible! That’s impossible! Meng Chao actually managed to master Divine Nine Dragon Seals to such a degree? That’s insane!”

Strictly speaking, Divine Nine Dragon Seals was not a technique that could deliver straightforward damage. Instead, it was a technique that could unlock the eight dragon meridians and execute Nine Dragons Resonance. It would maximize the explosive power of a skill when the user used spirit energy to activate it.

With the help of the dragon meridians on his spine, the spirit flames around Meng Chao became five times stronger!

The spirit flames were like a heinous monster that rammed into Golden Tooth Saber. The quantitative change finally led to a qualitative change. As countless gang fighters watched in astonishment, Golden Tooth Saber let out a roar that sounded like it came from an Apocalyptic Beast.

The second layer of the saber finally came out amid the golden light, and it was like fangs. The spirit tattoos that covered the saber became even more complicated and dazzling. The hilt also became longer. It was originally a short hilt fitted to a heavy saber with a thick width, but now, the hilt became more than two meters long, and it was like a zanbato that could even cut main battle tanks in half.

The old gang fighters had a lot of wrinkles and intersecting scars on their faces, yet now, an indescribable expression appeared on their faces.

It had been many years since they had witnessed Golden Tooth Saber’s second form, but they could still remember the terror of being dominated by this fearsome zanbato.

What caused them greater fear, however, was that Meng Chao had not just unlocked the second form of Golden Tooth Saber.

His spirit flames continued gushing forward and blended perfectly with the golden saber glare from Golden Tooth Saber. Then, it was compressed at the tip and formed a small but blinding man-made sun!

The sun crackled like a golden ball of lightning that continued releasing golden sparks.

The sparks scattered like rain, but they did not disappear immediately. Instead, they surrounded Meng Chao and circled him slowly, like stars surrounding a moon. They protected their master, and the moment Meng Chao whistled, they would fly out to kill his enemies.

“This is... the starting stance for Celestial Tyrant’s Star Shattering Slash!”

“Meng Chao has definitely obtained Jin Wanhao’s legacy!”

“It’s no wonder why he has the right to become Golden Tooth’s new gang leader!”

Even though the small sun at the tip of Meng Chao's saber flickered and kept changing size, which made it look like it would disappear at any moment, and the sparks around him winked away as they circled him, it just showed that he had recently learned the skill. He knew the starting stance but not the essence of the technique. However, the stance alone was enough to tell everyone what had happened.

Celestial Tyrant's Star Shattering Slash was unlike Divine Nine Dragon Seals.

Battle God Lei Zongchao was generous and had offered all his martial arts to the public. All the martial arts courses in universities and even the martial arts research centers in society had carried out extensive research on them and gained a lot of results from their findings.

It could be said that all superhumans in Dragon City learned a lot of things from Battle God Lei Zongchao.

If Meng Chao were able to use Divine Nine Dragon Seals, it only meant that he was talented. It did not mean that he had any connection with the Battle God.

But the master of the lair was not this generous.

Celestial Tyrant's Star Shattering Slash was the secret he refused to teach anyone. He did not have any disciples or children, and he did not teach it to his Vice Gang Leader Su Lun, Song Jinbo, or his other old friends.

Logically speaking, no one should know the secret of Celestial Tyrant's Star Shattering Slash.

If Meng Chao was able to take the stance of Celestial Tyrant's Star Shattering Slash, it could only mean that he had obtained Ji Wanhao's acknowledgement and personal guidance.

Even if there was some sort of insider dealing in this, others could not possibly interfere with what had happened.

At the end of the day, these were the internal gang affairs of Golden Tooth. They did not have the right nor the strength to interfere.

Now, most of the gang leaders and gang fighters no longer doubted Meng Chao's status as Golden Tooth's gang leader.

And hence, the pressure was on Phantom Bear Xiong Wei.

Everyone held their breaths and waited for his reaction.

Chapter 645: Long Journey Beyond the Lair

Xiong Wei found himself in an awkward situation and faced with a dilemma.

If Golden Tooth decided to support the Meng Chao of yesterday, he was confident that he could humiliate the boy within three moves, such as using spirit pressure to force the boy to his knees or using spirit force to throw him off his feet and on his back.

In that case, forget about Meng Chao's own dignity, even Golden Tooth and Jin Wanhao's dignity would be completely trampled. Then, he would have no right to compete against Xiong Wei for the title of the leader of the Lair Reconstruction Committee.

But within just a short twenty-four hours, Meng Chao gained some sort of blessing. Not only did he unlock the second form of Golden Tooth Saber, he was also able to use Divine Nine Dragon Seals and Celestial Tyrant's Star Shattering Slash. His fighting strength had increased by leaps and bounds, and he grew distinctly stronger.

Even though Xiong Wei did not think that Meng Chao had mastered the spirit of Celestial Tyrant's Star Shattering Slash, he had to admit, this young man had created countless miracles ever since he appeared in public eye, and he could no longer easily defeat him in just five moves.

If he wanted to defeat Meng Chao, they would have to fight seriously and exchange more than one hundred moves.

He would also have to be prepared to be injured heavily and gain only a pyrrhic victory.

Yet that would be meaningless.

He was an old generation fighter who had been famous for decades, while Meng Chao was a rising star and a greenhorn.

If he gained a pyrrhic victory after exchanging more than one hundred blows against Meng Chao, the youth would gain glory, even though he was defeated. Meanwhile, Xiong Wei would be humiliated.

The most crucial thing was that Xiong Wei did not have a suitable reason to cause trouble for Meng Chao.

They were all allies in name, and Meng Chao had just saved the lair.

The logic behind him inheriting Jin Wanhao's legacy also appeared to be flawless. Even if there were suspicious points, he could not cast doubt on it, because he was an outsider.

In such a situation, if he attacked Meng Chao or even injured the war hero in front of everyone's eyes, he would definitely become the subject of ridicule and even a target of subjugation for the Supernatural Tower.

But if he just watched Meng Chao's performance, the rhythm would end up in Meng Chao's hands. If they really formed the Lair Reconstruction Committee, Meng Chao's word would have the highest authority, because he inherited Jin Wanhao's legacy and Golden Tooth!

Xiong Wei gritted his teeth. His expression became savage, and his gaze stormy. He looked back and forth between Meng Chao and the gang leaders behind him.

Suddenly, his gaze wavered.

At some point in time, a one-eyed, single-armed, single-legged man with a face covered in scars had appeared in a shadowy corner.

He seemed to be one of the vagabonds who could be seen everywhere in the lair, and not a single bit of aura could be detected from his pores, so much so that even Xiong Wei could not tell whether he had been standing there since the start or had popped up from the shadows.

He was the Deity Realm superhuman Broken Sword Ye Xiaoyue!

Xiong Wei sighed in his heart and completely gave up on attacking Meng Chao.

“Everyone!”

Meng Chao sensed that Xiong Wei had decided to not challenge him. He smiled and lifted Golden Tooth Saber, then spoke loudly. “Even though I am not from the lair, I share a common identity with you that is far greater than that of a lair citizen.

“We’re all Dragon Citizens, and we’re comrades connected by blood. In all our bodies flows the blood of Earth!

“Our ancestors went through the most unbelievable transmigration in the universe and found buried under our feet the ancient ruins from billions of years ago. Now, ahead of us is a mighty battlefield. It is the place where we will journey together, and it is bound to be the most astonishing journey in all of human civilization.

“Compared to the adventures we will soon face and the miracles we will soon create, all the glorious deeds made by the heroes from the past will just seem like they were playing house.

“After transmigrating through billions of galaxies, we are bound to have a great journey. Are we then supposed to still differentiate between the lair and the outside world within the tiny Dragon City? Just how cowardly and short-sighted must someone be to insist on not letting go of the lair? That’s the same as being a frog in a well, only longing for a tiny pool of water filled with mud!”

His words were filled with spirit energy. After being flung out more than ten meters away as if from an air cannon, his voice exploded at the center of the hall, and it was as deafening as thunder.

