Chapter 651: Pitched Battle! Pitched Battle!

Lu Siya's report had already provided a simple account of the entire battle in the lair.

When Meng Chao returned, he gave more details and a large amount of evidence to Nie Chenglong in the tactical command center of the abnormal beast research center. Among them was the Vortex's tissue.

He had also brought with him the letter requesting aid from Leprosy Village and the gangs. The piece of paper was covered in blood-red fingerprints.

Within a mere seventy-two hours, Meng Chao had managed to go on a bizarre and dangerous adventure. All the veteran investigators, including Nie Chenglong, were stunned when they heard his tale

Meng Chao spoke for more than one hour and concluded, "Vice Director Nie, we're forced to act because of the situation. To get rid of the negative effects brought on by Jin Wanhao's death within the shortest amount of time and to restore the lair's order as soon as possible, we have to gather everyone and their resources together in the Lair Reconstruction Committee's name.

"I'm actually a person who doesn't care about fame and profit, so I don't want to be the committee leader at all. You should know that I'm already the club leader of Broken Star Club, one of the directors of Blue Home, and sometimes, I even have to take care of the businesses in Superstar. I have to train as well, and I have to deal with a host of problems every day!

"However, the power players in the gangs have acknowledged me as their savior. They cried and begged me to be their committee leader.

"If I don't agree to it, the gangs will be divided. This chaos will definitely continue, and more innocent lives will be harmed. Reconstructing the lair will also be something that'll never see the light of day.

"So, I decided to act first without consulting you and undertake this position. I didn't... make the wrong call, right?"

Nie Chenglong remained stunned for a long time before he gave Meng Chao's head a light tap. "The deed is already done, and you're pretending to be innocent in front of me?" he asked.

"If we talk about legal principles, you're not an official member of the Abnormal Beast Research Department, and the gangs are not some disciplinary force either. They're just business groups and clubs that the citizens have formed on their own. To the government, they're just clubs that have become united and formed a non-governmental association. It's fine as long as they don't do harm and break the law."

"Of course they won't. I have willingly picked up the task because I want to guide the gangs down the path of regularization, legalization, and industrialization so that they can contribute even better for Dragon City!"

Meng Chao stopped talking for a moment and tentatively asked, "Also, even though it sounds like complete nonsense, I did hit it off with Underground Emperor Jin Wanhao. He admired me a lot and

insisted on becoming brothers with me. Before he passed away, he also gave him his divine art and plenty of his personal property. I don't want him to die restless, so this should be fine, right?"

"Speaking of which, let me ask you something." Nie Chenglong stared at Meng Chao and asked, "Is your report real? Did Jin Wanhao really join the fight to kill the Vortex?"

"It sure is. The battlefield is right there. The Abnormal Beast Research Department and secret police's experts are welcome to investigate it at any time. Not only did Jin Wanhao join the fight, but he also burned his life and delivered two Celestial Tyrant's Star Shattering Slashes at the Vortex! He was the main fighting force in the battle!" Meng Chao said. "With a warrior at the level of the Underground Emperor fighting at full force, he would have definitely left behind a lot of tracks that we can't possibly imitate."

"Don't misunderstand. It's not that I don't trust you, it's just that this matter is too sensitive. After all, we're talking about Jin Wanhao's identity here." Nie Chenglong sank into contemplative silence for a moment and said, "Then, how are you going to handle Jin Wanhao's astronomical legacy?"

"I'll do a 3:7 split, I guess." Meng Chao had already decided on it a long time ago. "Thirty percent of it will be for my cultivation and improvement of skills. The greatest lesson I learned from the battle of the lair is that I'm still too weak. I might sound amazing as the youngest Heaven Realm superhuman in Dragon City, but when I fight enemies, no one will care whether I'm young or not.

"The other seventy percent will be invested in the new company that Big Sis Ya has created, and it will all be utilized to reconstruct the lair. I hope that the lair citizens will soon be able to live just as well as the people outside. If you or the Abnormal Beast Research Department are interested, you're welcome to invest in this and help us change the lair!"

Compared with the secret police, the Abnormal Beast Research Department was an even more secretive and important organization.

The fees and special war budget that the Survival Committee had given to them were not enough for their expenses.

The Abnormal Beast Research Department had plenty of peripheral industries, and they would use the power that they had in exchange for profit from businesses. Next, they would use the profit to buy equipment, increase the strength of their investigators, and also cover the expenses of their operations.

Meng Chao's Superstar had obtained the Abnormal Beast Research Department's support and grown quickly. Within just a short year or so, it had managed to merge with a few other companies and rise to fame within the business circle in Dragon City.

Since they were working together happily, Meng Chao believed that Nie Chenglong had no reason to reject the honey-covered olive branch he just extended.

Of course, Meng Chao would not stupidly hand over all the riches and resources Jin Wanhao had given to him.

The treasures that were small but were valuable, like Hell's Blood, were definitely for himself, Big Sis Ya, and his sister.

Nevertheless, he had plenty of items, crystals, and cultivation equipment that were large and high in spirit energy radiation. They could not be moved around easily, and it was also very easy for others to find them. It would be difficult for him to deal with them away from the public eye.

With the Abnormal Beast Research Department endorsing him, it would be much easier for him to publicly deal with those items.

Just as he had expected, Nie Chenglong thought about things for a while and said, "Underground Emperor Jin Wanhao might be neither good nor bad and there are mixed public opinions about him, but overall, he's still a citizen who protected the lair for decades. He still kept a few hundred thousand citizens safe during Dragon City's most dangerous times so that they could stay away from the threat of blood and destruction. He contributed greatly to the city and our entire civilization.

"His character and the many problems of the lair are natural byproducts of the city's special period in history. We struggled our way out of the bloody era where zombies roamed free and monsters terrorized us after all, and it has just been a few decades since then. It's impossible for us to ask those people who were born into a lawless apocalypse, where order had collapsed and only the law of the jungle applied, to instantly become gentle and polite noble people. That's not practical.

"In any case, I believe that the Survival Committee will give Jin Wanhao a fair appraisal when they give the final verdict. They will give him the honor and power he deserves. No one will go against his wish when he was alive and manage his legacy rashly without taking into consideration the overall situation. If they do that, they will just disappoint all of the powerful fighters and make everyone behave selfishly as well as hide their resources.

"So, just be at ease, Meng Chao. As long as the evidence you've provided is true, clear, and effective, the Abnormal Beast Research Department will definitely support you. They'll be willing to reconstruct the lair so that all of the lair citizens can bask in the light that should belong to them!"

Nie Chenglong's firm promise caused Meng Chao to finally feel at ease after seventy-two long hours.

When he saw how relieved Meng Chao looked, Nie Chenglong asked what he and Lu Siya intended to do next. He had risked his life and achieved great things. Both of them had the right to receive the best treatment and rest. All they needed to do was to gather their strength to receive flowers, cheers, medals, and rewards.

Yet, Meng Chao just waved his hand and said that while the battle of the lair had ended, the flames of war within and outside Dragon City had yet to be extinguished. Even if they stared at the core of the main city area, they could still hear deafening artillery fire constantly, sense the never-ending tremors from the ground, and detect the thick smell of gunpowder.

He really wanted to know how the pitched battle at the borders was going on.

"It's bad." Speaking of that, Nie Chenglong's slightly relieved expression became grave once more, and he said, "Initial estimations showed that the head-on clash alone has cost us more than five thousand casualties within the first twenty-four hours."

"What?!"

Both Meng Chao and Lu Siya were shocked.

There were only a total of several dozen million people in Dragon City.

If five thousand people were injured among several dozen million people, that was the same as fifty thousand people among a few hundred million people being injured.

Besides, that was just the first day of the pitched battle.

All Dragon Citizens were soldiers, and the way humans fought monsters was different from how humans waged war on Earth, which meant that they could not rigidly measure things according to the standards of war damages on Earth. However, it did not matter what standards they used to measure their number of casualties. It was still a rather devastating number.

It was no wonder why the frontlines could not mobilize a sufficient number of powerful fighters to provide reinforcements to the lair.

All the fighters were fighting using different methods on various battlefields, and some of them had even died!

Nie Chenglong showed some pictures and short videos to Meng Chao and Lu Siya.

They had all been recorded on the frontlines, and the videos and pictures had been transmitted to the rear while the spirit energy magnetic field interference was not too bad.

The first picture showed a forward operating base being taken down by a monster horde.

Its super alloy defense walls were five meters high, and they were covered in the carcasses of large insect-type monsters. Their torn limbs formed a slope that allowed the monsters behind them to be able to step on it and climb into the forward operating base.

The forward operating base was covered in scorch marks that had been left behind by explosions and flames. Plus, the bodies of humans and large insect-type monsters were burnt to a crisp. Even so, they were still bound tightly together, as though they wanted to drive their teeth, claws, and fists deep into the other's bodies.

Blood coagulated into a red bacterial lawn, and there were also intersecting, sloppy claw marks all over the place as if it was a suicide note from humans stating that they would fight to the end. Even though the "words" were ugly, they contained their firm and unbreakable will. As such, Meng Chao and Lu Siya felt respect for them.

The second thing they saw was a short video. It should have been recorded during the final moments of the warriors who had defended the forward operating base, and they had transmitted it to the rear.

At that time, the spirit energy magnetic field interference was already pretty bad. Their filming equipment had been affected, and the images were blurry and distorted.

They could hear human shouts mixed together with monster roars. It was soul-stirring, like a rock song that pierced the heavens.

"Die, you monsters!"

"Come on, friggin' climb up here!"

"Long live Dragon City! Long live Earth! Long live humanity!"

In the face of the monster horde that was charging at them like an avalanche, countless normal soldiers and pathfinders awakened to supernatural abilities. Their bodies shone with the light of life before they lifted heavy weapons that were thicker than their thighs and fired.

By the time they finished firing the bullets, the recoil had already destroyed their organs. Most of the monster horde had also perished under their hands. Then, the humans laughed, tied grenades and crystal bombs on their bodies, and jumped at what was left of the monster horde.

Chapter 652: Counterattack on All Fronts!

"This is a forward operating base located more than seventy kilometers southeast from Dragon City. It's in Monster Mountain Range, at a spot shaped like fangs. It's a research area that Agricultural University built, and it's used to plant a batch of etherealized plants that have been genetically modified. No one expected it to become the place of the most tragic battlefield during the start of the battle. There were a total of 325 lecturers and researchers along with 198 Red Dragon Army soldiers defending the base. In the end, only 88 of them survived," Nie Chenglong said with a dejected expression.

When he heard that his university's forward operating base had faced such a tragedy, Meng Chao could not help but gasp. His blood vessels popped up, and spirit tattoos surrounded his arms before they reached his tightly clenched fists.

Nie Chenglong told Meng Chao that since Dragon City had been developing too quickly over the past two years and expanding its territory in all directions, it was easy for the monsters to surround the places that humans had built deep in the wild and places that bulged out from the city. They could also find gaps in the defense of two human forts that were tightly defended and attack the weak spots.

Hence, during the first twenty-four hours of the fight, humans had been in a defensive position.

However, Dragon City was different than it was in the past.

Ever since they gained full victory in the northern offense and obtained a sufficient amount of resources from Shattered Starlake up to Raging Waves, humans had fully upgraded their ammunition, equipment, and will to fight to the end.

Agricultural University's forward operating base might have nearly been fully wiped out, but before falling, they had been like steel needles made of flesh. They had stuck to the ground firmly as they warded off the astonishing charges from the monster horde. They had destroyed monsters numbering dozens of times greater than their own and held back the monster horde beyond the precarious defense line so that the monsters could not attack the forward operating base's fragile core.

That had lasted until the humans had finally finished mobilizing their forces and a large number of reinforcements had arrived in hundreds of armored airships.

The other defense lines had been the same.

Humans had been caught off guard, and they had suffered a major loss. Nonetheless, due to their firm will, they had used their blood and corpses to build iron walls, and they had fought the monsters in a devastating trench warfare that earned them the most precious twenty-four hours.

During those twenty-four hours, all of Dragon City's manpower and resources had been mobilized. They had built a temporary railroad that stretched more than one hundred kilometers, and they had covered all the four cardinal directions. That had allowed them to transport a lot of war equipment, including railway guns. They could also investigate the truth of the power behind the monster hordes as well as the places the monsters had focused their attacks on so that they could build tight defenses. They could use countless crystal cannons and war fortresses to form death traps and monster grinders.

During the next twenty-four hours, the warriors and fighters, who had been fighting for a full day and night on the frontlines, could finally pull back. They had retreated to the rear in an orderly fashion to rest and reorganize themselves.

