

Oh My God 761

Chapter 761: A Perfect Flaw

“Wait, what beast tide?”

Meng Chao was slightly startled as he asked, “There are only a few deformed and weak test subjects in the Hidden Mist Domain. Forget their combat ability, they can’t even survive for more than forty-eight hours on their own before they turn into piles of bones and get devoured by the Green Tide. How can a beast tide that covers the sky and earth attack you?”

“Besides, the beast tide would have certainly left a lot of traces, but we didn’t find any prints or monster fur. Even your camp at the edge of the sinkhole was intact. The monsters didn’t bite into the packets of military rations on the portable crystal heating furnace either.

“Besides, even if you encountered an unstoppable beast tide, you would have still been able to leave some information before you were completely annihilated. It’s impossible for the exploration teams that were scattered all over the jungle to disappear at the same time, right?”

“That’s right. When I slowly woke up in Peach Blossom Town, the people here told me that I had been covered in wounds and had drifted down Peach Blossom Creek. It seemed that I had a fierce battle with the beast tide and had no choice but to jump into the sinkhole. However, I spent a long time recalling and thinking, only to discover that was not the case.”

Lu Siya said with certainty, “Although I do remember the moment I fell into the sinkhole, the vivid image seemingly imprinted on my cerebral cortex, when I think about it carefully, the so-called beast tide and fierce battle are just the splicing of memories from a long time ago.”

“Splicing of memories from a long time ago?” Meng Chao narrowed his eyes.

“Yes, the beast tide I saw at the edge of the sinkhole was exactly the same as the beast tide I saw in the battle outside Dragon City half a year ago. Many monsters pounced on me, and they were also the monsters that left the deepest impression on me out of the countless battles in the past few years.”

“The monster that woke me up abruptly was a monster that was riddled with holes like a hornet’s nest. Yet, blood vessels and granulation were popping out of each of the holes. It could have caused a heart attack in agoraphobia sufferers on the spot,” Lu Siya explained.

“The problem is, I remember clearly that you had bombarded this monster with a large-caliber anti-aircraft machine gun during the attack on Noble Descent Hotel. It was only then that it turned into an undead creature with the help of the Blood Flower.

“I was secretly cursing at that time, questioning whether I should have bombarded the monster into such a miserable state. It was a nightmare that would take three days and three nights just to analyze.

“It was impossible for the same monster to be killed twice by someone. Moreover, you were not involved in the latest exploration mission from the beginning. It was impossible for you to appear by my side.

“Therefore, I immediately understood that I did not encounter a real beast tide attack. Instead, I was attacked by a spiritual attack and affected by an illusion. Something similar to a ‘virus’ was implanted in my retina, cerebral cortex, and central nerves.

“The weird hallucinogenic spores, or the ‘mental virus’, managed to extract the memories that were deeply engraved in my brain. After editing and piecing them together, they turned into a brand-new scene.

“It was like taking clips from different movies and combining them into a brand-new video.

“It looks like the truth!”

Meng Chao was suddenly enlightened, and he immediately said, “I was also attacked by the UHV transmission tower that was entangled by vines at the edge of the sinkhole. We had no choice but to call for long-range fire support. Then, I was blown away by the shockwave before I fell down the sinkhole!

“On second thought, the battle was too weird.

“Firstly, all the UHV transmission towers should have been destroyed by the long-range fire that we called for in the previous battle. Ravaged by the shockwaves that were thousands of degrees hot and hurricane-like, even the toughest steel would be no different from plasticine. The steel and frames of the UHV transmission towers had long melted into scrap metal. It would be impossible for them to be repaired by the vines and the carpet.

“Secondly, even if there are new ‘green giants’, their movements would be astonishing. It would be impossible for them to hide from all the eyes and ears that we have set up along the way. They would follow behind us silently and touch the edge of the crater together.

“Thirdly, the new round of high-level fire support came too fast. Almost as soon as we sent out the signal through the Peregrine Falcon, the bombardment of meteors and fireballs followed. It doesn’t make sense!

“Sister Ya, now that you’ve mentioned it, I realize that in the two high-level bombardments, many fireballs and shockwaves were exactly the same as the UHV transmission towers.

“Therefore, the first fierce battle and the high-level bombardments were real. The picture of the UHV transmission towers being destroyed left a deep impression on me.

“The second fierce battle and the high-level bombing were fake. It was a mysterious force obscured deep inside the Hidden Mist Domain that stimulated my cerebral cortex and released the ‘materials’ that I ‘stored’ earlier. It made me piece together a reasonable explanation and made me certain or at least not really doubt how I would appear in an extremely weird paradise for no reason!”