The saber glare around Golden Tooth Saber also became more brilliant and wild due to his excitement.

The gangs knew that he was bragging shamelessly, but plenty of the fighters were still stunned by the picture he painted with those bold words.

Mankind should realize their aspirations all over the world. They were all superhumans with above average strength. If they had the chance, all of them wanted to traverse the Other World and build their own empire. No one wanted to stay locked up in the tiny lair.

In the past, Dragon City was shrouded by fog and could not colonize the Other World. This caused all of them to live aggrieved lives.

Now, the road to the Other World and their future was becoming visible before their eyes.

Would they have the courage to take that step?

“Trust me, times have changed!” Meng Chao’s voice was like a loud bell as he spoke firmly. “I once promised Gang Leader Jin that I would reconstruct the lair, but I don’t want to reconstruct a lair that is the same as the one before. I hope that you will all work with me to build a new lair that is one hundred times better than the old one.

“I believe that as long as our hearts are one, we will definitely breathe new life into the lair, and I also believe that as long as we cast aside the ludicrous factional views between the gangs, between Leprosy Village and the lair, and between the lair and the outside world, we will not only build a brand new lair,

we will also build a new Dragon City that is ten times larger than the lair. We may even build a brand new Other World that is a million times larger than the lair!”

Whoosh!

The small sun that was trembling on Golden Tooth Saber’s tip exploded. It turned into a million golden rays that spread to every corner of the hall.

Even though they were only dazzling and contained no power whatsoever, the sight was still breathtaking.

Everyone’s vision blurred, which forced them to blink rapidly. When they fixed their gazes on Meng Chao again, they found that he had already sheathed the saber.

Only some wisps of bloody flames and golden light surrounded his back like a dozen pairs of wings and lingered in the air.

“Golden Tooth alone won’t be able to reconstruct the lair. We need all of your help.” With a sincere expression, Meng Chao extended his hands to the gang leaders and fighters before the stage.

“Everyone, you’re heroes who protected the lair for decades.

“Even when Gang Leader Jin was still around, he wouldn’t have been able to protect the lair’s order and interests without major support from all of you. Right now, if you agree to build the Lair Reconstruction Committee, we will make this pie one hundred times bigger than it is now. What say you?”

“I agree!”

“Me too!”

“Times have changed. The mega corporations and famous universities are expanding their territories and colonizing the outside world. We can’t be frogs in the well and be content with staying where we are!”

“Form the Lair Reconstruction Committee! Gather all resources! Fight for ten times the profit than before!”

“Rose is willing to join the Lair Reconstruction Committee!”

“Metal Eagle is also willing to join!”

“Poison Scorpion will join!”

Even though anyone with a keen eye could tell that these gang leaders who enthusiastically responded to the call before Meng Chao’s voice even faded away were the ones who walked out from the backstage together with Song Jinbo just now and had clearly agreed to certain conditions before this, the power of a group was stronger than an individual.

When the others saw that Golden Tooth and Poison Scorpion had both agreed to form the Lair Reconstruction Committee, more than half of the second-class gangs voiced their support and moved to Meng Chao’s side. The remaining small gangs then also did not dare to go against the trend.

Soon, most of the gang leaders made their stance and exclaimed support for Meng Chao as well as Golden Tooth.

Only Phantom Bear Xiong Wei and a few of the gang leaders who were affiliated to Black Bone were left. They stood awkwardly with frustration on their faces and feeling a little lost as to what they should do.

“Gang Leader Xiong.” Meng Chao strode forward in front of Xiong Wei. He extended his hands and said sincerely, “When the former gang leader lay dying, he still remembered how you fought together against zombies and monsters. He still believed that you were his best comrade and also his greatest rival. He died with no regrets because he was able to defend the lair for half a century with you!

“At his last moment, he held my hand tightly and told me repeatedly that if I want to form the Lair Reconstruction Committee, I will definitely not succeed without you, who is the strongest fighter in the lair, when I’m just a greenhorn.

“He also told me repeatedly that Black Bone has great experience when it comes to construction, so I had to think of a way to invite you to be the vice committee leader of the Lair Reconstruction Committee and become in charge of the construction aspects.

“I’ve never heard Gang Leader Jin have such a high view of a rival in the past, so would you be willing to help Gang Leader Jin continue defending the lair on behalf of you two having fought together in the past?”

Xiong Wei’s lips twitched.

Meng Chao was not lying when he said that Black Bone had a lot of experience when it came to construction.

However, when it came to construction, earthwork, land requisition and allocation, and other aspects, all of them were gang industries that were neither illegal nor legal work in the past.

As long as the gangs had a bit of power and were large enough, they could invest in a few construction groups to take care of the construction. All of them had “great” experience in it.

The meaning behind Meng Chao’s words was very simple.

Since the lair was severely damaged, construction would definitely get the most money, and its slice of the pie would be the largest.

Meng Chao and Golden Tooth wanted to give Xion Wei this slice of pie in exchange for his and Black Bone’s support.

If Xiong Wei were not satisfied with this large slice of pie, then he would be spitting on the camaraderie he formed with Jin Wanhao when they fought together. The two gangs would turn complete enemies, and neither side would stop until the other was destroyed.

When Xiong Wei saw the gentle smile on Meng Chao’s face and the sharp gaze in his eyes, he felt a little dazed.

Now that he thought about it, it had been decades since he fought side by side with Jin Wanhao.

The Saber was injured from head to toe in those fights and had now passed away.

Xiong Wei's own injuries were about the same as Jin Wanhao's. He, too, was in his twilight years, and the flames of his vitality were becoming dimmer and more chaotic.

Even if he could force himself to keep breathing and fight against Meng Chao, the methods and strength this boy displayed within a short forty-eight hours and his endless potential that showed that he was far from his peak proved that it would be no easy matter. How many years did Xiong Wei have left in him to fight?

A few years later, he would kick the bucket just like Jin Wanhao, but Meng Chao would remain a bright star in the sky. What would happen to Xiong Wei's family and Black Bone then?

Xiong Wei was not alone, like Jin Wanhao.

He had to consider things for his children and grandchildren.

For a short moment of time, he found himself in a difficult situation.

The next moment, he was caught off guard. Meng Chao grabbed his hand, squeezed it, and shook it up and down three times.

The unique heat from a young man gushed out from Meng Chao's palm, and it was one that Xiong Wei had not experienced for a long time.

Black Bone's gang leader was stunned like a piece of rotten log for a long time. Then, a wry smile appeared on his skeletal face. He shook off Meng Chao's hand and spread his arms to give him a fierce bear hug!

Chapter 646: That Is All

"Cheers!"

"Long live the lair!"

"Long live the Lair Reconstruction Committee!"

As Meng Chao and Xiong Wei hugged each other passionately, thunderous cheers rose in the hall.

Of course, most of the cheers were from Golden Tooth members.

They knew deeply that after Saber Jin Wanhao passed away, they had to do everything they could to advocate for the Lair Reconstruction Committee's birth if they still wanted to retain their interests and their position as the strongest gang. They also needed to have the dominant position in it, hence they were doing their best to support it.

Somehow, they managed to give off the feeling that they were united as one, giving them a completely new and brilliant look.

As for Meng Chao, he went to the back of the hall, and after he drew the curtains, his legs became weak. He fell forward, straight into the arms of Lu Siya, who had quickly stepped forward to support him.

"No way, you're already drained?" Lu Siya could not help but ask. "Aren't you too weak?"

Meng Chao could only smile wryly in the face of his friend's teasing.

Celestial Tyrant's Star Shattering Slash was a close-kept secret of the Underground Emperor. There was no way A'Ji could teach him properly within such a short time.

Even if Meng Chao continued to pour contribution points into his brain and threw all of it into increasing the Skillfulness of Celestial Tyrant's Star Shattering Slash, he could only manage to imitate a bit of it.

Besides, to ensure that he could bring out the most dazzling electricity effect from the bit that he had learned, Meng Chao had to use Divine Nine Dragon Seals to activate Hell's Blood once more. His vitality magnetic field was forced to go into overdrive, and though his body had been repaired moments ago, the treatment was basically the same as someone simply patching up his body. He was driven to his limits again.