When the ruthless monster horde followed, the humans had intentionally led them into the recently built 3D nets with intersecting lines of fire. They were exposed to the optimal killing range of the railway guns as well.

When a few million fearsome monsters foolishly entered the death trap, the railway guns had been the first to fire.

The steel mammoths had muzzles that were more than 200mm wide. They were the crystallization of the killing art that humans had left behind, and these weapons marked a generation when they had first been born.

Every time they roared, they sounded like they had torn down the gates of hell and could harvest all the lives within a circular area of several kilometers.

Unfortunately, the number of enemies they killed was the equivalent of the number of bullets they had to spend.

In Meng Chao's previous life, since the Red Radiance Jade mine exploded under Raging Waves and caused them to lose the northern offense, a few hundred thousand warriors had died, and Dragon City had also lost one of its most important crystal mines.

Therefore, more than one hundred railway guns had been reduced to huge but useless decorations because they required a lot of resources to be used, and they simply lacked ammunition. In fact, they had been damaged by the monster suicide squads that had snuck into Dragon City. Then, in an incredibly aggrieved manner, they had their short and ridiculous lives cut short.

In his previous life, whenever Dragon Citizens talked about this matter, they would feel indignant and sigh. They believed that one of Dragon City's major mistakes in trying to conquer the Other World was that it had created so many railway guns.

If they had used the resources and fees for creating railway guns to create more light weapons or invest in the cultivation of the strong, perhaps they would have been able to stir up chain reactions that were beneficial for Earthlings.

The situation was vastly different in this life.

After their victory over the northern offense, the mega corporations had managed to mine more than one hundred crystals from under Raging Waves, including the Red Radiance Jades.

The Red Dragon Army had never faced major defeat and remained strong. So, they could also develop dozens of super ammunition that had their damage increase by several times compared to their counterparts.

For example, they installed longer, sharper, and more brutal "claws" on the steel mammoth known as the railway gun.

The fierce monster horde became the best target practice and sacrifices for the new railway gun.

With one blast, normal monsters would be reduced to dust, Nightmarish Beasts would be torn to pieces, and their limbs would fly everywhere, Hell Beasts would be swept away by the shockwaves. Even if their organs were not blown to bits and they did not die of pain, their bones and tendons would snap because of the blast, and they would be badly battered.

Even Apocalyptic Beasts had to retreat when they faced the humans' gunfire.

It was not easy to utilize railway guns, because every time they were fired, they required a long cooldown time and an equally long time to insert a new shell. Even so, within the defense line that humans had finished setting up, the crystal cannons, railguns, and light machine guns, as well as heavy machine guns that formed the death trap, were like the scythe that the God of Death would never tire of swinging. The moment the monsters who had been knocked off kilter because of the blasts were drawn into the trap, they had a hard time trying to escape.

Their skins were tough, and they had spirit energy protecting them, thus allowing them to break through the defense line. Despite that, there were powerful fighters who had already gathered their strength and had their weapons in hand waiting for them!

In the end, during the second twenty-four hours, the number of human casualties had reduced by a large amount.

The brave sacrifice of approximately one thousand powerful fighters had come in exchange for a great reward that largely benefited humans.

Monster carcasses had piled up around the borders of Dragon City.

Their claws, bones, crystalized cores, and other materials alone were enough to make a few million citizens in Dragon City rich if they were all harvested.

Of course, Meng Chao and Lu Siya's efforts in the lair were tightly connected to why the frontlines had been able to get such grand results.

Nie Chenglong believed that a tactical error did not lead to the monster horde's frenzied attack on the steel defenses that the humans had already set up. Instead, they had an even more sinister strategy in play. The monster civilization hoped that with a crazed bombardment of attacks that lasted nonstop for twenty-four hours, humans would place all their attention and best forces on the borders of Dragon City. As such, the Vortex could create as much chaos as it liked in the lair.

If Meng Chao had not stopped the Vortex in time, perhaps the lair would have gone up in flames, and the fire, as well as smog, would have spread to the entire main city area. A few hundred thousand

refugees would have surged out of the lair like a flood, destroying the main city area and the other carefully set up defense lines in the other regions.

Besides, plenty of monster puppets in human skin could have brought with them Deification Capsules and biochemical viruses as they rushed out with the refugees. Then, they could have added oil to the fire and turned the main city area into a burning hell.

If the warriors fighting on the frontlines had found out that their homes were on fire and Dragon City was engulfed in black smoke, they would have surely been unable to focus, and their morale would have plummeted.

Perhaps the monster horde would have really been able to break down the defense lines in one go by then.

If they analyzed things from that angle, they would not be going overboard if they gave high praise to Meng Chao and Lu Siya's achievements.

"It's really sinister!" Meng Chao felt cold sweat breaking out on his back.

The war situation in his previous life had seemed to progress the same way.

The fire in the lair had led to chaos in Dragon City, and the monster army had seized the chance to launch a powerful attack.

Even though they did not manage to take down Dragon City in one go, they had managed to make Dragon Citizens waste most of its fighting strength and the resources that they had only managed to gather after much effort.

Hence, the Monster War had lasted for a few more years. Humans had to practically squeeze out every drop of their blood to win, but even so, they had been badly injured from it. It was a pyrrhic victory, and their destruction during the apocalypse was set in stone.

Fortunately, Meng Chao had returned to the past.

Even though humans had spent a lot of ammunition and resources during the second twenty-four hours, all their usage could be covered by the mountains of monster carcasses around.

More importantly, humans had managed to gradually connect the defense lines from the four cardinal directions, and the defenses had grown stronger. Meanwhile, the main fighting forces, who had been waiting behind iron walls for the exhausted enemies to reach them, never suffered any injury. Instead, they had a great fighting spirit, and the belief that they needed to absolutely win the fight stirred up in them.

As for the monster civilization, perhaps they had low intelligence and were just ignorant, or perhaps they had been controlled by the mastermind through some mysterious method. That was why they just kept attacking.

However, after being blasted nonstop by artillery shells day and night, the instincts within their cells had eventually sent electrical pulses filled with fear into all their nerve bundles.

After attacking for forty-eight hours, the monster horde had finally shown fatigue and thinned out. Their attacks had also become sluggish.

In the face of fire, explosions, and torrential bullets, quite a number of monsters had turned tail and run. In fact, they had broken free of the mysterious control and started fighting against monsters of different species.

Hence, during the third twenty-four hours, humans had finally launched their counterattack and pushed five to ten kilometers forward in their respective battlefronts.

However, Monster Mountain Range was not a place suited for a large army or heavy firepower to run rampant due to its tall mountains, deep lakes, uneven paths, and thick forests.

Besides, the Apocalyptic Beasts had not all left their nests. They still relied on Monster Mountain Range to help them fight, chase, and engage in a stalemate against the Deity Realm superhumans.

Also, plenty of monsters carried a large number of viruses, bacteria, and spores in them. Even if they were torn to pieces, there was a certain chance that they would turn into the undead and deal secondary damage to humans.

That was why humans had been careful when they counterattacked.

They pushed forward today because they wanted to clean up the battlefield, harvest the monster materials that were left behind, and wipe out the undead.

"Even though the war situation is still worrying, overall, the scales of victory are gradually tilting toward our side. After three days and three nights worth of pitched battles, not only has the monster civilization been unable to gain an advantage over us, but they have also left behind millions of monster carcasses full of resources. Among them are a large number of Nightmarish Beast and Hell Beast carcasses. You can say that they didn't manage to carry out their scheme and even suffered a major loss because of it!" Nie Chenglong grinned and said, "So, you and Siya can go ahead and rest. When you wake up, you might hear that we have already returned victorious!"

"Thank you, Vice Director." Meng Chao stared at the smoke-filled, corpse-littered battlefield that looked like a furnace. He shook his head slowly and clearly said, "But I don't need any rest. I need to go to the battlefield!"

Chapter 653: I Want to Blow My Enemies Away!

In disbelief, Nie Chenglong stared at Meng Chao. He was stunned for a long moment before he used his hands to press down on Meng Chao's shoulders. "Calm down, young man, I know that you long to fight, but your body takes priority. You've been risking your life for seventy-two hours in the lair, and you were injured badly multiple times but forced yourself to recover. You were even nearly dragged into hell by the Vortex.

"With your current condition, it's not suitable for you to immediately join an even more intense battle. You should rest, heal, and cultivate."

"I've already rested. When I was in Golden Tooth's headquarters, I soaked in the highest grade medicine and slept for a total of six hours," Meng Chao said earnestly, "Vice Director Nie, you mentioned it just

now that the war situation at the frontlines is very worrying, and with every second of the pitch battle, we might lose another person. I might be unable to make much of an impact if I'm there. In fact, it might be an insignificant splash, but that splash could break the balance and let the scales of victory completely tilt to humanity's side, and from there, we could save more humans.

"That's why you should let me go. To me, fighting is the best rest, healing, and cultivation!"

Flames surged in his eyes, and it caused Nie Chenglong to be stunned.

Through his pulled back shoulders, Nie Chenglong could sense Meng Chao's firm will. He pondered over this. "But your body..."

"I'm really okay. Jin Wanhao's private medical cabin, examination functions, and healing properties won't lose to the best private clinics in Dragon City."

Meng Chao took two steps back and punched forward.

Wherever his fist went, the air was immediately torn, and two ripples would also spread out.

After a moment, a piercing whistling rose.

"Look, my current problem isn't that I'm covered head to toe in wounds, it's that I have too much rampaging power in my body, and I need to vent it!"

Meng Chao was confident. "As long as I don't provoke Apocalyptic Beasts, I can fight at full strength when I run into monster hordes and also harvest their parts. Not only will I not harm my body, I can relax my muscles and tendons. This is good for my health!"

Nie Chenglong was quite convinced by the strength of his punches.

He cast his gaze at Lu Siya. "Siya, what about you?"

"I'll definitely go with Meng Chao. Don't worry, Vice Director. I won't let anything happen to him." Lu Siya smiled.

This was not a spontaneous plan. They already talked about it in the lair.

Both of them thought it over. Even though they had intimidated the gangs in the name of the government and obtained nominal control over the Lair Reconstruction Committee for the time being and used the Lair Reconstruction Committee to make it so that the government could not butt into lair affairs and made them think that they had control over it, this control still came from how they used the fact that both sides' information were not in sync to their advantage.

It was just like a joke about how a young man used his status as a high-ranking manager of a bank to marry a rich man's daughter, then used his status as the son-in-law of a rich man to get the position of a high-ranking manager from the bank.

The situation in the lair was now starting to stabilize, but the pitched battle at the borders had not ended just yet. Out of necessity to maintain order, the gangs and the government would not be against Meng Chao taking the seat as Golden Tooth's gang leader and even the master of the lair.

But once the situation set, the major forces of power, including the mega corporations, would do everything they can to extend their grubby claws into the lair.

Once the pie of the lair reconstruction became big and the lair really became a central business center because it occupied the best geographical spot in the city, these forces of power might have other thoughts pop up in their minds.

In other words, even with Golden Tooth Saber in hand, Meng Chao's foundation was still too shallow.

If he really wanted to become the master of the lair, he needed two things.

One, absolute power.

Two, achievements, exposure rate, popularity, and a few ten million citizens' support.

Dragon City's rules were actually very simple.

The person with the big fist and could utilize that fist to bash monster brains as well as defend the common interests of the people would have the people being willing to extend their arms and lift them to the golden seat of power.

This was the reason why Meng Chao and Lu Siya had planned to use the flashiest method to circle round the lair.

One of the reasons was to placate the lair citizens so that the uneasy citizens could all see that they had won.

The other reason was to use the witnesses' eyes and their phones to tell all of Dragon City that the victory of the battle in the lair was brought by Meng Chao and Lu Siya!

Nowadays, just working hard was not enough.

The only people who knew how to promote themselves and attract attention could get popularity, which in turn led to more resources, and they would then be able to contribute even more!

Speaking of which, the battle of the lair was a rather sensitive issue. Plenty of confidential information was involved, so they might be unable to spread it to the people as they want.

Lu Siya's original plan was to shine brilliantly in the pitched battle at the borders. For this, she had even mobilized elite forces from the related departments in Sky Pillar Corporation so that they could film a promotional video for her.

Due to Meng Chao going missing in the lair, she hastily returned to provide reinforcements, and she could only temporarily set aside promoting herself.

She did not expect that they would be able to handle everything within a short twenty-four hours the moment they started working together.