Their analyses were like two uneven jigsaw pieces that were pieced together seamlessly.

Apart from memories of falling into the sinkhole and the duplication of the materials in their memory banks, Meng Chao and Lu Siya also found more suspicious points.

The first was whether or not Peach Blossom Town existed.

If Peach Blossom Town was just a ruined wall covered by a Green Tide, with only three to five streets and a population of 800,000 people, it might be possible for them to hide from the comprehensive scanning of more than a dozen exploration teams above the sinkhole.

However, the Peach Blossom Town that the two of them saw had at least dozens of skyscrapers that were hundreds of meters tall or even more than two to three hundred meters tall. It had a permanent population of 30,000 to 50,000 people, and it also had a colorful, glittering Tree of Wisdom, which was a mysterious creature with an extremely strong sense of existence.

No matter how dense the fog above the sinkhole was, with all kinds of high-tech detection methods, how were they not able to scan the outline of the town?

There were only two possibilities.

Perhaps Peach Blossom Town and Dragon City were not in the same space for one.

The Hidden Mist Domain was the most unstable place in Monster Mountain Range's space.

Since Dragon City had forcefully embedded itself in the Other World, it had set off spatial ripples, and every place was now filled with invisible valleys as well as hill-like spatial folds.

When the man-eating pomfret team went deep into the place, they had entered a "spatial fold area" and encountered a situation similar to "a ghost hitting a wall."

If there was a subtle angle and deflection between the space above Peach Blossom Town and a tear in the sky that could not be directly observed from above, it would make sense.

However, generally speaking, the area of the spatial fold would not be too big or too stable. It would only be a thin, winding path that connected the two ends of the space that were hundreds of kilometers apart or even farther.

Maybe the monster could descend directly from the Hidden Mist Domain to the suburbs of Dragon City through the spatial fold.

However, Meng Chao had never seen a town of a certain scale that could be built directly into the spatial fold.

At least, not in this life.

That was the second possibility.

Everything in front of him was not real.

Peach Blossom Town was an illusory city. It was just a beautiful dream created by the hallucinogenic spores and the "mind virus."

Meng Chao and Lu Siya were both inclined to choose this possibility because the real world could not have such a happy, beautiful, peaceful, harmonious, and natural place.

Just like there was no heaven in a world where everyone was equal and perfect.

There was also direct evidence, which was time.

Lu Siya mentioned that she had lived in Peach Blossom Town anywhere from ten days to half a month or more.

That did not make sense.

First of all, a strong-willed and perceptive person like Lu Siya would never forget how many days she had lived in a completely unfamiliar town that had a high probability of being controlled by the enemy.

Forget the number of days, if she could accurately time her sobriety to an hour, minute, or even every second, she still had to do it.

However, she just could not remember it. Her entire person was sometimes conscious, sometimes confused, and sometimes muddleheaded. She did not know what day it was, or where she was.

It resembled how it was impossible for someone who was in a dream to clearly remember how many minutes and seconds they had been in that state.

Moreover, from the time she disappeared to the time Meng Chao came to the edge of the sinkhole, less than seventy-two hours had passed.

Stimulated by deviant flame and the contribution points, Meng Chao's cell activity and self-healing ability were far stronger than that of other superhumans in the same realm.

Judging from the recovery of his wound, even if he had really fallen into the sinkhole, he should not have been unconscious for too long. Otherwise, all the scabs would have peeled off and the wound would have healed perfectly.

In other words, from Lu Siya's point of view, she had been missing for at least ten days to half a month.

From Meng Chao's point of view, however, she had only been missing for three to five days at most.

When the two timelines were compared, a flaw was immediately revealed.

"Peach Blossom Town is not reality, but it's an illusory city. Only in an illusion would the flow of time be distorted to such a chaotic degree."

Meng Chao said, "It seems that the exploration teams in front and behind were neither attacked by the beast tide nor entangled by the UHV transmission towers that had risen from the dead. Instead, they were all unknowingly attacked by the mind of a mysterious existence in the depths of the Hidden Mist Domain. They were trapped in a large-scale group environment and could not extricate themselves!"

It made sense that all the exploration teams did not have time to send their last words and warnings to the outside world before they went missing.

That was because they had not encountered any monsters or threats that could be seen with the naked eye.

Perhaps, after inhaling the colorless, tasteless, invisible hallucinogenic spores and having their brains invaded by the "mind virus", they had walked to the depths of the sinkhole on their own in a daze.

As for everyone being trapped in the same dream and being able to communicate freely in the dream, was it possible?