He managed to suppress the entire crowd, but his body was drained once more!

Fortunately, Meng Chao was already used to the feeling of his body being drained.

Additionally, aside from Lu Siya waiting for him backstage, there was also Su Mulian, the amazing doctor who could even bring someone back from the dead.

"Ms. Mulian." When he saw her, Meng Chao exhaled long and hard. Then, he smiled from the bottom of his heart. "You've come, just like I asked!"

It would be too exaggerated to say that all the gangs in the lair, including Leprosy Village's Wild Wolves, were bad people. At the end of the day, they had their own goals and interests.

When Meng Chao talked with the gang leaders, he had to use all his brain cells to the maximum to repeatedly deduce and fuss over everything. He had to predict dozens and even hundreds of steps ahead as if he was playing chess, so it was very tiring.

However, Su Mulian had pure goals. Just like him, she wanted to save more lair citizens.

If it were not for Su Mulian's complete trust and how she promised Wild Wolf that Meng Chao would not do them harm, Wild Wolf would not have believed in Meng Chao so easily.

Without her, no matter how much of a glib tongue or an iron fist he had, he could not stop Leprosy Village from getting into a conflict with the gangs. It would also be impossible for him to crack the Vortex's scheme or get Jin Wanhao's legacy.

Even now, Meng Chao still could not understand why Su Mulian looked so uncontrollably terrified back when she first met him but still believed that he could save the lair.

Nevertheless, that did not stop Meng Chao from showing the most sincere and defenseless smile to Su Mulian.

The smile caused Su Mulian's pupils to contract a little as if she was a rabbit that had seen the grin of a big, bad wolf.

The abnormal reaction caused even Lu Siya to be slightly dazed. With narrowed eyes, she observed the strange-looking girl who looked like a Ford's manglietia in the mountains.

Fortunately, Su Mulian soon snapped out of her daze. She quickly walked forward and helped Lu Siya support Meng Chao.

“Are you injured?” she asked with a complicated expression.

“They’re just minor injuries. I’m feeling a little drained. I also took dozens of gene medicine in one go.” Meng Chao smiled and said, “Since you’re here, could you nurse me a little? It should be fine for you, right?”

Draining his spirit energy down to the last drop, sending his vitality magnetic field into overdrive, and executing Divine Nine Dragon Seals, as well as Celestial Tyrant’s Star Shattering Slash, were small problems.

If Meng Chao asked Lu Siya for help in getting the spirit energy from the Red Radiance Jades and Blue Origin Crystals to resonate, he could recover slowly.

The high-density Hell’s Blood was the major problem.

A’Ji had told Meng Chao that he originally intended to spend an entire year to digest the raging spirit energy contained in the seven Hell’s Blood. During that period of time, he would have to use hundreds of ingredients to help him completely dissolve the medicine. Then, it could be safely and stably absorbed by his cells.

Meng Chao had taken in more than half of A’Ji’s stock of Hell’s Blood in one go, and the Vortex had also drunk one-third of A’Ji’s Hell’s Blood. It, in turn, had also injected that terrifying spirit energy into Meng Chao.

To A’Ji, Meng Chao should have combusted on the spot or even exploded. He was an unsolved mystery in life sciences for still being able to run and jump around right then.

Meng Chao knew very well that it was due to Kindling and his contribution points.

However, no matter how strong Kindling was, there was a limit to his strength. At most, he could only turn his contribution points into golden energy and temporarily encase 90% of the Hell’s Blood so that it could be stored in Meng Chao’s limbs and organs.

If he did not think of a way to digest the raging power soon, that ticking time bomb, which was made of more than one hundred Hell Beasts’ essence and blood, would still blow Meng Chao apart.

Su Mulian might not be able to solve Meng Chao’s problem once and for all, but she possessed amazing healing powers. Hence, she should be able to appease the great and complex power in Meng Chao’s body to buy him more time.

There was no reason for Su Mulian to reject Meng Chao’s request.

As Golden Tooth’s new gang leader, he definitely had access to treatment rooms within the headquarters that were decorated lavishly. They had all the necessary facilities, all sorts of valuable items, gene medicines, and everything else.

Lu Siya only left after Meng Chao was immersed in milky white medicine.

Before she left, she cast a deep glance at Su Mulian.

It seemed like she had sensed that something was off, and she did not want to leave Meng Chao to be treated by the mysterious girl from Leprosy Village.

After all, the mysterious boy, A'Ji was from Leprosy Village.

Despite that, she had no choice. Even though the gangs had already come to a tentative agreement in the hall, it was because Meng Chao and the others had used the discordant information they possessed to their advantage and hit them with an ambush.

Once the gang leaders registered what happened, would ulterior motives not form in their minds?

Even if everyone had really agreed to form the Lair Reconstruction Committee, how were they going to make the pie big, how were they going to distribute the slices, and who was going to distribute them?

Everything was a problem.

Plus, that was not something Meng Chao was good with.

Lu Siya, the Queen Bee, on the other hand, was skilled in that area, and she enjoyed handling such stuff.

With her taking care of the rest, Meng Chao could relax completely and enjoy Su Mulian's treatment in a relaxed manner as well as listen to her talk about Leprosy Village's situation.

Leprosy Village had been badly damaged during the Vortex's ambush, and rough estimations showed that there were more than one thousand casualties, and there were even more missing people.

However, there was a blessing in disguise. Due to Meng Chao's all-out advocacy, the gangs had finally decided to open a path for them and clear out a safety zone at Leprosy Village's borders so that the villagers could come out and seek refuge. They had also given them the necessary food, medicine, and relief resources.

To prevent Leprosy Village's fire from affecting the lair, the gangs had to allocate manpower to help Leprosy Village get rid of the fire no matter how reluctant they were.

It was just as the ancient saying went, "No man is an island."

Humans would always be connected to each other through unexpected ways.

Su Mulian told Meng Chao that the fire on the surface of Leprosy Village had been extinguished, and the dangerous zones that might have hidden flames spreading around had been isolated with firebreaks. All of the old, sick, disabled, and lightly injured had also been sent to the safety zones and had received timely treatment.

As such, while the villagers were still worried, they were no longer fearful. Everyone was willing to believe in Meng Chao's promise that the outside world would definitely not ignore them.

In other words, while the losses were great, things turned out a lot better than they had expected. Most of the villagers had managed to keep their lives, and all of it was because of Meng Chao.

“Mr. Meng, the villagers asked me to deliver their most sincere thanks to you.” As Su Mulian spoke, she bowed deeply to Meng Chao. At the same time, she used her long hair to mask her expression and said, “No... matter what happens, the village and I will remember your kindness to us this time, and we will do whatever it takes to repay you!”

“Y-You don’t have to be so polite, you know?”

Since she was so polite, she made Meng Chao feel a little embarrassed. He scratched his head and said, “I’m just doing what I should do. Besides, I can’t do anything alone. Everyone worked together, that’s why we managed to save Leprosy Village and the lair.

“Ms. Mulian, if you hadn’t chosen to trust me wholeheartedly and help me convince Wild Wolf, if A’Ji hadn’t led the way, if the gang leaders, including Phantom Bear Xiong Wei, hadn’t been calm enough, and of course, if it hadn’t been for Lu Siya’s great capabilities, forget saving Leprosy Village, my ashes might have been gone in the wind too!

“So, you really don’t have to go so far as to say that all of you will repay me to the best of your abilities. If you must, please help me build the Lair Reconstruction Committee, and we’ll make the future lair is ten times better than it is now. That’ll be enough for me!”

“Leprosy Village will definitely support the Lair Reconstruction Committee fully, and it will also support you as well as Ms. Lu Siya.”

Su Mulian stared at Meng Chao for a long time. When she noticed that his expression did not seem to be fake, she appeared to come to a decision and made that promise earnestly.

Then, she heaved a long sigh and relaxed.