Since the pitched battle at the borders was still going on like wildfire and they had taken a lot of cultivation resources from the Underground Emperor's secret lab, not only had they recovered from their wounds, their fighting strength had also increased by different degrees.

Naturally, they had to fight with every second they had to make new achievements!

Nie Chenglong looked at them back and forth.

He knew that sometimes, Meng Chao would be rash and act regardless of the cost.

Meanwhile, Lu Siya was a cautious person. She seldom fought a battle she was not confident with and would not let herself suffer even the slightest bit of loss.

Since Lu Siya had volunteered once more, they must have gained some sort of indescribable blessing in the lair. He did not have to worry about them too much.

"Are you sure that you're really alright?" Nie Chenglong asked for a final confirmation.

"Vice Director, don't worry. Look at how impatient Meng Chao is. If you don't let him go, then something is really going to happen," said Lu Siya as she suppressed her laughter.

Meng Chao laughed as well.

If anyone understood her, it was Big Sis Ya.

Indeed, his greatest problem right now was not his injuries or fatigue, it was that there was too much rampaging spirit energy caused by Hell's Blood and other things stored in his body.

Meng Chao's improvement was based on his contributions and spirit energy.

Most of the time, he had a lot of contribution points but did not have enough spirit energy, which was why even though he had a few hundred thousand or even millions of contribution points, he could not use them to upgrade his skills.

Now, however, there were dozens of lava streams flowing in his body, and hundreds of ticking time bombs flowed in those streams, but his last contribution point had been given to increase the Skillfulness of Celestial Tyrant's Star Shattering Slash.

He really did not have a single point left.

He was in urgent need to use the most intense battlefield to blow enemies away in exchange for more contribution points so that he could completely digest Hell's Blood and push Celestial Tyrant's Star Shattering Slash as well as Divine Nine Dragon Slash to Specialist Level!

Monsters might be fearsome creatures who bared their claws and fangs, but to Meng Chao, they were walking contribution points that looked beautiful and tasty!

"Alright!"

When he saw that they had already made up their minds, Nie Chenglong no longer tried to convince them otherwise.

After all, they lacked fighting power at the frontlines now, especially high-end fighting power.

Many of the battle fronts they had been fighting over with the monsters repeatedly might lack one or two powerful fighters to serve as sharp weapons. That was why the humans were never able to find a breakthrough point and blow all monsters away.

Nie Chenglong went to the control station and opened the battle network.

Even if Dragon City had walked out of the apocalypse now, it had yet to perfectly converge all its armed forces into.

Aside from the Red Dragon Army, Dragon City had plenty of private forces under the mega corporations, youth armies from high schools, superhuman squads registered under the Hunter's Association, security companies with a lot of mercenaries, forces from the secret police, the abnormal beast research department and other disciplinary forces, and powerful fighters who believed in absolute freedom and did not want to be restricted by any organization.

In terms of strength, the Red Dragon Army was not even the strongest armed force.

When monsters entered the space-time rifts to fight in Dragon City, the situation where all the citizens were soldiers and could fight however they wanted was good for swift reaction and killing enemies immediately.

But in large-scale battles, if they did not have unified command and teamwork, it was inevitable that they would be disunited and have their defenses torn down.

To solve this problem, the nine mega corporations, Supernatural Tower, Dragon City University, the alliance of the five universities, the Hunter's Association, the secret police, and the abnormal beast research department developed a battle network based on big data and quantum computing.

Through the tactical data link where everything was connected together, every drone, every mobile camera the fighters wore, and every data chip implanted in the eyes of the biochemical beasts were also connected together.

The images they captured turned into an information torrent in the form of numbers. They were then gathered together at the supercomputer centers in the Red Dragon Army's headquarters, the Supernatural Tower, and the Survival Committee.

After consolidating the data and running tests to see how they should distribute resources to maximize their value, they could split the entire battlefield into different battlefronts, and through these battlefronts, they gave out different missions as well as calculated the danger of those missions.

From there, they could figure out the number of people they needed, the cultivation realms required, and how much rewards they could get from completing those missions.

The legal superhumans who were registered under the Supernatural Tower had a unique battle network account tied to their names.

Through the account, they could log in and assess the development of the war at any time, get the newest missions, learn which place needed assistance, and other things.

Of course, after the superhumans completed all the missions, the monsters they killed, the grade they obtained for their missions, and other things would also be recorded in their accounts to help set the standard to appraise achievements.

Achievements meant priority in housing distribution, increasing marks for the national college examination and exams for civil servants and professional jobs. They could also get discounts when

buying items in the Supernatural Tower, even get chances for year-end bonuses and promotions in various mega corporations. These things were practically the life for superhumans.

The battle network could motivate all superhumans to fight against monsters valiantly and make them truly turn into weapons for humanity.

Meng Chao and Lu Siya used their fingerprints and irises to identify themselves, and they logged into their battle network accounts.

In an instant, flowing lights with dazzling effects instantly appeared on the screen.

Both of their names were now gold with burning wings of flames attached to them. There were also fireworks around their names, making it look like deities were firing off fireworks to cheer and celebrate for them.

This meant that they had just completed a really tough mission, and the grade they obtained was not low, so the achievements and rewards they gained were also great.

Both of them stared at Nie Chenglong in shock.

"Before you flew down, I just inputted your achievements into the battle network," Nie Chenglong grinned and said, "Even though I haven't inputted the details of the fight and my remarks about it, the lair remains standing as firmly as a stone, and this is a fact everyone can see. This alone shows that you contributed to its survival, and it's definitely something worth rewarding!"

Chapter 654: Burning Island

Warmth flowed in Meng Chao's body.

He was not an official investigator in the abnormal beast research department, so he had some degree of freedom when it came to joining other forces of power or allying with them.

Yet, Nie Chenglong still trusted him so much. With just one report, he was willing to endorse Meng Chao.

No one could compare to his courage.

It was no wonder why the abnormal beast research department was able to hire so many powerful people within just a few years since its conception and stand above the secret police.

With this great achievement registered under their names, Meng Chao and Lu Siya could choose from a wide range of missions.

Shattered Starlake to Raging Waves were the earliest developed new city areas in the northern area. After a few years of development, they had formed an impenetrable iron wall. Even if the monster horde was fierce, it was impossible for them to tear down the fortified Raging Waves.

The western front was covered in swamps, forests, and quicksand.

The humans' steel army might have a hard time developing in the west, but the monster's army, especially the large ones who weighed hundreds of or even more than one thousand tonnes also had a hard time breaking through the west.

Hence, the main directions the monster civilization attacked were the east and south.

Meng Chao and Lu Siya observed the map of the south and western lines for a full five minutes, observing the intersecting lines of the enemies and humans, and their gazes fell on the same coordinates simultaneously.

It was a place the humans coined Burning Island.

Burning Island was not a true island.

Instead, it was a large, huge rock.

It was 371m tall, 4,200m long, and 3,000m wide. The top was as flat as a table, and it was twice as large as Earth's largest stone—Ayers Rock.

This rock stood in the wild like a lone island.

Since its top was hundreds of meters away from the ground, even when it was surrounded by fog in the wild, the top of the rock could be clearly seen. It could serve as a reference for humanity's armored airships and the Heaven Realm superhumans wearing non-motorized gliders.

The entire rock contained a lot of substances filled with spirit energy. In fact, it could be said to be a large, natural crystal that was an absolute treasure trove.

When superhumans cultivated and fought on it, they could breathe in high-purity spirit gas at every second, and through the rock, they could form an indescribable, abstruse resonance with the planet's magnetic field, and it provided great benefits for them when they tried to overcome the limits of their lives.

Besides, the top of the rock was wide and flat. If they set up an artillery base on it, they could maximize shooting distance from above to threaten all the monsters within a circular area of dozens of kilometers.

Hence, this rock became a tactical spot that was contested by strategists.

When the fog gradually dispersed and humans could finally stretch their hands into the wild, this rock would be completely controlled by humans, and they would form a tactical fort around it.

Since the rock was red, it looked like it was burning, which was why it was named Burning Island.

The monster horde was fierce, but they were not dumb. They knew just how important Burning Island was.

Burning Island was one of the main targets the monster horde kept attacking since the first twenty-four hours.

In just three days and three nights, Burning Island had switched owners multiple times.

Every time the offensive party reorganized their forces and finally reached the top of the rock, in at most five hours, they would be dragged down by the other party.

Countless mangled bodies were left on the rock and beneath it. Bodies were strewn all over the place, blood flowed in rivers, and it was an unbearable sight.

This time, humans used armored airships to gather together and launched an ambush to the rear of the monster horde before they could regain their footing. Once they chased the monsters down the rock again, they finally gained more than eight hours of breathing space.

Within those eight hours, the armored airships from the rear sent over a large amount of light and heavy artillery as well as construction machines to build three artillery bases and hundreds of overt and covert firing points, causing humans to be able to fortify Burning Island once more.

But the monster civilization would definitely not retreat so easily.

Based on the images sent back by the drones, a few monster squads were gathering together not far away from Burning Island.

Among them were countless flying-type monsters that could threaten armored airships. The monster horde was everywhere, and it was about to swarm toward Burning Island once more to shake the entire eastern battlefront.

To strengthen the defenses of Burning Island, the Red Dragon Army and the private squads belonging to the nine mega corporations had already slowed down attacks in the other directions.

They mobilized a large number of elites to rush to defend Burning Island.

Agricultural University, the University of Technology, the University of Science, and the military school also sent a youth army formed by the seniors and juniors. Under their tutors' lead, they reached Burning Island.

However, the drones managed to film countless Hell Beasts and something that looked like an Apocalyptic Beast in the monster horde that was gathering in the forest ahead of Burning Island.

The firepower currently stationed in Burning Island was not enough.

All the manpower that they could use was thrown into the battlefield. After the tactical-level supercomputer anxiously carried out calculations, the battle network had to summon the superhumans who were currently getting treated at the hospitals in the rear after they were injured during the intense fighting over the past few days in hopes that more powerful fighters could head to Burning Island and fight against this unprecedented monster horde.

Meng Chao saw plenty of familiar names in the list of soldiers defending Burning Island.

They were all students from Agricultural University's martial arts course, the monster controller course, and the alliance of the five universities.

In fact, his tutor, Blade Dancer Gu Jianbo, and his wife, Griffin Li Yingzi were there.

The defensive war of Burning Island was crucial to humanity, and he must go and help his tutor and friends.

Lu Siya also found the elite squad belonging to Sky Pillar Corporation in the list of defenders.

Burning Island was a large, purely natural crystal.

While it might contain a lot of impurities and was not of high quality, the large size meant an astonishing amount of spirit energy, and it was something Sky Pillar Corporation was determined to get.

Hence, both of them only used three seconds to come to a conclusion together.

'We must save Burning Island and fight against the monster horde!'

...

War had yet to break out at Burning Island and the eastern battlefront at the borders of Dragon City, but this did not mean that both sides were going to let the other enjoy even a second of peace while they were preparing for war.

The flames of war burned the skies, and the blood-red sun shone on them. Countless mighty armored airships that looked like steel demons now looked weather-worn because of the smoke, they were also damaged because of the acid and fireballs from the monsters, making them look like torn ships that just traveled through tsunamis and storms. Even so, they gritted their metaphorical teeth to stop themselves from moaning and breaking down while they charged toward Burning Island.

Creak. Creak.

They brought with them a large number of spare parts for construction machines and artillery, along with ammunition. When they successfully landed on the rock, they instantly turned into scrap metal.

Immediately, combat engineers and university volunteers rushed into the burning and exploding scrap metal like they had a tornado chasing after them. At the risk of being burnt and squashed into pieces, they saved most of the parts and ammunition.

Some of the parts were used to make large construction machines, and these machines were like large monsters that ate up stones and monster carcasses to build intersecting trenches at the edges of Burning Island. They built covers and firing points and also buried a lot of anti-monster mines.

The other parts were used to build artillery with large muzzles. They were installed into the artillery bases and let out an endless wave of roars in the direction of the large monster horde gathering more than ten kilometers away.

The three artillery bases gave a rather major shock to the monster horde.

The monster horde was hidden in a primitive forest made of towering trees, under the stimulation of the Hell Beasts and Apocalyptic Beasts, the other monsters' potential were all activated, and their physical defenses were increased by 200%.

Even so, when they faced the humans' unreasonable carpet bombing, they could only run like rats or bury their heads deep in mud to deceive themselves that they were safe.

The monsters would definitely sit by the side and twiddle their thumbs while watching the monster horde be obliterated by artillery shells.

The ground forces were still gathering together, but the aerial forces were already moving.

More than one hundred large eyeballs dragged their nerve bundles behind them, with the dark clouds and smoke serving as their cover, these Demonic Air Ripping Eyes appeared right above Burning Island.

Their tentacles were entwined together. They let out piercing screeches while they scratched each other rapidly. These screeches turned into invisible mental lightning that interfered with the cerebral cortexes of the defenders on the ground. In fact, they turned into fake neuron signals that made the humans hear and see things, making them feel like they were in hell, and the entire world was already occupied by monsters.

The defenders were not superhumans. Quite a large portion of the Red Dragon Army was composed of normal people. Under the mental attacks of the Demonic Air Ripping Eyes, their mental strength indexes dropped swiftly to zero. Their eyes rolled back, and they looked like they had lost their minds. They flailed their arms around and started screaming.

The Mutant Demonic Air Ripping Eyes had the strength of their mental attacks weaken, but they gained longer and stronger tentacles. When they tensed up their muscles, they could release the compressed air from behind their bodies, thus allowing them to gain really great mobility.

These Demonic Air Ripping Eyes were like squids floating in clouds. They let out puffs of gas and tore through the clouds to ram into the armored airships transporting artillery, ammunition, and construction machines. Even if they did not manage to ram into them, as long as they were around fifty meters away from their targets, they could easily throw their really flexible tentacles over and bind the armored airships tightly.

In the end, they would either crush the armored airships, causing them to go out of control and fall, or thrust their tentacles into the engines of the armored airships so that the crystal fuel inside would explode. They in turn turned into dazzling fireballs with the armored airships. They were reduced to ashes in the form of brilliant fireworks.

This suicidal tactic severely impacted the humans' continuous use of their artillery bases and interrupted them from building such bases as well.

This was especially so when an armored airship with a lot of bombs was bound and crushed by a Demonic Air Ripping Eye. The crystal fuel inside exploded, and the armored airship plunged near an artillery base, leading to a terrifying number of casualties.

Half of the artillery base went up in flames.

The artillery that was only formed after the soldiers did everything they could to salvage the parts from the rear were instantly reduced to scrap.

The shockwave gave these scraps really high speed and great mobility. They spread out in a wide arc like the God of Death's scythe, and a large number of artillerymen's lives.

Chapter 655: The Flames of War Rage

Humans would definitely not let the Demonic Air Ripping Eyes wreak havoc in the air.

A large number of offensive armored airships had more than one hundred cannons installed. These airships had blimps with a streamlined design, and they were light as well as highly mobile They

continued patrolling the aerial supply line, and they launched repeated attacks at the Demonic Air Ripping Eyes.

Aside from having so many cannons that they looked like steel hedgehogs, these armored airships also had dozens of high-powered crystal horns on them. They kept playing exciting military songs that could motivate the people so that they could largely minimize the mental damages from the Demonic Air Ripping Eyes.

Sometimes, around five armored airships surrounded a Demonic Air Ripping Eye, and dozens of crystal horns were trained on that Demonic Air Ripping Eye. Then, the military songs would be blasted at full volume.

The mental and spirit energy fluctuations were enough to make the Demonic Air Ripping Eye suffer from a psychological backlash, and it would explode and die.

Besides, as transportation airships risked hell and fire to reach Burning Island, most of the anti-aircraft machine guns and anti-aircraft artillery were built and stationed in place. The only things missing now were the artillery bases.

Deafening roars rose. As if the world had been turned upside down, burning rain rose from the ground to the sky, tearing the Demonic Air Ripping Eyes into shreds. Gas spilled out of their bodies, and they fled helter-skelter.

Naturally, however, the Demonic Air Ripping Eyes were not the only aerial forces in the monster civilization.

A large number of falcon-type and griffin-type monsters flew one thousand meters above the ground and glided above the clouds. They dived down swiftly, and their attack trajectories were basically perpendicular to the ground. Like ordnance penetrators, they rammed into the humans' artillery bases, anti-aircraft machine gun bases, armories, tactical hospitals, forts, and other places where humanity's firepower were gathered.

The motion itself was already enough to create shockwaves and several huge holes. Besides, there were lice, fleas, and other insect-type monsters hiding in the feathers. Their bodily fluids also carried strong venom and were highly acidic.

These swift attackers were something the airships could not stop.

Even if the anti-aircraft machine guns could rip them into shreds, their highly polluted carcasses carried vermin that had fatal bacteria in them. These things spilled down like rain and fell on the humans' heads.

If the monster horde was just made up of stupid creatures like thousands of Demonic Halberd Pigs, Iron Armored Rhinoceroses, and other such things, then led by a Hell Beast like the Tyrant Mammoth to launch simple and crude attacks at the humans' iron defenses, then the humans could just hide behind the mine formations, automatic gun towers, electromagnetic towers, machine guns, and artillery bases while taking their lives at a relaxed pace.

Even if some of the sturdier beasts were able to tear down the humans' iron walls and appear in front of the humans, they would definitely be exhausted and covered in wounds. They could not possibly be the humans' opponents.

However, the greatest difference between the monster civilization and monsters was also their most terrifying aspect. The monsters in the monster civilization did not have a lot of their offensive and defensive parameters increase and become really sturdy or have really sharp claws. Instead, the monsters learned how to set up formations and have multiple types of soldiers in each squad.

For example, when this sort of large-scale monster horde launched a suicidal charge, they would first send aerial forces to create non-stop harassment, then fire off vermin and bacteria in the sky. This alone made things really hard for humans.

At that moment, Blade Dancer Gu Jianbo and Griffin Li Yingzi, along with a large number of Heaven Realm superhumans, were stationed at Burning Island. In fact, there was a Deity Realm superhuman who was qualified to lead an important department within the alliance of the five universities stationed there.

They could kill one Hell Beast with just one slash.

Yet, they could not instantly kill thousands of lice falling from the sky like rain.

These lice were definitely monsters, because they lived in a unique environment full of spirit energy, causing their evolution speed to be really quick, and they went through the process of genetic screening and biochemical modifications from the monster civilization. They were completely different things compared to their relatives on Earth.

As long as one monster-level louse jumped into a human's clothes, it could begin feasting on their flesh and blood, and that alone could bring great pain to the human.

If a normal soldier without spirit energy protecting them was attacked by lice, they would soon foam at the mouth. Their muscles would twitch, and they would show symptoms of nerve poisoning, thus leading them to temporarily lose their fighting powers.

Even if humans wore airtight defensive clothes made of nanomaterial, the insects could still crawl in through the gaps. In fact, they used acid and their really sharp mandibles to tear holes in their defensive suits.

To get rid of the insect-type monsters that descended from the sky, the humans had to carry large and powerful insecticide sprays so that they could spray these sticky bubbles on themselves and their comrades at all times.

As such, it largely delayed the progress of them digging trenches, stationing artillery, and transporting ammunition.

Hence, the time gap between each use of the artillery became longer, and the roars from the artillery also became fewer and farther between. They could not completely cover the entire forest where the monster horde gathered.

However, compared to the current threat, the Demonic Air Ripping Eyes, falcon-type monsters, and insect-type monsters' harassment was nothing.

To the humans who were fighting against time to construct their bases, the most problematic threat did not come from the sky. Instead, it was hidden around them right now.

Those were the undead.

The viruses and bacteria in the Other World were one hundred times more active than it was on Earth.

The instability of carbon-based life forms was also one hundred times greater.

Even if they were cut to pieces, when viruses, bacteria, spores, and other parasitic life forms worked together, there was still a certain chance that they would turn into a completely different life form.

This was especially so when the monster civilization had managed to extract the essence of Blood Flowers and developed the new zombie virus. The transformation rate into the undead and brutality after they transformed was also much higher.

During the repeated skirmishes for Burning Island over the past seventy-two hours, humans had left behind nearly one thousand corpses on Burning Island.

As for the monsters, the number of carcasses they left behind was one hundred times higher than that of humans.

A few hundred thousand bodies were splayed all over the rock, around Burning Island, and the gradual slope connected to the ground, but they were also covered by the dirt that flew into the air due to the explosions. They were mixed together with the earth, and it was hard to find where they were.

When their bodies were invaded by the microorganisms in the Other World, some parts of these carcasses and corpses would rot away really quickly, and they would release a really thick miasma that looked like yellow and dark-green fog. It largely obscured the humans' vision.

A large number of bodies also swelled up into bulging air sacs. In the end, with a loud bang, they exploded, and the fluid—infested with fatal viruses and microorganisms—spilled everywhere within hundreds of meters, splashing on the humans' trenches and construction work.

Of course, quite a number of the thousands of bodies had red tentacles that were as flexible as aquatic plants stretched out of the thousands of bodies and bound the mangled corpses together. They connected their parts and made them fuse together to turn into deformed, twisted undead. The undead stood up with slanted bodies and let out fierce howls while they pounced on humans.

To harvest the valuable materials contained in the monster carcasses and to get rid of the problem of the undead, humans sent a lot of manpower to clear the battlefield.

Superhumans held their weapons and prepared for battle by the side. Meanwhile, the harvesters used the fastest speed they could muster to cut up the bodies. The Red Dragon Army soldiers then carried liquid nitrogen sprays and flamethrowers to clean every inch of the ground.

The bad news was that there were really a lot of undead, and there was no pattern as to when, where, and in what manner they would appear.

No one knew just what sort of attacks these carcasses bound together by the Blood Flowers would use to attack, and neither did they know how they could be considered to have fully killed these creatures.

That was why whenever they tried to kill an undead, they needed to spend more time, ammunition, and strength in comparison to killing normal monsters.

The good news was that the humans who died on Burning Island were true heroes. When they sacrificed their lives, their brains still remained at the moment they were fighting against their enemies and protecting their homes.

Even if those warriors were infested by zombie viruses and Blood Flower spores, once they became zombies, they could easily remember their identities and missions when their comrades called out to them or when they heard the loud military songs.

Hence, this was something commonly seen on the battlefield.

When undead creatures with monstrous faces, sharp fangs, multiple limbs, and bloody tattoos all over their bodies tore apart the dark-green miasma and howled while they charged at the humans who were working hard harvesting the corpses, the ones who were the first to stop them were not superhumans or the Red Dragon Army soldiers, but the zombies who crawled out of the mountains of bodies and looked equally monstrous.

The medals these zombies wore had long since been ripped off.

They lost their breathing, heartbeats, and even 99% of their thought processes and memories.

However, the remaining 1% thought processes and memories shone like a beacon in the rage and storm churning in their minds, pointing them in their final direction.

Bizarre sounds came out from the zombies' hole-ridden chests, and the sounds gathered together to form a twisted, strange rhythm.

They sang military songs that only they could understand while they pounced on the undead. Every piece of flesh on their bodies turned into sharp teeth as they bit down on the undead. They became untangled from each other and fell off cliffs that were hundreds of meters away from the ground. Their bones were crushed because of it, and they used their flesh and blood to leave behind an unerasable mark belonging to Earthlings in their brand new home.

Even though the main armies had yet to fight against each other head-on, devastating and tragic small-scale battles appeared in the air, on the ground, and on every front.

On the east of Burning Island was a slope that led straight to the ground. Even though this slope was considered to be steep if it was measured by Earth's standards, to the humans whose mobility had been largely increased and to the monsters, this was the main road to the top of Burning Island, or at least, it was much better than the cliffs that were perpendicular to the ground. Those could be found on most spots of Burning Island.

Over the past seventy-two hours, more than ten waves of monsters wanted to climb up Burning Island through this slope.

As a result, they left behind thousands of carcasses on the path.

It was this slope to become the main area for humans to clean and cleanse the undead.

They must seize every second they had to get rid of all the monster carcasses before the monster horde launched a major attack. They dug trenches on the slope and set up anti-monster mines. They also set up high-voltage nets and electromagnetic towers. They even stationed an anti-aircraft machine gun base that was shaped like an arc on the top of the rock. This anti-aircraft machine gun base faced the slope.

When necessary, the anti-aircraft machine guns could fire everything in sight and used brute firepower to push the monsters who rushed up the slope down again.

The ones in charge of the gargantuan task of cleaning the battlefield were those in Agricultural University's martial arts course. They were famous for the Ultimate Style and Beast Soul Style, had risen to power over the past two years, and could practically fight on equal grounds with Dragon City University's martial arts course now.

Chapter 656: His Coursemates Grew Stronger Rapidly

Agricultural University was known as the Monster University. Not only did its martial arts course students know how to fight, but they were also unmatched when it came to their understanding of monster structures. They were the best to clean up battlefields and harvest resources.