After pausing for a moment, she seemed to remember something. “Oh no, just now, I should have thanked Ms. Lu. During the battle of the lair, aside from you, Ms. Lu contributed the most. If both of you didn’t have such firm, great love for each other and understand each other so well, the lair might already be destroyed!”

Those words caused Meng Chao to choke on the medicine.

“Cough cough cough cough cough cough—Ms. Mulian, you’ve misunderstood.”

Meng Chao’s face turned red from choking, and he said, “Big Sis Ya and I don’t have a ‘firm, great love for each other.’”

“Huh?” Su Mulian widened her eyes and blurted out, “You’re not yet... I mean, aren’t you lovers?”

“No.” Meng Chao shrugged. “We’re business partners, friends walking down the same path of cultivation, and comrades who fight together in battle. That’s all.”

Chapter 647: Spokesperson

Meng Chao and Lu Siya’s relationship in the circle was not a secret. When the brand image packaging company was creating their identities as model superhumans, they often asked them to work as a pair and tied them together. They could take down the fans in high-end circles and those in the sinking market. Therefore, quite a number of people thought that they were lovers.

However, as of now, Meng Chao did not harbor such thoughts toward Lu Siya.

More accurately speaking, they were not targeted solely toward Lu Siya.

He did not have much interest in purely human girls.

One of the reasons was because he knew that Dragon City might face the apocalypse, so it was difficult for him to pour all of his emotions into a normal relationship.

If he could not stop the torrent of destiny and the apocalypse really arrived, a deep love would only bring him searing pain.

If he even accidentally had children during the relationship and had his own family, he would have a much harder time accepting the fact that he would be watching his wife, as well as children, struggle, wail, die, and perish in the flames of the apocalypse.

It was better for him to be alone and have no strings attached.

If he never had something, then he would not have to care about losing it.

Women would only interfere with his judgment and cultivation, thus preventing him from contributing to human civilization.

Aside from that, there was one even more important reason that he could not quite tell.

There was a secret deep within Meng Chao's heart. It was one he never told anyone, not even Bai Jiacao and Lu Siya.

As his cultivation realm grew higher, his cerebral cortex became stronger, and more memories from his previous life were gradually being awakened. They also became more detailed.

Besides the intense fighting from his previous life, he had also awakened to the memories of his daily existence in his past life.

Around one year ago, Meng Chao would often dream about strange things whenever it was quiet at night, and they had all been exciting scenes that made his blood race.

They had also been ones that made his face turn red and were scenes that would usually be censored.

Dragon City was known as the Extraordinary Disaster in his previous life, and it was not a just and kind civilization.

In his previous life, his parents had died tragically, and his sister had been corrupted. He had also faced pressure to survive, so he had joined Ghost Tribe's training camp to become a Ghost Assassin. He was neither a kind, religious man nor a righteous man.

Every single time a Ghost Assassin carried out a mission, he had to risk his life and dance on the edge of a sword.

Even if their bodies could survive, their minds would become really distorted due to the highly intense missions, and they needed to find release using all sorts of methods.

Plus, when it came down to it, there was only one great way for men to relieve their stress.

At that time, Dragon Citizens had already come into close contact with the other races in the Other World.

Compared with normal citizens, Meng Chao had more chances to engage with the fairer sex of the other intelligent life forms in the Other World as a Ghost Assassin. They had all kinds of appearances.

There were the elf witches, whose skins changed like chameleons as their environment changed; the battle goddesses of the icefolk, who wore pelts and were really good at fighting; female magicians who could literally raid the clouds because they seemed to fly in the sky; succubi who were surrounded by icy flames and whose eyes could suck souls away; female bloodfolk whose fangs would grow on their own when they were in the throes of passion, hence he had to be on guard against them at all times...

In Meng Chao's fragmented dreams, he often met with people of that level.

The Other World's living environment was incredibly brutal.

It did not matter whether it was monsters or intelligent life forms, once they had the chance, they would do their best to make their lives bloom. With the most pious spirits and fervent manner, they would search for the most exciting pleasures, regardless if it only lasted for a moment.

Even if Meng Chao was currently the youngest Heaven Realm superhuman in Dragon City, when he met people of the same level in his dreams at night, he had to squeeze out all the potential in his cells to deliver astonishing power and suppress them.

Hence, whenever Meng Chao woke up from his dreams, he would feel that everything was dull, and he would be in a despondent mood.

How should he put it into words? It was just like how someone would find pure tofu stir-fried with leek tasteless after they had gotten used to spicy hotpot that was full of chili, oil, and sour stuff. They would not be able to find it appetizing.

He had gotten used to sparring and growing together with elf witches, the icefolk's battle goddesses, witches, succubi, the duchesses of the bloodfolk, cat women, leopard women, rabbit women, snake women, dragon women, and others. So, when he saw the purely human girls in Dragon City, he just found them uninteresting and bland.

Based on normal human standards, Lu Siya was definitely so beautiful that she gave off an aggressive air, but she also emanated a very invasive air. Many men would say that they could not handle her.

However, to Meng Chao, a veteran who had lived up to the apocalypse and always ended up exhausted in his dreams, even if he was naked with Lu Siya in a medical cabin, his mind would not wander.

Besides, Lu Siya was very dangerous.

She was just as dangerous as Meng Chao.

Meng Chao valued his relationship with Lu Siya, but he did not want their relationship to develop to that stage because he still had not figured out what stance to take with the nine mega corporations.

In his previous life, Dragon City had walked toward destruction under the leadership of the nine mega corporations.

If he wanted to prevent Dragon City's destruction, did that mean there would come a day when he needed to stand as an enemy against the nine mega corporations?

Even though Lu Siya constantly said that she was not to be grouped with the nine mega corporations, she belonged to the Lu family, and she was one of the most outstanding third-generation members among the nine cultivation families. It was a fact that she would highly likely become a candidate for taking over Sky Pillar Corporation in the future.

Meng Chao did not want their relationship to become too complicated, although it was already very complicated.

"Is that so? I'm sorry, I didn't know." Su Mulian blushed and said, "You look like you have a really good relationship."

"We do share a really good relationship. I will convey your thanks to Big Sis Ya."

Meng Chao collected himself, cleared his throat, and changed the subject. "By the way, if you really want to thank us, there is something that only you can do."

"What is it?" Su Mulian said, "As long as I can do it, I will definitely do everything I can."

"You will definitely be able to do it, and you'll do it well, even," Meng Chao said. "I'm asking you to become the image spokesperson for the lair."

"What?" Su Mulian widened her eyes and said, "Image spokesperson? What do you mean?"

"You're going to represent the lair and change the rigid impression that the citizens have about the place," Meng Chao explained. "Red Brows Su Lun might be a despicable traitor, and he didn't have good motives; he just wanted to gain the favor of the gangs' higher-ups when he wanted to corporatize, industrialize, and regularize the lair businesses, but the plan in itself isn't wrong. Times have changed, and from now on, Dragon City can no longer afford to have any spaces that are dirty and filled with chaos. We need to change and open our doors to embrace the whole world.

"However, over the past few decades, the lair has always been ruled by gangs. It's a place where the good and bad mingle. The moment 'it is filthy, chaotic, has low living standards, is highly dangerous, should not be a place for good people,' and other such rigid impressions are formed, it'll be very difficult to change them. If we treat the lair as a mega corporation, it'll be the same as its business reputation being zero. No, you can even call it a negative asset.

"This time, the crisis stirred up by the Vortex nearly brought destruction upon the lair, but it also gave it a chance to be reborn.

"If we want to set up a new image for the lair while we're reconstructing it, we need a completely different image spokesperson from Underground Emperor Jin Wanhao.

"In the past, the moment the citizens think of Golden Tooth Lair, they think of Jin Wanhao, the gangs, and all kinds of unrefined, gray industries.

"I hope that in the future, we can make the citizens think of exciting entertainment industries and the contributions that the lair citizens at the bottom of society have made for Dragon City's development through a new image spokesperson. I also hope that they will think of safety, cleanliness, and vigor."

Su Mulian figured out the general gist of what Meng Chao was saying.