However, the slope was bumping, and the battlefield was covered in holes. Miasma was rife in the air. There were not enough seniors and juniors to be used, so they gradually split up, which was why they ran into all sorts of dangerous situations.

Duan Lian knelt on the ground on one knee and swung his sabers. With wild slices, he cut up the stomach of a Demonic Halberd Pig that was about the same size as a Tyrant Mammoth, extracting its bones, which shone with a metallic shine.

There were all sorts of monster carcasses piled up beside him. If they were transported to the back and ground into bone powder, they could be blended in gene medicine to increase the strength of bones in humans. They could also be used to make alloy or stimulate the rampaging spirit energy in crystals.

While he was paying attention to harvesting, he did not seem to have noticed that he was gradually leaving the main squad.

Since smoke and miasma obscured his sight, not many people saw him.

Behind him was a rather deep hole. There were originally a few mangled carcasses in it.

At that moment, they let out slurping sounds. Thin red lines came out from them, and their flesh was connected together.

The places where their facial features originally were had already rotted to the point where only black holes were left. Green will-o'-the-wisps gushed out of them as if their bodies had been awakened by an evil spirit.

Due to the cooperation between the spores and microorganisms, an undead creature crawled out silently from the hole. Its main body was that of a giant python's torn-up corpse, but countless mandibles that came from insect-type monsters popped out of the wounds on its sides. Now, it sensed a human's neuroelectricity and vitality magnetic field, and it started squirming swiftly to Duan Lian.

When the large centipede opened its mouth, it spat out dozens of barbed, red tentacles from its throat, and Duan Lian never turned his head around.

Yet, as if he had eyes on the back of his head, he did not even need to turn his head around. With a risky posture, he avoided the large centipede's fatal strike.

Then, he swung his sabers as if he was dancing. Like a tornado, he delivered a beautiful spinning slash that cut the large centipede into three parts.

Before the undead could squirm about and connect the three severed parts together again, Duan Lian threw his sabers. They turned into two rays of white light that pinned its head and tail firmly on the ground.

Duan Lian pulled out the flamethrower by his waist and pulled the trigger with a stoic expression.

The undead let out a piercing screech.

Very soon, it turned into three lumps of charcoal.

But Duan Lian did not stop attacking.

Instead, he tossed three anti-monster mines at the three lumps of charcoal.

Boom! Boom! Boom!

When the three lumps of charcoal were reduced to ashes, he grinned in satisfaction.

"Duan Lian, are you okay?"

When he heard the screams of the undead, Xie Feng charged over from a spot not far away.

"I'm fine."

Duan Lian put away the flamethrower and walked over to pick up his charred super alloy sabers.

Spirit energy surged in him, and spirit flames gushed out to clean the stains on the saber, causing the saber to regain its sharp glare.

Duan Lian swung his sabers casually and snorted, "This sort of thing is an undead? Only humans have the right to be known as the strongest immortal beings in the Other World!"

Duan Lian did indeed have the right to be so prideful.

Duan Lian, Xie Feng, Sun Ya, and Jiang Rui were the Four Great Kings who joined Agricultural University's martial arts course at the same time as Meng Chao.

Based on what Meng Chao remembered about his previous life, his peers were not known as the Golden Era among the superhumans in Dragon City.

That was because many of his talented peers had perished tragically at the northern offense when the Red Radiance Jade tsunami had exploded from under Raging Waves.

Even if some superhumans escaped through sheer luck or did not join the northern offense, since their martial art ideals lagged behind, they could not catch up to the monsters' swift evolution speed. During

the next few years, they suffered major losses during a war of attrition. That was why a talent gap showed up. It was only when Gu Jianbo completed the Ultimate Style's theory several years later that they managed to catch their breath.

Perhaps the Four Great Kings of Agricultural University's martial arts course perished a long time ago, which was why Meng Chao never heard their names in his previous life.

However, due to Meng Chao's return in this life, many people's fates changed drastically.

First, the Red Radiance Jade tsunami from Raging Waves was controlled at a perfect pace.

The liquified spirit energy gushed out like a volcano and charged into the clouds. Then, it fell on all the soldiers' heads like rain.

Not only were humans not torn to shreds like they did in his previous life or crippled because they had their spirit meridians broken due to the major radiation, but they were also nourished by the spirit energy rain and reached new heights. This helped them build a strong base for them to overcome the limits of their lives.

Also, Meng Chao helped Gu Jianbo complete and upgrade the Ultimate Style's martial art theory a few years ahead of time, allowing humans to find their optimized fighting style against monsters who could transform twice or thrice after they evolved, and they also found the best way to fight against the undead.

In the beginning, Agricultural University's martial arts course's Ultimate Style and Dragon City University's Overkill Style argued to a certain degree about which was better than the other.

Be that as it may, more pathfinders, hunters, and Red Dragon Army soldiers killed those undead creatures under the guidance of the Ultimate Style while they themselves did not have a single scratch on their bodies. They then uploaded their fighting videos online so that the entire city could see them. Therefore, the arguments gradually lessened.

Martial artists were always the most conservative of all careers, but they were also the most openminded. When they had to choose between survival and destruction, no one would stick to one single theory and fighting style and defend it.

Even if prideful Dragon City University martial arts course students were the chosen among the chosen had to admit that the Ultimate Style could indeed fight equally with the Overkill Style. In fact, it represented the fighting style of the future.

But Meng Chao did not just bring the Ultimate Style to the table.

Instead, he brought more than one hundred future martial arts styles to the table, including the future Reckless Bull Force, the future Ripple Force, and the future One Hundred Saber Techniques.

As Meng Chao's cultivation realm continued improving, he gradually awakened to more of his memories, and he became in control of more future martial arts. He was also becoming increasingly skilled in them.

Meng Chao imitated Battle God Lei Zongchao and published the future martial art thoughts, practice methods, and fighting styles to the life science forums on the deep web. They were all done anonymously, of course.

The future martial arts did stir up great discussions online.

What was important was not the specific moves or fighting styles of the martial arts.

Instead, they shone with a light that lit up the humans' evolution path.

With the light of the future guiding them, the amazing people and life science experts in Dragon City naturally drew parallels from the inferences of the future martial arts and drew their own inferences, thus allowing them to improve and upgrade more martial arts and cultivation methods.

In just two years, the spirit energy cultivation system in Dragon City took huge steps forward and reached a stage that was thirty years into the future.

Besides, the abundant resources brought to them by the grand victory at the northern offense as well as the various projects Meng Chao's Superstar collaborated with Agricultural University's martial arts course allowed them to gain the snowball effect and get more advantages.

As of today, Agricultural University's martial arts course was stronger by more than five times compared to what Meng Chao remembered of his past life!

In the past, when the seniors of Agricultural University's martial arts course could graduate as two-star superhumans, they were considered to be very outstanding.

The previous batches of graduates might not even produce a few three-star superhumans.

Now, however, there were already thirty students who had become two-star superhumans in Meng Chao's batch alone.

The Four Great Kings like Duan Lian and Die Feng were already firmly in their seats as three-star superhumans as well. They had cleared nearly one hundred meridians and hundreds of branch meridians. Now, they were aiming for the peak of Earth Realm.

The naivety they had when they competed against Meng Chao during the admission test in the past could no longer be found as well.

While Meng Chao was risking his life and becoming stronger by leaps and bounds, they did not remain idle either. They used the craziest methods to torment their own bodies and refine their minds.

Duan Lian and Xie Feng had countless scars left on their bodies and faces.

Those were all "gifts" from the monsters' claws, venomous fangs, and acid.

Even if they used drugs and advanced laser technology to get rid of their scars so that their wounds could heal completely, their fearless demeanor was embedded on their faces, and with smoke as well as stubble serving as decorations on their faces, they did not look like students who had yet to graduate. Instead, they looked like veterans who had survived through numerous battles.

Both of them strolled about the area and chatted with each other while they killed the undead around them.

The large construction machines could finally be driven up to dig trenches, set up mines, and firing points.

Duan Lian and Xie Feng sighed in relief. They monitored the situation by the side and were prepared to kill the monsters ambushing from the air and the ground at any moment.

They also spent some time opening the monitor of their tactical watches to check their achievements and ranking.

Just like usual, the battle network system would distribute missions to the universities, departments I, and individuals. When they were rewarded based on their achievements after the battle, their mission completion rate, the number of monsters they kill, and their rank would affect the distribution of their medals and cultivation resources.

Upperclassmen like them were about to face internships and distribution of work post-graduation. Their personal futures were closely tied to their performance during the pitched battle because it was one that decided the future of Dragon City.

"Whew, Duan Lian, you've been practicing behind our backs recently, huh? You actually didn't sleep over the past twenty-four hours and killed 132 normal monsters, 17 Nightmarish Beasts, and even killed 3 Hell Beasts together with your tutor? The points you got during the pitched battle are just five marks behind Sun Ya, and you're in the top twenty among all the students in the alliance of the five universities!" Xie Feng gasped in amazement.

"Xie Feng, are you praising me, or are you beating around the bush and praising yourself?"

Duan Lian was originally a prideful young man with a rather hot temper.

However, ever since Meng Chao snuck into his bedroom in the past and "slit" his throat, he learned his lesson and became a new man. He could also joke with his coursemates now. "You're just two points behind me, and if you kill two more normal monsters, you'll catch up to me. Now, there is an unprecedentedly large monster horde that is about to attack us. None of us knows whether you're preserving your strength so that you can go all out later."

Chapter 657: Meng Chao Is Here!

"Eh, we're the same!" Xie Feng did not deny it and grinned, "I don't believe that you've used your full power either. All of the Four Great Kings are rubbing their palms and just waiting to slaughter the super monster horde when they come and rush to the top ten of the achievement points ranking board of the alliance of the five universities."

Duan Lian snorted as an agreement.

However, if he wanted to become outstanding among the dozens of people in the same batch as he was in the alliance of the five universities and reach the top ten, it would not be easy.

After all, they were just the Four Great Kings of Agricultural University's martial arts course.

Wu Wu of the monster controller course was in Agricultural University alone. She had a firm seat above them.

Meanwhile, there were other specially recruited students who were of the same rank as Wu Wu in the University of Technology, the military school, and the University of Science. Take Shao Jianqing as an example, she was the one who inherited the Female Battle Goddess' heroic spirit. Each one of them was stronger than the last, and they had no problem killing more than ten Hell Beasts alone.

The Four Great Kings were weak, and it was hard to compete against these beasts!

However, the one with the highest achievement points among their peers in the pitched battle at the border of Dragon City was not in the alliance of the five universities.

It was Wang Dao of Dragon City University's martial arts course.

Ever since he lost to Meng Chao during the interuniversity tournament between Dragon City University and the alliance of the five universities, he also lost his title of the champion, which he had retained for more than ten years. After that, Wang Dao cultivated one hundred times harder than before.

What was even rarer was that he did not decide to shut himself off to other schools of martial arts because he belonged to the Overkill Style in Dragon City University's martial arts course and was the rising star of Overkill Style.

Instead, he learned the unique points and advantages of the Ultimate Style and tried his hardest to blend the advanced theories of the Ultimate Style into the Overkill Style to largely cover the weakness of the Overkill Style's long preparation and cooldown time, along with its weakness of having spirit energy magnetic fields that were too complicated.

During the past year or so, Wang Dao did not appear within the sights of his peers. It was as if he had been unable to get himself back to his feet and faded into obscurity.

But all his hard work was rewarded during this pitched battle.

Over the past three days and three nights, he and the students from Dragon City University's martial arts course destroyed seven monster hordes, and Wang Dao himself killed nineteen Hell Beasts and nearly one hundred Nightmarish Beasts.

Even if he had the support of long-distance artillery and the Red Dragon Army, this number was something terrifying to behold.

Based on the fighting videos Wang Dao uploaded to the battle network, he was now at the peak of Earth Realm and was prepared to challenge Heaven Realm.

Shao Jianqing was the only one from the alliance of the five universities who could hope to compete against this beast because she had the Female Battle Goddess supporting her.

At the very least, people at the levels of Duan Lian and Xie Feng would not treat Wang Dao as their target for the time being. That was just asking for a slap in the face, and they would have a destructive blow delivered to their pride.

Of course, apparently, Meng Chao was even stronger than Wang Dao and was the first among them to reach Heaven Realm.

However, Duan Lian, Xie Feng, and the other students already did not treat Meng Chao purely as a student from the alliance of the five universities.

Before he even graduated, he had stopped the abnormal beasts' schemes several times, and he could even become friends with the tutors, chat happily with the dean of the department, and even make business deals with the chancellor. Was such a person even a student?

So, if Duan Lian and Xie Feng were normal beasts, and if Wu Wu, Shao Jianqing, and Wang Dao were dinosaurs, then Meng Chao was literally a monster.

Speaking of which, many students were skeptical about Meng Chao reaching Meng Chao.

They did not doubt his cultivation realm, it was just that there were plenty of ways to reach Heaven Realm.

There were plenty of people who invested a large number of resources, ran into some blessings, and were especially lucky, so their fighting capabilities on paper reached that of those in Heaven Realm. This was a method that plenty of people could accept as well.

After they reached Heaven Realm, they used around three to eight years to slowly digest the resources, then turn their fighting capabilities on paper into real strength.

... Meng Chao should be in this category, right?

That was why he went into isolated training over the past few months and did not even join the pitched battle that would decide the future of Dragon City. This was something that was understandable.

Not only did the students understand it, they even sighed in relief.

They had no other choice. If they stood together on the same battlefield as a monster like Meng Chao, they just could not be motivated to fight. They would just want to wave their flags by the side and cheer loudly for him.

With that thought in him, Duan Lian decided to motivate Xie Feng. At the same time, he also motivated himself. "Meng Chao is ahead of us, but we might be able to catch up to him later.

"I heard that half a year ago, during the Noble Descent Hotel ambush, Meng Chao received a blessing, so I think he'll need a few years to completely digest this blessing and stabilize his position as a four-star superhuman. This is a good chance for us!

"As long as we get rid of the monster horde, the mobile force of the monsters will be completely wiped out, and the rhythm of the war will be firmly in our grasp. Perhaps we'll be able to reach Heaven Realm in around three to five years, don't you think, Xie Feng?

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"...Xie Feng?"
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"Um..."

Xie Feng stared at his tactical screen and was in a daze.

Duan Lian was mildly surprised. Then, he looked at the monitor and saw Xie Feng watching a video that someone uploaded on the battle network just now.

In the video was someone with a pair of golden wings. He acted really ostentatiously above the lair, like some birdman with golden powder on his wings.

"Huh?" Duan Lian was dumbfounded. "Isn't that Meng Chao? Why is he flying around the lair? Also, that golden saber on his waist looks really familiar. That's like... what is it...? Could it be...?"

Before he could figure it out, beeping sounds cut into the internal communication channel of the alliance of the five universities.

Then, a happy voice filled with energy popped up. "Hey, everyone! I missed you so much!"

...

Wu Wu rode on her Ghost Leopard in the forest where the super monster horde was, and she was riding in the direction where Burning Island was

The branches behind her rustled. Dozens of monsters that resembled giant spiders but also looked like felines with six legs jumped out. They chased after her tightly.

Thud! Thud! Thud! Thud!

These monsters kept chasing after her and firing adhesive liquid at her.

The adhesive liquid formed really sticky spider webs in the air. If even one finger of hers was stuck in there, then she might end up dead.

Boom! Boom! Boom! Boom!

The long-distance artillery from Burning Island landed in the forest, turning into a sea of fire. The shockwaves were like tornados that were mixed with a lot of branches, tree trunks, stones, and monster carcasses. They charged at her from all directions and attacked the human and monsters indiscriminately, adding a high degree of uncertainty as to who would win this shocking chase in the end.

Fortunately, Wu Wu grew up in the wild since she was young, and her instincts were just as sharp as a monster's.

The Ghost Leopard under her was also modified by the most advanced modification technology in Agricultural University.

That was why she was able to stumble her way out of the fingers of the God of Death multiple times.

Compared to Duan Lian, Xie Feng, and the others' mission of cleaning the battlefield and killing the undead, the mission Wu Wu received was something even more dangerous.

She was tasked to enter the forest where the super monster horde had gathered and determine the species of monsters that formed the monster horde, their level, and their ranks. Then, she had to provide cues for the aerial artillery and long-distance artillery. After that, she had to provide primitive data to the strategists at the headquarters.

Some of the monsters were sturdy, some of them were agile, some of them were stealthy, and some had mysterious mental attack prowess.

Humans had different kinds of weapons to handle different kinds of monsters...

Napalm bombs, armor-piercing shells, freezing shells, thermobaric bombs, ordnance penetrators, high-voltage nets, railguns, spirit energy cannons, and others.

Based on the different numbers of normal monsters, Nightmarish Beasts, Hell Beasts, and Hell Beasts, Burning Island's defenders needed to choose relative measures beforehand. They must decide whether they need to ask for reinforcements from the rear and call for stronger fighters or simply decide to suffer devastating losses on their end and leave Burning Island in an orderly fashion.

In a situation where smoke, miasma, fog, and spirit energy magnetic field interference was really thick and strong, it was basically impossible for drones to enter deep into the forest to investigate the monster horde.

They could only rely on fearless recon soldiers to use their eyes to gather the most accurate data.

Of course, this was a really dangerous task, and the mortality rate was high as well. Logically speaking, they should not give this mission to normal university students.

However, Wu Wu had used the past seventy-two hours to tear apart countless monsters, and this outstanding achievement allowed her to get the chance to carry out this mission.

The reason behind why she volunteered for this mission was simple.

Compared with cleaning the battlefield and killing the undead, the rewards for observing the monster horde within close proximity were higher by ten times.

As long as she managed to retreat with all her parts intact, the points she gained would help her reach the top five or even the top three among all the students in the alliance of the five universities.

During the reward session after the battle, she could naturally get more cultivation resources.

She had no other choice.

"Meng Chao has already reached Heaven Realm, we have to work hard to catch up to him so that we can scratch his face in the future!"

Wu Wu grabbed the Ghost Leopard's nape and said seriously.

The Ghost Leopard let out a long howl as if it understood its master, who was becoming increasingly fluent in the human language.

Then, it swung its tail, bared its teeth, and farted.

Puff!

A dark green gas that was as thick as tear gas instantly came out of the Ghost Leopard's butt.

The monsters who were chasing after them were caught off guard. The moment they sucked in the biochemically modified and foul-smelling gas, they twitched and fell off the branches, unable to retain their balance.

Wu Wu hugged the Ghost Leopard's neck tightly and used the chance to widen the distance between her and her pursuers.

She rode forward swiftly and soon rushed out of the forest. By then, the pursuers caught up to her.

Nearly one hundred monsters flanked her. Their formation made them look like two sharp fangs that wanted to bite down on her.

Despite the fact that there were no ambushes from long-distance attacks, Wu Wu still moved to the left and right outside the forest. She rode in a zig-zagging formation as if she was avoiding something under her feet.

Boom! Boom! Boom! Boom!

Soon, the anti-monster mines she set up before she entered the forest were detonated by her pursuers. Dozens of monsters were torn to bits by the blast, and they were thrown backward.

Wu Wu increased her speed once more under the cover of the flames and shockwaves. In one breath, she rushed to the main squad who came to receive her.

She was finally able to release a sigh of relief and fell down on the ground with her Ghost Leopard. Their limbs were splayed all over them.

She raised her wrist and uploaded the large number of valuable images she had taken earlier onto the battle network.

Meanwhile, she also saw the topic all the students were talking about in the alliance of the five universities.

[Meng Chao is back!]

Chapter 658: The Monster Horde Attacks!

Among the students in the alliance of the five universities, the one whose fate was changed the most drastically was definitely Meng Chao's high school best friend—Chu Feixiong.

In his previous life, Xhu Feixiong did not manage to get into military school because he was a few marks short of the admission mark. He could only start as a soldier of the lowest rank.

With his fearless personality, his sturdy body, and a little bit of luck, he managed to fight energetically for a few years on the frontlines against the monsters.

Unfortunately, his luck eventually ran out. In the end, Chu Feixiong was squashed under the foot of a Tyrant Mammoth, and together with his comrades, he turned into a cold number on a memorial.

But once Meng Chao returned to the past, taught him the future Reckless Bull Force, shared the large amount of cultivation resources he gained through the study group they opened together, and also gained extra marks through the achievement he gained during the national college examination's

practical test, Chu Feixiong was finally able to join the military school, and he was even enrolled in its strongest course—the heroic spirit course!

After entering university, Meng Chao never forgot about his best friend.

Every time he activated another future martial art, he always went immediately to Chu Feixiong to test it.

The white bear of a boy was sturdy, and he could withstand being beaten up by these future martial arts as well. After a few years, his fair and untoned body was all gone, and his fighting strength had increased by leaps and bounds.

Even though he was not as strong as Meng Chao, he could still be considered as a beast who could make others gasp in amazement.

The only regretful thing was that Chu Feixiong's heroic spirit was a little weak.

His heroic spirit was Soldier. When he was alive, he was just a normal soldier, and he could not compare to Shao Jianqing's Female Battle God. The only skill he had was the mediocre Army Fist.

Fortunately, Chu Feixiong was the optimistic type, and he believed that all generals started as foot soldiers.

Since his dream was to become a mighty general, then he had to take the path every general took!

At that moment, Chu Feixiong was stationed around the artillery base with the other military school students.

Their mission was to ensure that these roaring steel beasts remained safe, and they were not to let the monster horde attack the humans' long-distance firepower.

When he heard Meng Chao's familiar voice in the communication channel, Chu Feixiong was so excited that he jumped up and swung his arm fiercely.

Unfortunately, before he could start dancing around happily, Shao Jianqing kicked him from behind.

Amid the deafening sounds of the artillery shells, his squad leader twisted his ear and yelled, "Careful! Look up!"

Chu Feixiong looked up and saw hundreds of huge, black objects descending from the sky at lightning speed. With loud thuds, they rammed into the top of Burning Island. Their bodies were smashed like thrown watermelons, and their bodily fluids spilled everywhere. Poisonous gas also filled the area.

Those were the carcasses of hundreds of herbivorous monsters.

These herbivorous monsters were the amalgamations of rhinoceroses and elephants. They had already died for hours, and their organs had already rotted away. In fact, due to the viruses and microorganisms in them, highly dense poisonous gas accumulated in their bodies, making them swell up and turning them into natural biochemical bombs.

What was even more terrifying was that these carcasses had plenty of pests inside. The shockwave blasted all of them out of the torn carcasses, and they acted like the shrapnel from anti-monster mines. In an instant, they spread all over the top of the rock.

The caws and savage laughter of the flying-type monsters came from the sky.

When three to five large falcon-type monsters grabbed a carcass together and flew thousands of meters above the rock before unfurling their claws so that the carcass fell from the sky, they could unleash an aerial attack on the human base.

Even though the humans' aerial artillery and anti-aircraft artillery kept firing at these monsters, they could not stop hundreds of carcass bombs from exploding, leading to Chu Feixiong, Shao Jianqing, Duan Lian, Xie Feng, and the Red Dragon Army soldiers on the artillery base to run helter-skelter.

However, before they could face the risk of being killed by acid and poison gas to get rid of all the pests who were running all over the ground while screeching after they got out of the carcass bombs, the forest not far away swayed violently, and countless towering trees snapped and fell.

The monster horde appeared!

The ones at the frontmost row were the pests who were smaller, weaker, but had terrifying reproductive powers. They were monsters with an absolute advantage in numbers.

Their mission was to use suicidal attacks to clear out the humans' mines and figure out their firing points so that they could make the humans waste their ammunition. They were also in charge of making the high-voltage nets and electromagnetic towers run on overdrive.

Behind the pests were the sturdy monsters like the Demonic Halberd Pigs and Iron Armored Rhinoceroses. They were the main force who feared no pain and death.

Under the lead of more than one hundred Tyrant Mammoths, these monsters foamed at the mouth, and they twitched, as if they were electrocuted.

Excited flames burned into the beady, red eyes.

It was as if they were not about to step into a death trap, but a grand feast.

The Demonic Halberd Pigs, Iron Armored Rhinoceroses, and Tyrant Mammoths formed a square formation that looked like a morning star.

On their flanks were a large number of faster and more agile feline-type monsters.

Compared to the black Tyrant's Square formation in front, these felines were spread further apart, so it was harder for artillery to cover all of them. They also had greater mobility. In fact, they could climb up from all directions of Burning Island, even up cliffs that were virtually perpendicular to the ground.

Once they reached the spot connecting Burning Island to the ground, they would become the most fatal problem, because it was impossible for the artillery's cannons to fire ninety degrees downwards.

And there were also numerous bugs surrounding the Demonic Halberd Pigs, Iron Armored Rhinoceroses, Tyrant Mammoths, and feline-type monsters.