“Mr. Meng, aren’t you the best image spokesperson if that’s the case?” she asked.

“Everyone might have elected me as Golden Tooth’s gang leader, but I’m an outsider. The general population is already familiar with my status outside, so it’s hard for them to tie me with the lair,” Meng Chao explained further. “We need someone who was born in the lair and has a certain degree of influence but is completely different from the bulky, sturdy, and fierce gang leaders. It would be best if that person is kind, delicate, eager to help others, and will serve the people selflessly. Ms. Mulian, aren’t you the most suitable?”

“That’s...” Su Mulian hesitated for a moment and said, “I-I don’t know what I should do. I’ve never been an image spokesperson before. I don’t know what the job scope is.”

“It’s simple, you just need to tell all the people everything that happened in the lair and Leprosy Village,” Meng Chao said. “Tell everyone what kind of people the villagers are, and what kind of lives they’re living. Tell them what they’ve done for Dragon City, and what sort of grave suffering they’ve been going through.

“Tell them that the blood that flows in your veins is also red and warm. Your taste buds work just like everyone else’s when you eat, and you feel the same emotions just like everyone else. You also hope to build your home with all Dragon Citizens and fight for it until your last breath.

“Tell them that Dragon City is a lone ship sailing among the fierce waves of the vast ocean known as the Other World. This ship is already small enough, and it shouldn’t be made smaller by being divided into Leprosy Village, the lair, and the outside world. If you look at the big picture, we’re alone, and we don’t have any help. The only people we can trust and help are each other.

“Tell them that the flames that lit up in Leprosy Village expanded to the lair, and it nearly spread out to Dragon City. Regardless of whether they’re willing to believe it or not, the truth is that all of us are tightly connected. The disaster in Leprosy Village is Dragon City’s disaster, and the pain of the villagers is the pain of all Dragon Citizens. It’s the same the other way around.”

“That’s...” Su Mulian instinctively said, “You want me to share Leprosy Village’s situation with the public? But... our appearances...”

“There’s nothing wrong with your appearances. What we need to get rid of are those d*mn viruses, illnesses, and pain, not all of you, who are just afflicted with said viruses, illnesses, and pain,” Meng Chao said. “Trust me, the era where we bring harm to our neighbors is over. The new generation of Dragon Citizens will definitely have more open-minded spirits and minds. They will learn how to accept and admire all kinds of life forms.

“The lair and Leprosy Village have not been visited by hope for far too long. It’s time for you to welcome a brand new future that shines far into the distance!”

Chapter 648: I Will Save You!

In the end, Meng Chao managed to persuade Su Mulian to take up the task.

After all, Leprosy Village had suffered the worst damage in the disaster. One-third of its buildings had been affected by the flames, and the remaining two-thirds had been enveloped by smog, causing the poison to enter the walls. Thus, the structures had entirely become really brittle.

Instead of trying to repair them, it would be more worthwhile to demolish them and reconstruct them.

During the reconstruction period, the villagers would have to appear in front of the public.

Su Mulian promised Meng Chao that the villagers would first appear before Broken Star Club and Blue Home, which were two small groups compared with the whole of Dragon City. That was because Meng Chao was hoping to gather some reconstruction funds for Leprosy Village.

At the same time, many of the villagers in Leprosy Village were skilled craftsmen who worked in forgeries that made dangerous weapons. They had plenty of experience and were willing to work hard. Some of them had awakened to all kinds of strange skills, and they were the best labor force in the city.

On top of that, quite a number of members in Broken Star Club and Blue Home were owners of middle or small private businesses, or they were self-employed individuals who worked in their own workshops. If they could win the pitched battle at the borders of Dragon City, everyone would definitely want to expand their business scale and territory. They would not reject good workers.

In the past, small or medium firms and grassroots workers had been sandwiched between the mega corporations and gangs. As such their work had been introduced to them by the mega corporations and gangs.

If Meng Chao introduced these people to the members, the members would not have to pay an extra fee for the middleman, and he believed that everyone would be able to find business opportunities together.

If they had a good time working together, Broken Star Club and Blue Home could serve as promoters. Then, they could spread the story of Leprosy Village to the entire city. In fact, Su Mulian would have the chance to stand in the Survival Committee's meeting hall and ask the supreme politicians to take care of the grassroots citizens.

Right then, Blue Home politicians were taking up more seats in the Survival Committee.

The reconstruction of Leprosy Village and the lair was a good starting point for the Home Party to get more fees and power from the Colonization Party.

Meng Chao believed that the Home Party politicians would not miss this God-given chance.

Once Su Mulian finished listening to Meng Chao describing the situation to her, Su Mulian felt happy for the villagers as well.

She thanked Meng Chao once again. "I-I don't know how I can thank you. Everything that has happened over the past forty-eight hours seems like a dream that still makes me want to faint. I... Mr. Meng, I will definitely save you!"

"That's right, it doesn't matter what the future looks like, I will do everything I can to save you!" she mumbled.

As if she thought that she did not sound polite enough, she even nodded.

Meng Chao smiled. "I told you, I'm just feeling a little weak. Plus, I drank too much gene medicine, so I'm having digestion problems. You don't have to say something as over the top as doing everything you can to save me, right?"

"Also, I remember telling you before that we're in the same age group, so you don't have to call me Mr. Meng. It sounds too serious. You can call me Meng Chao, Chao, or be like A'Ji and call me Big Brother Chao. Mr. Meng sounds strange. It's as if you're deliberately keeping your distance from me."

"N-No, of course not." Su Mulian nodded obediently. "I will remember it, Mr. Meng."

Meng Chao scratched his head and still could not hold back from asking, "From the moment we first met, I've always wanted to ask you a question. Are you scared of me?"

Su Mulian's muscles tensed, and she stuttered, "H-How can that be? I'm not afraid of you at all. There's no reason for me to be scared of you at all."

"That's right." Meng Chao could not figure it out either. "We've never known each other before this, and reviews about me in the circle might not be perfect, but at the very least, they say that I'm full of justice, I'm considerate, kind, and basically a model for thousands of young adults in Dragon City. Why would you need to be scared of me?"

However, Meng Chao soon pushed the question to the back of his mind.

His eyelids started falling.

Over the past forty-eight hours, he had drained too many brain cells and used up too much energy. Any other normal superhuman brain would have burned out a long time ago.

As Su Mulian treated him gently, Meng Chao fell asleep before long.

He had a good sleep and did not have any nightmares about the apocalypse or dreams about him "making friends" with girls of the other races.

It was as if he was a fetus in his mother's womb, and he was being nurtured and allowed to grow without having to worry about anything.

When he woke up, it was as though a gauze that surrounded his body had been lifted, and his vision was so clear that it felt like his world had been renewed.

Meng Chao stretched his back and sensed that the originally restless and rampaging Hell's Blood had been bound. Now, it was flowing at a regular pace between his blood vessels and spirit meridians.

It was as if more than one hundred wild and fierce Hell Beasts had been tamed and turned into a disciplined army that would carry out every order without fail. They lurked quietly in his cells and just waited for Meng Chao's orders.

"Feels good!"

Meng Chao took a deep breath. His limbs and spine were akin to a monstrous python that had just finished hibernating. They released thunderous roars, and the movement stirred up beautiful ripples in the medicinal fluid, which was now as clear as water.

The ripples then turned into wisps of white mist that rose into the air like thousands of aquatic dragons.

Meng Chao exhaled, and his breath was like white silk. He smiled and felt satisfied.

As he attempted to climb out of the medical cabin, he noticed that Su Mulian had left at some point in time.

Instead, Lu Siya was crouching beside the medical cabin and staring at him. Her gaze was strange, and she appeared to be in deep thought.

“Big Sis Ya, you’re back?” Meng Chao was stunned. “How long have I been sleeping? Are you done dealing with the gangs?”

“You slept for a total of six hours. Ms. Mulian said that you’ve severely drained your body over the past two days, and you stuffed a large amount of medicine with vicious effects into your system. She had a hard time temporarily calming down the chaotic spirit energy in your body and making it harmonize with your body. Hence, she asked us not to bother you so that you could wake up naturally.”