Since these bugs were too densely packed together, at first glance, it looked as if black fog had gathered above the monster horde. It interfered with human vision and caused humans to have a hard time figuring the exact number of monsters, their species, and direction of attack. At the same time, it served as quite the obstacle for the roaring artillery. In fact, they could cause the artillery to explode beforehand, thus absorbing more than 50% of the damage in the artillery shells.

The monster horde seemed endless when they looked at it from the front and the sides.

Aside from the Tyrant Mammoths, there were definitely even more terrifying Hell Beasts and even Apocalyptic Beasts hiding in the forest.

They were just waiting to show their most terrifying side once the cannon fodders in front were all gone.

"The monster horde is here!"

"Fire! Shoot at them! Blast them to bits!"

The deafening roars and blinding sparks from three artillery bases instantly increased by another degree.

With the minefield that covered every inch of ground around Burning Island, they blasted the pests in front to bits.

But the explosions and flames did not cause the monsters in the square formation to feel any fear. Instead, it stirred up their most primal brutality and caused them to charge at full speed.

They were like a black wave that swallowed up the sky and earth. In an instant, they arrived in front of Burning Island.

Energy and substances in the Other World were incredibly unstable.

Machines with complicated structures had more than ten times the chance of experiencing failure compared to Earth after they had been used intensely for a period of time. A longer period of time was needed to let them cooldown, and a similarly long period of time was needed to maintain them.

The roars from the three artillery bases lasted for a little over half an hour before they started becoming weaker and scattered.

The humans had long since been aware that they could not just rely on long-distance firepower to kill all the monsters under Burning Island.

Chu Feixiong, Shao Jianqing, Wu Wu, Duan Lian, Xie Feng, the youth guards from the alliance of the five universities, their tutors, the soldiers from the Red Dragon Army, the special forces from the mega corporations, and the mercenaries from various businesses all drew their weapons, clenched their fists, and loaded their guns.

The time to decide their fate had come!

...

Meng Chao and Lu Siya stood on the blimp of an armored airship.

The propellers of the armored airship were working at maximum capacity.

Violent gusts of wind struck their faces like raging waves, but they remained as still as reefs while they stared at the battlefield not far in the distance.

The area around Burning Island was like a burning sea of fire.

Countless monster carcasses released colorful and bewitching lights while flames raged.

When the light shone on the battlefield, they could clearly see the humans' defense line and the monster horde's vanguards clashing together.

This scene was especially prominent on the slopes that led to the top of Burning Island. Both sides occupied these slopes until nothing else could pass through, not even water. The ones in these narrow paths were engaged in the most brutal melee battles.

Whenever the monster horde pushed one meter forward, they left behind hundreds of carcasses.

These carcasses would then be blasted to bits within just a few minutes and burnt to ashes.

When they had finally pushed dozens of meters forward and occupied a slope that was relatively flat, a powerful human fighter would usually lead a suicide squad to launch a counterattack, and the monsters would then be swept down the slope that was more than one hundred meters above the ground, resulting in their bodies being broken.

Of course, the price humans had to pay was also great.

Based on what Meng Chao could see alone, more than ten powerful fighters charged too far ahead of the others and were surrounded by the monster horde. In the end, they were either completely devoured by the monster horde, or they detonated the grenades and explosives they carried with them to turn into the most brilliant fireballs.

However, this war situation was already far better than the hellish battlefield Meng Chao remembered of his previous life.

In his previous life, the human army did not have so much support from artillery and heavy machine guns, and neither did they have nearly an infinite amount of ammunition.

At that time, when they faced the fearsome monster horde, humans could only use their bodies to mend the defense line. In fact, after they ran out of ammunition, they used their teeth to rip apart the monsters, just like what the monsters did to them.

This strategy of waiting behind their steel defense line for the enemies to reach them while exhausted and defending a place with the support of endless ammunition was the most beneficial and comfortable strategy for humans, and it also had the highest exchange ratio.

With every roar of their artillery, they ripped apart dozens of monsters.

With every death of a powerful fighter, at least one hundred monsters died with them.

With every defense line they penetrated, the monsters had to leave behind more than one thousand bodies, but the construction machines of humans just had to work faster on the top of the rocks to build the second, the third, and dozens of tightly packed defense lines.

The monster horde might appear endless, but they did not pop out of thin air and had an unlimited number of soldiers.

Meng Chao and Lu Siya watched from above, and they could see that the rear of the monster horde was beginning to become sparse. They began to show signs that they were running out of manpower.

Chapter 659: A Fragile Gap

"The fighting potential of the monster civilization has been drained to its limit."

Meng Chao saw plenty of fighting videos when he was rushing to the frontlines.

Dozens of Hell Beasts and Apocalyptic Beasts he had never seen before showed up. Humans took pictures of them from all sorts of angles to analyze and examine them.

Quite a number of people were shocked by the destructive power behind these fearsome monsters.

Meng Chao could clearly remember that during the later stage of the Monster War in his previous life, when these ultimate weapons of the monster civilization appeared, they were bigger and more brutal than what he saw in the pictures.

Compared to his previous life, the ultimate weapons of the monster civilization had largely shrunk.

But that made sense, after Dragon City lost badly during the northern offense, there were a few years where they only defended the city and did not expand their territory.

The monster civilization seized the chance to occupy those territories instead. They took over the crystal mines and important tactical spots around Dragon City, thus allowing them to develop at their own pace, gather resources, and make stronger soldiers.

The battle of the lair also ended with the monster civilization winning.

Without Meng Chao turning the tides around, the cultivation resources Underground Emperor Jin Wanhao gathered for his entire life, the seven Hell's Blood, and the large amount of experiment data on how to regain youth should have been brought back to the monster civilization by the Vortex.

Chances were that the monster civilization in his previous life was able to complete the modification of the Nine Great Supernatural Entities and the various ultimate weapons because they gained Jin Wanhao's resources and data. That was why they were able to gain so much power.

And now, all the crystal mines and important tactical spots, including Shattered Starlake and Raging Waves, were under human control.

As humans' steel army rolled forward, the monster civilization was forced to the most barren corners of Monster Mountain Range soon after it was born. They did not have enough resources, time, and space to develop.

The Nine Great Supernatural Entities had not had time to fully develop. Among them, the White Spirit, Earthquake, Demonic Abyss Eye, and Vortex were already killed by Meng Chao and the others.

Jin Wanhao's resources and secrets of the ancient ruins were also intercepted by Meng Chao and did not end up in the monster civilization's hands.

With humans growing stronger and monsters growing weaker, the monster civilization of today was basically a premature baby with insufficient nutrients.

It was no wonder the monster civilization had to place all its hope on the Vortex destroying the lair to create a chain reaction that would cause an explosion in Dragon City from within. Then, if they attacked from inside and outside, they could win the fight in one go.

The moment the Vortex died, the monster civilization's scheme was completely destroyed.

The monster civilization was now caught between a rock and a hard place. It was impossible for them to scatter the monster horde they had finally gathered together and make them retreat.

Monster Mountain Range also could not possibly have enough resources to rear so many hungry monsters.

If they could not take down Dragon City, the monsters would definitely kill each other.

Even if the mastermind hiding behind the monster civilization had the ability to control each monster, it must definitely sacrifice a large number of monsters to fill up the stomachs of the other monsters.

While Earthlings were becoming stronger rapidly and changed every day, all tactical retreats and ambushes from the monster civilization were just acts of chronic suicide for it.

'So, if we win this fight, the monster civilization will completely lose its ability to fight in the field. They can only hide in the mountains and caves while struggling to live. They can no longer pose a tactical threat.

'Even if the monster civilization's mastermind is really the human Jin Qianxi who escaped from Blood Alliance decades ago, when she faces the steel army attacking her from all directions, her scheme cannot fight against the increasingly powerful Dragon City!'

To Meng Chao, this battle was no longer a problem of who would win or lose.

Dragon City would definitely win! Humanity would definitely win! Earth would definitely win!

This was an undeniable fact.

The problem was, not only did humans need to win, they must gain a beautiful and perfect victory. They must also snatch as many resources and spoils of war as possible while minimizing losses as much as possible. The moment they unlocked the secrets behind the monster civilization, they must also have its strength fuse into Dragon City's civilization.

No matter what, the monster civilization was just a mini boss of a starter village.

The historic war that swept through every inch of land beyond Monster Mountain Range, engulfed all races, and destroyed everything had already beat its first drum.

In his previous life, Dragon City and Earthlings were pawns and sacrifices of this historic war.

After he returned from the apocalypse, Meng Chao swore that he would lead the energetic Dragon City and seize the rhythm of the Other World war in his hands. Then, they would snatch more resources and stand above the extraordinary beings in the Other World to become the masters of the war! (and then what, continue stealing from other races?)

'Within twenty-four hours, we must completely destroy the monster horde and break the monster civilization's spine!'

Meng Chao tightened his grip around Golden Tooth Saber.

His teeth dug into his bottom lip, and they shone with a sharp glare, just like his saber.

He narrowed his eyes, and Meng Chao noticed that the monster horde was changing its formation.

Artillery fire, smoke, and the black smoke-like insects blocked view on the ground, so others might be unable to see clearly.

But since Meng Chao was high above, he could see everything, and he noticed that there were at least ten Tyrant Mammoths that were discreetly gathering together.

They swung their trunks and sang a bloodthirsty warsong that stimulated the last bit and the strongest power lying in the numerous Demonic Halberd Pigs, Iron Armored Rhinoceroses, and artiodactyla-type monsters' cells. Gradually, they formed an unstoppable arrow.

The arrow pointed at the gap between two human defense lines on Burning Island.

Logically speaking, the humans' defense lines overlapped with each other and had firing points covering them. It was impossible for there to be gaps inside.

But as the steel defense lines and the monster horde continued colliding against each other, some people fearlessly charged forward, and some had their bodies corroded by acid and poisoned by smog. Some of the bases had powerful fighters providing support, and they were like wedges that were wedged deeply in the monster horde. Several bases had the undead and zombies explode from them. In fact, due to the unstable crystal artillery shells exploding, they sank into a desperate, chaotic battle.

Slowly, a noticeable gap appeared between the defense lines.

And this defense line was really obvious.

The humans on both sides of the gap might be employing the same weapons, equipment, and tactics, they lacked effective teamwork. There were plenty of times where they just did whatever they wanted even though both sides were close to each other.

"Big Sis Ya, what's going on?!" Meng Chao pointed downward and asked loudly even though the wind was blowing against his face, "This is an obvious flaw, but no one noticed?!"

Lu Siya shouted back at Meng Chao, "They should have, but the battle has already progressed to the climax, and everyone is in a frenzy! It's hard for them to adjust their formation in time!

"On the left is the Red Dragon Army's base, and on the right is the mega corporation's base, understand now?!"

Meng Chao instantly understood.

Theoretically speaking, the regular army should be the strongest, largest, and only armed force of a civilization.

But in his previous life, the Red Dragon Army lost badly during the northern offense, and most of its elite forces and tactical resources were devoured by the Red Radiance Jade tsunami.

From then on, the Red Dragon Army was unable to get itself back on its back. It never managed to recover even when the apocalypse arrived.

In his previous life, the strongest forces were the owners of the mega corporations—the Deity Realm superhumans who were so rich they could fight against countries and had a ridiculous amount of authority.

The fighting dogs they kept were also strong, and these were the private armed forces and mercenaries that had different names and all sorts of skills.

The Ghost Tribe Meng Chao joined actually belonged to a mega corporation, not the Red Dragon Army.

At that time, the Red Dragon Army had completely been reduced to something akin to an army of occupation.

And just like any other army of occupation, they were engaged in difficult occupation wars day in and day out. They lived their lives not knowing what they were doing, and all their pride, dignity, sense of mission and fighting strength was destroyed.

Basically speaking, they hid in their occupied bases when they had nothing to do, and at most, they used advanced weapons that were hundreds of years ahead of the other races to bully the weakest races of the dwarves, elves, and orcs. Even so, they had to live in fear, because if they were careless, they could end up in the trap of the Other World races who used the terrain to their advantage, or the Other World races that were talented, had genetic mutations, and had tons of blessings would beat them up, and they could only beg the powerful people from the mega corporations to help them.

Even though this was really embarrassing, it solved a major problem in Dragon City in his previous life.

Even if they lived in a world where the one with the strongest fist called the shots, at that time, the Red Dragon Army knew their place and were satisfied with their position as affiliates of the mega corporations and powerful fighters. They never caused major trouble.

But now, things were different.

In this life, due to Meng Chao returning to the past and changing their destiny, not only did the Red Dragon Army not lose during the northern offense, they won and gained a lot of resources. Countless grassroots soldiers were nourished by the spirit energy tsunami, and they gained great prestige among the people.

Meanwhile, since the Ultimate Style appeared beforehand and Broken Star Club was set up, the Red Dragon Army's overall fighting strength increased by one whole degree.

The Ultimate Style could repair main meridians and cultivate branch meridians to increase the upper limit of broken-star superhumans. Meanwhile, the foot soldiers in the Red Dragon Army were the ones who were injured the easiest on the battlefield and were also the easiest to turn into broken-star superhumans.

More than thirty percent of the members in Broken Star Club were foot soldiers in the Red Dragon Army.

While they practiced the Ultimate Style and the future martial arts Meng Chao brought over, they communicated with other Broken Star Club members, exchanged experience, and pooled their resources together.

Due to the influence from the club, the grassroots units in the Red Dragon Army gained a new appearance.

Now, the Red Dragon Army was filled with powerful soldiers and had ample resources. Its peak fighting strength and base fighting strength were ten times stronger compared to his previous life.

Naturally, they would not accept being manipulated. Instead, they wanted to release louder and more determined voices regarding Dragon City's future.

"There cannot be two rulers in one place, and there shouldn't be two sets of incompatible armed forces in one civilization.

"The Red Dragon Army is the true saber of human civilization. The mega corporations have no need to retain their private squads. All superhumans should serve under the Red Dragon Army's banner!

"For the sake of final victory, even the Deity Realm superhumans should listen to the Red Dragon Army's commands!"

This was the bold statement from quite a number of the young soldiers in the army.

The mature and level-headed higher-ups in the military would naturally not turn complete enemies against the Deity Realm superhumans who were in control of the mega corporations.

But in the Survival Committee, the politicians representing the military were getting progressively aggressive. It was a fact that they were currently arguing fiercely with the politicians representing the mega corporations, and this had already become a trend.

And when it came to how they should develop the city tactically, both the Red Dragon Army and the mega corporations had their own say.

They also lacked teamwork when it came to tactical cooperation.

It was not that they were intentionally dragging each other down.

It was just that neither of them had run into a pitched battle that surrounded them from everywhere and could decide the city's fate before.

When they were fighting in a frenzy, it was inevitable that none of them could catch up to the other's rhythm.

Chapter 660: Bloody Battle in the Air!

Meng Chao was not fond of the mega corporations.

He never thought about accepting Lu Siya's tempting offer to build Superstar into another mega corporation that could rival Sky Pillar, Universe, Thundercloud, Heaven, and Soaring Dragon.

Even if it could become the tenth force of power that stood above the nine great cultivation families, to Meng Chao, it was meaningless.

His starting point was also different from Lin Chuan and Gao Ye.

Lin Chuan and Gao Ye saw the rift between the social classes, the solidification of the social strata, the Matther effect, the strong becoming stronger and the weak becoming weaker, and other problems. They were worried that there would come a day where the authority in the civilization would fall completely in the hands of the nine mega corporations.

That was why these two took different paths and went to the extreme. They hoped to use their own method to search for ways to save their civilization.

Meng Chao's thoughts were much simpler.

He did not like the mega corporations because in his previous life, the mega corporations controlled Dragon City, thus leading to its destruction overnight, and in the night, it did not even have a proper grave.

The ones who won had the say, and the strong ruled over the weak. In this brutal world, being weak was the original sin.

Since they gave the mega corporations a chance in his previous life but the mega corporations were useless, then after Meng Chao returned from the apocalypse, he would definitely place more betting chips on other forces of power.

This was why he was willing to build Broken Star Club, and through the club, Blue Home, and the deep web, send large amounts of cultivation resources to the grassroots units in the Red Dragon Army, along with future martial arts and tactics that could turn the tides of a way.

Over the past few years, Superstar had been working closely with the Red Dragon Army. They signed quite a number of long-term contracts, which ranged from monster material harvesting and the creation of military food.

Meng Chao was happy to see the Red Dragon Army rise to power and fight on equal ground with the mega corporations.

Speaking of which, it was good that the Red Dragon Army was strong, but Meng Chao did not hope to see that the conflict between the army and the mega corporations turn so intense that they ended up fighting against each other.

If Dragon City managed to gain full victory during the Monster War because of Meng Chao's return, but the Red Dragon Army and the mega corporations kept on fighting against each other and even killing each other, thus leading to Dragon City perishing twenty years earlier than his previous life, then it would be hilarious.

Of course, right now, things had yet to progress to that state.

The Red Dragon Army and the mega corporations simply had different understandings on how Dragon City should develop in the future.

Just like the rift between the Colonization Party and Home Party, their conflict was still controllable.

As long as someone guided them reasonably and kept on giving them rewards as motivation, the difference in ideals might turn into something that could balance each other out and even keep one another in check. It was a good thing for the long-term development of the civilization.

But now was not the time for him to think about these things.

How should he balance out the conflict between the Red Dragon Army and the mega corporations? This was a difficult question, and he should only think about it after he defeated the monster civilization!

Meng Chao pointed at the gap between the two defense lines and shouted at Lu Siya, "Let's go there!"

The humans' defense lines had gradually become clumsy and stiff in their movements as they faced the monster horde's repeated attacks.

But since the courageous always won in a battle, then he would always use his fists and valiance to decide the victor!

The armored airship they rode on belonged to Sky Pillar Corporation.

Under Lu Siya's orders, it adjusted its angle and charged at the vanguards that were dealing the fiercest attacks in the monster horde.

There were still a few armored airships around. All of them could see the problem in the human's defense lines from above.

Under Meng Chao and Lu Siya's lead, they simultaneously chose the same strategy and used their metal bodies to cover up that fatal weakness.

In an instant, more than ten armored airships roared thunderously like armored giants as they descended from the sky.

The monster horde immediately noticed this group of fresh troops.

Immediately, dozens of Demonic Air Ripping Eyes charged over while escorted by hundreds of falcontype monsters and griffin-type monsters.

Boom boom boom boom boom!

The rotating machine guns on the armored airships fired at the same time.

More than one hundred lines of fire formed an impenetrable net. The Demonic Air Ripping Eyes in front were shot full of holes.

But the agile falcon-type monsters flapped their wings and moved about among the lines of fire to dodge the bullets. They also used the Demonic Air Ripping Eyes' large bodies to serve as their cover.

Then, when they were less than one hundred meters away from the armored airships, they shot out and charged swiftly at the armored airships.

The Demonic Air Ripping Eyes seized the chance and release waves of mental attacks.

Even though it was not enough to make the human warriors' mental strength indexes plummet and their minds to break, at the very least, it could interfere with their nervous systems and cause their accuracy to fall.

During that instant, dozens of falcon-type monsters passed those armored airships.

One of them withstood bullets firing at its sides. Its wings were shot full of holes, and it screamed while falling from the sky.

Even so, its razorblade wings cut into the huge blimp of the armored airship, leaving behind terrifying tears.

The noble gases inside instantly gushed out with loud, hissing sounds, causing the armored airships to sway and tremble.

The lines of fire in the air instantly became scattered and chaotic.

The large number of aerial soldiers seized the chance to draw close to the armored airships. They bared their claws and were prepared to be engaged in the most brutal melee battles.

"It's our turn!"

The fighting will in Meng Chao's eyes erupted like a volcano.

A golden light shot out of his waist like roaring thunder. It turned into golden electricity that charged straight at the falcon-type monster in front of him.

This falcon-type monster had a wingspan of more than twenty meters. When it flapped its wings, the force was strong enough to produce tornadoes.

This creature charged at Meng Chao and did not have time to dodge. The mighty force that Meng Chao had been accumulating for a long time cut it in two.

It did not even have the time to scream in pain. A large amount of blood and guts spilled out, and its carcass fell out of the clouds.

Meanwhile, the destructive force contained in the golden lightning had yet to be finished. Its momentum did not stop, and it charged eight meters forward to cut into the wing of another griffintype monster. Half of its wing was severed.

Griffin-type monsters were felines with wings.

On a biological standpoint, they were creatures that completely went against the laws of nature and sport sciences.

Even though they possessed the ability to fight on land and air, they only possessed moderate abilities in both areas. They were not the strongest in terms of land battles or aerial battles.

Take now for an example. If a falcon-type monster had half of its wing severed, it could restabilize itself.

While it might be unable to continue fighting in the air, it could still maintain charging forward at high speed and launch suicidal attacks at the humans' armored airships.

But the griffins were just too large and clumsy.

The moment there were slight damages to their wings, they were immediately unable to maintain balance, and they would plummet to the ground while spiralling.

"Amazing!"

Quite a number of superhumans crawled out of the pods of the armored airships around them and climbed up the blimps in the face of the wind and the monsters' attacks.

They either used glue to repair the tears that the falcons had left behind just now, or drew their weapons to prevent the monsters in the air from landing on the blimps and wreaking havoc on the armored airships.

They saw how heroic Meng Chao had been when he cut two monsters with just one slash.

Regardless of whether they were from the mega corporations or the Red Dragon Army, all of them were shocked and cheered.

While they cheered, Meng Chao did something even more shocking.

Eight Demonic Air Ripping Eyes ahead of him had their tentacles connected together. Their cells collided with each other, thus allowing them to release invisible mental ripples that interfered with the humans' optical nerves, and this led to the accuracy of the long-distance firepower of the armored airships to plummet.

Meng Chao actually retreated to a spot near the tail of the armored airship. Then, he crouched down and went into the starting position of a dash before he instantly ran through the entire blimp and used his momentum and the bounce of the blimp to jump up. Like a cannonball, he charged toward the Demonic Air Ripping Eyes.

Some falcon-type monsters and griffin-type monsters saw that the situation was bad, so they immediately went forward to stop him.

But Meng Chao was the eldest disciple of the Ultimate Style. Soon after he awakened to supernatural powers, he was already able to control all his hair at will.

Now, he had long since reached Heaven Realm, and having precise control over his pores was child's play to him.

He could move as if he had 36,000 mini exhaust pipers on him.

As spirit gas gushed out of him, they instantly turned into dozens of realistic-looking afterimages.

All the afterimages overlapped with each other, and they looked like an unfathomable, gray fog.

The falcon-type monsters and griffin-type monsters attacked from dozens of angles, but he either dodged them at a hair's breath, or dragged the attacks into his vitality magnetic field so that they would be redirected by his spirit energy vortex, thus causing the falcons and griffins to crash into each other, and their feathers spilled down like rain.

Meng Chao seized the chance to stomp on the falcons and griffins.

At the same time blood gushed out of these falcons and griffins, he also used the power of his stomp to jump above the Demonic Air Ripping Eyes.

The Demonic Air Ripping Eyes swung dozens of barb-covered tentacles with hooks and suckers on them. They charged at him in a seemingly disorderly fashion.

But Meng Chao swung Golden Tooth Saber so rapidly that it looked like a dazzling golden ball. As golden flames burned, the dozens of tentacles were fried to a crisp and cut off.

These Demonic Air Ripping Eyes let out bewitching screeches simultaneously. Then, they tensed up like clenching hearts and released powerful mental waves as an attempt to burn Meng Chao's cerebral cortex.

But Demonic Air Ripping Eyes were just

Nightmarish Beasts. Their mental attacks could only be used at normal soldiers and Earth Realm superhumans.

Meng Chao returned from the apocalypse and had Hell's Blood in him. He was even a Heaven Realm superhuman. These mental attacks were not even as exciting as carbonated drinks with ice in them.

'Fear Bomb!'

Meng Chao's eyes immediately became bloodshot, and they were as red as the flames at the bottom level of hell.

As his cerebral cortex burned, the terrifying skill he learned from the Demonic Abyss Eye stabbed into the Demonic Air Ripping Eyes' brains like burning steel.

The Demonic Abyss Eye was originally a Demonic Air Ripping Eye.

The mastermind of the monster civilization used the strongest Demonic Air Ripping Eye and used a lot of top-tier biochemical technology to create it as an ultimate bioweapon.

When two mind attacks of the same nature clashed head on with each other, Meng Chao's attack naturally tore down the Demonic Air Ripping Eye's defenses with an unstoppable force.

Even though they did not have the organs of mammals and did not have a literal soul, when they faced the flames of the apocalypse that gushed out of Meng Chao's eyes, these Demonic Air Ripping Eyes still let out hysterical, terrified screams.