Lu Siya took out a document covered in red fingerprints and said, “I’ve helped you handle the gangs, including Golden Tooth, Black Bone, Poison Scorpion, and Wild Wolves. Forty-one of the more influential gangs in the lair have agreed to form the Lair Reconstruction Committee, and they will handle the effects and consequences caused by the Vortex’s ambush. They also unanimously elected you as the committee leader who will be in charge of representing the lair to communicate with the outside world.”

“That’s good. With this document, we can legally help the lair with its reconstruction!”

Meng Chao took the document from Lu Siya’s hands and looked at it carefully. In the end, he heaved a long sigh and said with a happy smile, “I didn’t expect the plan that we cooked up in the secret lab to actually work! Big Sis Ya, it must have been hard for you to convince those ambitious and wild gang leaders to let me be the gang leader! Thank you for your hard work!”

“It wasn’t that difficult. In fact, it was easy,” Lu Siya said coolly. “When it comes to true power and authority, you definitely aren’t fit for the position, but it’s precisely because of that you’re the most suitable candidate for it.

“To the outside world, since Jin Wanhao is already dead, the government will not want another master of the lair who is just as aggressive as the Underground Emperor. They would rather choose someone who is weaker, rather cooperative, and has closer connections with the outside world.

“To the gangs, the more unfit you are for the position, the more you’ll need to rely on the gang leaders to maintain their interests and even increase their profit.

“You are the ‘greatest common divisor’ between the outside world and the gangs. You were coincidentally dragged into this scheme, but you killed the Vortex, prevented the lair from being

destroyed, and even gained Jin Wanhao's legacy. The position as the committee leader for the Lair Reconstruction Committee can only be for you.

"But I have to give you a reminder. This document might be filled with bloody fingerprints, but it's not a legal piece of document that will let your words bear weight. You can even say that it's just a scrap of paper. You have to rely on your strength and performance in the future for them to listen to you.

"I believe that plenty of the gang members, including the senior gang members of Golden Tooth, think of you solely as an image spokesperson and a mascot. They gave you this position for you to clean up the mess, that's all. We have to rely on ourselves to see whether we can really gain the control that Jin Wanhao had through the Lair Reconstruction Committee!"

"I understand, that's only natural." Meng Chao grinned and spread his fingers before he slowly curled his hand into a fist. It was as if he was holding an invisible ball of fire. "The old foxes have been in the lair for decades. They're certain that I was just lucky to be able to inherit Jin Wanhao's legacy. Even though I've learned Celestial Tyrant's Star Shattering Slash, I can only use it to fight in battlefields. I don't know how to manage the lair and the secrets behind it.

"They could hang me up like I'm some golden signboard and carry out illegal dealings in my name. In fact, they could become even more fearless and do worse things. In any case, no matter what happens, they can just shove me to the front, because I'm the committee leader of the Lair Reconstruction Committee.

"In their eyes, I'm just a university student in my early twenties who is pretty good at martial arts and intelligent to some degree. As long as they flatter me properly and use riches and women to blind my sight, they can toy with me however they want.

"Heh, unfortunately, these old foxes would never have expected that we have a trump card called A'Ji in our hands. Besides..."

Besides, only half of Meng Chao's soul was that of a native university student, the other half was of a true veteran from apocalyptic times!

Compared with the schemes and deceit between the races in the Other World, the tricks from the gangs were just child's play to him.

"Don't worry, Big Sis Ya. Before long, we will definitely deliver a major 'surprise' to the gang leaders." Meng Chao grinned and said, "No matter what, we have a good start. It's worth a small celebration. There's no need for you to be so troubled and think so hard over it, right?"

Lu Siya frowned a little. "Do I look like I'm very troubled and thinking hard over this?"

"Of course, not only do you look troubled and look like you're thinking hard over it, but you're also staring at me with a really strange gaze," Meng Chao said. "Speaking of which, how long has it been since you entered? It can't be since I laid down in the medical cabin to sleep, right? Have you been watching by the side all this time? That's too weird!"

"Five minutes. I've been in here for five minutes," Lu Siya said. "And as for why I've been staring at you for five minutes, it's because before I entered, Su Mulian was staring at you with the same posture,

same expression, and same gaze. It's as if she was thinking about something while watching you. I have no idea how long it had been going on."

Chapter 649: Just Bizarre

"Huh?"

Meng Chao felt goosebumps rise all over his skin.

He had always thought that Su Mulian's attitude toward him was strange.

So, Su Mulian had been squatting by the side and staring at him for a few hours before Lu Siya came?

That was really odd.

Of course, he also had strange feelings when it came to Su Mulian.

How should he put it? When he met Su Mulian for the first time, Meng Chao had felt some part of his soul stir, as though they had met in their previous life.

It was obviously not the cliché "love at first sight".

However, based on his fragmented memories of his previous life, Meng Chao was also certain that he had never met Su Mulian before.

He clearly remembered that a few hundred thousand people had died during the fire that destroyed the lair's core in his previous life.

If he had not interfered with it, Su Mulian should have also died from the Vortex's scheme and the fire, right?

It would have been impossible for her to have survived and had any interaction with Meng Chao.

So, what was the deal with his soul stirring and her bizarre behavior?

"Be careful, the girl isn't as she seems." Lu Siya furrowed her brows and said, "I'm a Spirit Sensor, you know that. I can sense plenty of things normal that people can't sense. The first time I met Su Mulian, I had an indescribable feeling, and it's especially prominent when she's looking at you. It's as if..."

"She's scared of me?" Meng Chao asked.

"Yes! She's scared of you!" Lu Siya's eyes lit up, and she said, "You sensed it too?"

"I did. At first, I thought that I was being oversensitive, but since you've mentioned it too, I shouldn't be imagining things."

Meng Chao spoke in a slightly aggrieved manner. "But I don't get it. Prior to the past seventy-two hours, I've never had any sort of interaction with Su Mulian, and even if she learned of my name through the Internet, I've never done anything brutal and ruthless before. Why is she so scared of me?"

"Who knows?" Lu Siya pondered over it, but she could not be sure. "I only know that her fear of you far surpasses what you can explain with logic. Even though she has been doing her best to control and hide

it, the pulse of her nerve endings is so erratic that it makes her look like a helpless bunny facing a hungry dragon. She instinctively wants to run, but she's so terrified that she can't move.

"Logically speaking, the lair is a chaotic place with good and bad people. As the granddaughter of the old village chief, she should have seen all kinds of brutal people and fearsome wanted criminals. There's no reason she should be so terrified of you.

"...Wait, now that I remember her expression and gaze, aside from terror, I seem to have read something else!"

Lu Siya's pupils shrank into the size of two dots.

When she looked at Meng Chao, her expression became ten times weirder than before.

"What exactly did you do to the girl?" Lu Siya mumbled. "She wants to kill you."

"What?!"

Meng Chao jumped up from the medical cabin. "How could that be? I've never done anything! I didn't even know her before this. After I got to know her, I helped her save Leprosy Village! Besides, she's kind and generous, and she's an amazing doctor who can even save those on the verge of death! It's also thanks to her unshakeable trust in me that Wild Wolf was moved. Why would she want to kill me? Aren't you mistaken?"

"Perhaps. The things that have happened over the past two days have made me mentally tired. It's as if someone has stuffed cotton in my head. My mind might have been playing tricks with me."

Lu Siya shut her eyes and rubbed the bridge of her nose a little as she said, "It felt to me like her killing intent was very weak and short. It only appeared in her mind for a moment before she decided against it. It's as if she doesn't want to carry it out and was just thinking about it... imagining it.

"...Hold on, now that I've thought about it carefully, she shouldn't have been thinking about killing you. Instead, she was thinking about destroying you. That's right. There was an instant where she wanted to destroy you."

Meng Chao scratched his head. "Is there a difference between her wanting to kill me and destroy me?"

"I can't explain it." Lu Siya contemplated for a long time, but she still could not figure it out, just like Meng Chao. She could only shrug and say, "In any case, I don't know what kind of grudge she has against you or whether you've done something unspeakable that will incite the anger of the world. In any case, if you've done something wrong, remember to clean up after yourself or stay away from that mysterious Ms. Mulian. I've invested all my wealth in you, and while I can accept defeat, it'll be too much of a loss for me if I fail because you have some inexplicable relationship with a woman, get it?"

"No, Big Sis Ya, listen to me, I don't have any kind of inexplicable relationship with any woman. Su Mulian and I are innocent!" Meng Chao defended himself and did not know whether he should laugh or cry. "I really don't know what's going on with this girl. Even when I question her, she never says anything. We can't even be considered normal friends. You have to believe me!"

"There's no need for you to explain things to me. I chose you as the perfect partner after careful consideration. Of course I trust that you can take care of your private life." Lu Siya pondered over it a

little more. "Also, my instincts tell me that even though Ms. Mulian wants to destroy you, she wants to save you even more. It's strange. Destroying and saving are two completely different approaches, so why are they both focused on the same person?"

That made things even more bizarre.

Su Mulian had indeed mentioned that she wanted to save Meng Chao before.

However, at that time, Meng Chao had ignorantly thought that Su Mulian was talking about treating his wounds and helping him dissolve the medicinal properties of the super gene medicine.

Now that his mind was clear and he had thought things through, it seemed like Su Mulian had not been merely talking about something as simple as saving his body.

The problem was, Su Mulian was just a helpless doctor, and at most, a candidate for Leprosy Village's next chief.

Meanwhile, Meng Chao was the youngest Heaven Realm superhuman in Dragon City and the leading force of the Golden Era. He was also the leader of Broken Star Club, a director of Blue Home, the owner of Superstar, the gang leader of Golden Tooth, the leader of the Lair Reconstruction Committee, and the appointed heir of the lair as well as the owner of Golden Tooth Saber. In fact, he was currently an Internet celebrity who was the fifteenth most-searched person on Dragon City's social media platforms this year.

What about him needed saving?

How was Su Mulian supposed to save him?

It was just bizarre!

"Forget it. I've drained my brain cells too much over the past few days, and I can't think of this complicated stuff for the time being. In any case, I trust your instincts. Next time, if I really have to meet Su Mulian, I'll definitely have you watch by the side, and I won't stay alone with her. That should be fine, right?"

Meng Chao shook his head vigorously and exhaled before he stretched and allowed his mind to become blank. "Right now, I just want to relax a little and enjoy the victory as well as sunlight shining on my skin."

The private medical room belonged to Golden Tooth's gang leader, and it was located on the second topmost floor of Golden Tooth's headquarters.

There was a wide French window set at the corner facing the medical cabin, and it provided a 270-degree field of vision.

Earlier, when Meng Chao had been deep in sleep, the curtains had been drawn tightly.

Now that he had woken up and stretched, the spirit energy that spilled out of him blew the curtains apart a little.

At that moment, a hint of golden light shone through the gap and surrounded Meng Chao's body.

Meng Chao reached out and let the golden light flow on his palm as he enjoyed the sunlight caressing his skin.

With the golden light guiding him, he walked up to the window, took a deep breath, and swiftly drew the curtains.

Light poured in like a tidal wave. The golden rays were like splashes that instantly enveloped him and Lu Siya.

“Big Sis Ya, look!” Meng Chao cried out.

The sky had originally been covered so tightly by dark clouds and black smoke that it looked like it had been sealed shut by an iron wall for several days. It had finally cleared a little, and now, a huge hole could be seen.

Golden light poured in through the hole like a flood, and it cascaded down like a waterfall, landing generously and fairly on each person’s head.

Meng Chao, Lu Siya, the villagers, the powerful fighters in the gangs, the refugees who had no home to return to and must now wander around homeless, the injured warriors, and the normal citizens who were exhausted from extinguishing the fire could sense the sun shining on them...

Leprosy Village, the lair, Dragon City, the buildings, the alleys, the fortresses, and the debris, too, could feel the sun shining on them.

Each person who basked in the sun reacted like Meng Chao. They let their eyes fall shut and stretched their arms to enjoy the incredibly warm light that might only last for a short time.

...

To all Dragon Citizens, the past seventy-two hours had been the longest seventy-two hours over the past ten years.

Before the chaos stirred up by the Deification Capsule chain robberies had calmed down, dozens of new city areas, mining areas, settlements, and forward operating bases at the borders of Dragon City had been attacked by monster hordes at the same time.

When the main forces of the Red Dragon Army and the mega corporations reached the frontlines of the borders to fight, the defenses in the city itself had become weak, and chaos had broken out in the core, causing everything to descend into mayhem.

First, a large number of insect-type monsters that could fly had formed a dense insect swarm that attacked the anti-aircraft machine gun bases on the roofs of the skyscrapers.

The dense bullets from the anti-aircraft machine guns could tear through most of the flying insect-type monsters...

However, they were not that effective against small insect-type monsters. Their killing efficiency had been incredibly low, and they had wasted a lot of bullets for nothing. A lot of them had also been destroyed.

When the insect-type monsters had torn hundreds of holes in the defensive shield that the humans had set up to cover their sky, the large flying-type monsters had launched their attacks.

The monsters' intelligence was increasing at a frightening pace in their war against humans.

In the past, flying-type monsters would usually fly horizontally and at a low altitude. They would invade from beyond the city, so before they reached their designated target, they would be torn apart by dozens of defensive shields that also protected each other.

Now, however, after they had been biochemically modified, their wings had become wider, and their flesh had become sturdier. They could also withstand lower temperatures and thinner oxygen levels. After they evolved, the flying-type monsters could stay beyond the anti-aircraft machine guns' range. Then, from a high altitude, they could dive down almost perpendicularly to the ground.

Their attack styles had basically turned them into existences similar to ordnance penetrators, and even though it was against the hunting instincts in all predators, the attack speed was fast, and the exposed area was really small. Besides, as long as they charged at maximum speed, even if they were killed, their sturdy carcasses would ram into the anti-aircraft machine gun bases and densely populated streets because of inertia. The impact would be like meteors falling from the sky, and they would cause major damage to humans.

Chapter 650: You're Back, That's All That Matters

The fact that a lot of insect-type monsters similar to lice and fleas hid in the feathers of the flying-type monsters was even more terrifying, and these creatures carried the fatal new zombie virus in their blood.

When the flying-type monsters were torn to shreds by the dense bullets from humans, their lice, virus, and bacteria-laden carcasses would fall down from the sky like biochemical bombs, causing the densely populated residential areas to be severely polluted. Countless citizens would be bitten by pests and be infected by the new zombie virus, thus turning into agile and powerful zombies.

The zombie hordes also brought great trouble to Dragon Citizens.

Many of the old citizens felt as if they had returned to a bloody era, where the city area shrank until it was only one-third its current size, and humans had to fight against all kinds of monsters on every street, and in every house as well as corner.

However, the normal citizens had vastly underestimated the crisis this time.

Even so, Vice Director Nie Chenglong of the Abnormal Beast Research Department knew clearly that compared with the abnormal beast, which had snuck into Dragon City and was now causing absolute mayhem and destruction, the flying-type monsters and super zombies were nothing.

A temporary command center had been set up beside the lair in the meantime, and the alarm for major threats just kept blaring. It lasted for seventy-two hours and practically never stopped.

The crystal warehouses, water purification plants, synthetic food plants, large shelters, and other fundamental facilities had all been visited by the abnormal beast's scheme.

On the invisible battlefield that the normal citizens could not see, the investigators whose identities remained unknown to the public fought in an astounding, secret battle against the cunning abnormal beast.

Hundreds of investigators had perished silently in the dark and used their lives to defuse these “ticking time bombs”.

However, the largest ticking time bomb had still not been defused.

The lair.

No, despite being encased in black smoke, facing interference due to spirit energy, having its communications cut off, and basically being a black box at this point, the lair was not a ticking time bomb, it was Pandora’s box. The moment it was opened, it would bring unimaginable disasters to Dragon City.

Bad news just kept appearing.

Leprosy Village had faced a major explosion. The veteran hunters had almost been entirely wiped out. Meng Chao had betrayed Dragon City. Leprosy Village and the gangs had gotten into a conflict. The fire had grown stronger and nearly engulfed the entire lair. Jin Wanhao was near death, and he had not been able to control the situation. The lair citizens—almost one million of them—could rush out of the lair at any moment to seek shelter, causing the chaotic vortex to spread to the entire city. That forced the fighters and warriors fighting on the frontlines to sense how it felt to be surrounded by enemies as trouble brewed in their homes.

Nie Chenglong sank into despair.

He lacked forces, and he simply could not mobilize more forces to enter the lair. He did not even know what was going on inside the lair.

He could only lock down the lair and temporarily surround it.

However, he was quite certain that even if he could gather manpower to lock down the lair, they would still have a hard time handling the situation should the citizens really rush out. The defense lines were so thin that they were basically nonexistent, and they were really just there as a symbol.

If the fire in the lair grew to the point that it could not be extinguished and the lair citizens ran out to seek shelter, it would be impossible for him to trap the lair citizens inside and let them burn to death, not that he had the right to do so.

Once the refugees rushed out, no one would be able to figure out who were the monster puppets mixed among the refugees. After all, they were monsters in human skin.

To make matters worse, when the explosion happened in Leprosy Village, dozens of Apocalyptic Beasts had appeared on the battlefield at the borders of Dragon City. It was as if they had planned this.

There was only one reason why the Red Dragon Army, private squads of mega corporations, and powerful fighters from the universities, as well as medium and small-size firms, had been able to fight the monster horde. It was because the Deity Realm superhumans had been in a stalemate with the Apocalyptic Beasts. The high-end forces from both sides had held back each other.

Right now, the war situation was still worrying. Plus, mobilizing any Deity Realm superhuman or top-class Heaven Realm superhuman to come back and defend the lair meant that thousands of fighters on the frontlines would die. If the entire frontlines crumbled, it would even imply that the scales of victory would tip against their favor.

Nie Chenglong could only brace himself and grit his teeth.

Aside from Broken Sword Ye Xiaoyue, who had snuck into the lair earlier, the only reinforcement he could send into the lair was Lu Siya, who had volunteered to enter.

Even though he had managed to give Lu Siya the highest possible authority by granting her the status of a special messenger, honestly speaking, Nie Chenglong did not have high hopes.

He just hoped that Ye Xiaoyue and Lu Siya could maintain the order in the lair a little longer. It was only until the frontlines could catch a breath and mobilize more manpower, as well as powerful fighters, to provide them with reinforcements.

To his surprise, less than the short twenty-four hours since Lu Siya entered the lair, she had sent a report that was one hundred times more amazing than what he had expected of her.

No, it was not Lu Siya who had done it, it was Meng Chao.

Just like the Blessed Paradise's murderous pets case and the Noble Descent Hotel ambush case, Meng Chao had once again appeared in the wrong place at the wrong time and created an unbelievable miracle.

Happiness had arrived too suddenly, and despite being experienced in battle, Nie Chenglong was still stunned by Meng Chao and Lu Siya's exciting performance.

There was a moment where he became anxious and wondered whether it was really true. He was worried about whether there was something wrong with the report or whether the abnormal beast had infiltrated their communication lines and delivered fake news to them.

It was not that he was unwilling to believe in his beloved investigators, it was just that the achievements mentioned in the report, the results, and the entire fight were just too amazing to be true!

When the clouds dispersed and the spirit energy magnetic field interference slowly became weaker, communications between the lair and the outside world were recovered. Hundreds of drones flew into the lair from different directions to record multiple first-person view shots. Despite being heavily damaged, order remained in the lair. Hence, Nie Chenglong and the investigators, as well as the Red Dragon Army, who were defending the lair's borders, heaved a long sigh of relief.

The first batch of people who were sent out of the lair were severely wounded people. They were burnt and suffering from major carbon monoxide poisoning.

Many of the wounded were barely breathing, and their wounds were too unbearable for the eyes.

However, if they could bring out all the heavily wounded and gather them into one place before sending them out of the lair in an orderly manner, the lair would already manage to seize the most basic of order. They were now working together to save themselves.

The second batch of people sent out of the lair were wanted criminals and former Reaper Squad members who had joined the monster civilization.

They were all infamous people who had committed unpardonable crimes.

Before Nie Chenglong had been tasked to fully handle the daily administrative work of the Abnormal Beast Research Department, he had even worked together with the bounty hunters and fought a few of these fearsome people. He remembered their faces clearly.

When he saw that these heinous, brutal people had been captured by Meng Chao, Ye Xiaoyue, and the gangs, Nie Chenglong was surprised but also delighted. He no longer suspected anything that Lu Siya had mentioned in her report.

The one who sent this batch of wanted criminals and former Reaper Squad members out was the Deity Realm superhuman, Broken Sword Ye Xiaoyue.

However, while he was telling him about the process of the capture, Ye Xiaoyue decided to be generous by giving all the credit to Meng Chao and Lu Siya.

In spite of his crippled condition, this Deity Realm superhuman's sword technique was akin to divine art. Yet, someone with such power had given such high praise to those two rising stars, especially to Meng Chao.

"In ten years... No, perhaps even shorter. Perhaps in five years, the boy will make me want to draw my sword against him." Ye Xiaoyue grinned and said, "Vice Director Nie, your department has picked up gold this time!"

Nie Chenglong opened his mouth, and he did not know what to say.

He knew Meng Chao's strength clearly, and he had a firm grasp of Meng Chao's might before he had gone into the lair seventy-two hours ago.

No matter what, he was still far away from reaching Deity Realm, and it was impossible for him to try and challenge that cultivation realm within just five years.

Yet, Broken Sword Ye Xiaoyue was never one who liked to exaggerate things.

The man was obsessed with martial arts, and he never showed interest in teaching anyone younger than him.

So, why was he showing Meng Chao special respect?

Nie Chenglong soon got his answer.

Meng Chao came out.

Actually, he flew out.

The secret police, abnormal beast investigators, and Red Dragon Army soldiers who were stationed outside the lair burst into commotion.

Farther down was the residential area that stood next to the lair. The normal citizens had been ready to disperse at any moment, and they also raised a ruckus right then.

Even farther down, powerful fighters were levitating in the air and monitoring the war situation in the city. They were in an uproar as well.

Everyone's jaws dropped as they stared at the sky.

Two golden birds flew out of the smog-covered ruins in the lair. They were like phoenixes that had been reborn from the ashes.

...No, they were not birds. They were two non-motorized gliders that looked like golden wings because of their unique and beautiful appearances.

Lu Siya trailed behind Meng Chao, and they resembled celestial generals who had returned triumphantly as they shone in the light of victory that belonged solely to them.

In that brilliant fashion, they slowly circled the borders of the lair once so that the soldiers, people, and fighters within and outside the lair could see them clearly.

In such a simple and crude manner, they told all the citizens that the lair was already safe, and their home still belonged to the humans!

They flew for more than ten minutes and attracted countless pairs of eyes, simultaneously placating their hearts. Then, the two of them flew back and landed in front of Nie Chenglong.

"Brat..."

Even with the help of the non-motorized gliders, being able to fly at a constant speed and stable manner for such a long time showed that Meng Chao had precise control over his speed and angle of flight. He had also released burning spirit flames that allowed the golden wings to release a dazzling lightning effect. All of this showed that Meng Chao had reached an explosive breakthrough over the past short three days.

Nie Chenglong saw Meng Chao beaming at him while putting the glider away, and he saw the Golden Tooth Saber on his waist. In response, he could not help but marvel at the fact that time was an unforgiving master. The era that belonged to him was now gone, and the future would eventually belong to the people of the Golden Era.

He slapped Meng Chao on the shoulder, and his Adam's apple bobbed up and down for a long time before he finally said, "You're back, that's all that matters."