Of course it was possible.

Humans released brainwaves all the time.

Brainwaves were also a kind of special information. In theory, it was possible to read them directly.

As early as the Earth era, when human brainwaves influenced each other, they could trigger a mass hysteria, allowing everyone to see an impossible existence such as a “fox god” at the same time.

The so-called “fox god” was probably an image that was sketched out in someone’s brain and transmitted to someone else’s brain through strong brainwaves.

Chapter 762: Mental Virus

The spirit magnetic environment of another world was a hundred times more complicated than Earth’s.

The cosmic radiation, planet magnetic field, and even the life magnetic field of carbon-based organisms, including the brainwaves of intelligent life, were a hundred times stronger than Earth’s.

Whether it was extraordinary individuals or monsters with special brain tissues, they were more likely to excite their own brainwaves and form a “mental attack.”

The “spiritual attack” was a double-edged sword.

A superhuman who gazed at the abyss for a long time was also gazed at by the abyss in return.

A superhuman who was good at using spiritual attacks was also easier for the enemy to lock onto, crack, and hack into their own brain ports to implant all kinds of information.

Just like how fear was contagious.

When the brainwaves of countless people were triggered and resonated, the specific information implanted could also spread like a virus video.

To put it simply, let’s say that Lu Siya was the first to be attacked by the enemy’s mind. The information about Peach Blossom Town was implanted in her brain, and she would use her own memory to enrich the information.

Then, the brainwaves that she sent out would most likely help the enemy and implant the information about Peach Blossom Town into the minds of other members of the exploration team.

The exploration team members often believed each other without a doubt.

Such indirect communication was much easier to break through the defense line of the human brain than a direct spiritual attack, resulting in an upgraded version of mass hysteria.

Therefore, all the survivors of the exploration teams are most likely trapped in a corner of the space where they are faced with the primeval forest and unable to extricate themselves from it

Meng Chao could not help but comment, “It is even possible that we are like the scholars in folk tales who, under the temptation of the beauties, come to a splendid mansion and see the owner in luxurious clothes, taste the delicacies such as dragon liver and phoenix marrow, and then have a good sleep in a room with carved beams.

“The next morning, when we woke up in the cold wind, we found ourselves lying in a desolate grave with rotten bones under our heads and half a broken bowl beside us. In the bowl were the leftover centipedes and toads. Was the so-called fortuitous encounter just a trick of the fox god?”

“It is indeed possible.”

Lu Siya nodded. “It is not impossible to find a scientific and reasonable explanation for the absurd folktales. Just like the ‘ghost hitting a wall’ was actually lost in the folds of space, the legend of ‘the scholar meeting the ghost’ could also be a spiritual attack launched by a carbon-based creature.

“Perhaps, there is indeed a Peach Blossom Town that crossed over to the other world with Dragon City, but it is in ruins, full of devastation, covered in desolate graves, and full of suffering.

“It’s just that our retinas and central nerves have been disturbed and we can’t see the truth clearly

“If that’s true, what’s its purpose?” Meng Chao asked.

“If the spiritual attack of the monster’s main brain is so powerful that it can trap hundreds of human explorers in the same illusion at one time, why doesn’t it just kill us directly but play such a boring... Harvest Ritual trick?”

“It can’t kill us, otherwise.”

Over the past few days, Lu Siya had long considered such a problem.

She immediately said, “Even if the monster’s main brain has mastered the ability to create illusions at will, this ability must be limited by certain rules, and it’s also very easy to find a way to crack it. Otherwise, during the Lair battle, the monster’s main brain can follow the mutated beast ‘swirl’ and kill its way into the main city of Dragon City, taking advantage of the chaos in the nest city to make hundreds of thousands of people fall into a nightmare.

“I reckon that the mind attack ability of the monster mastermind also has its limits. It can’t completely hijack our retinas and central nerves, nor can it completely control our free will. It has no choice but to use all kinds of hints and fake clues to make us imagine a paradise and deceive ourselves

“This is why the main brain of the monster allowed the explorers of the man-eating pomfret team to spread the news that there is a city in the depths of the sinkhole to the outside world.”

Meng Chao seemed to be deep in thought as he added, “Humans are the race that are best at imagining things. When the information ‘there is a city in the depths of the sinkhole’ is implanted into our brains, our rich imagination will cause it to ferment on its own and gradually turn into the beautiful ‘Peach Blossom Town.’ The monster mastermind only needs to add some details at the most critical point to push Peach Blossom Town in the direction it wants to develop.”

“Yes, the possibility is very high. After all, more than a dozen exploration teams have gathered hundreds of strong-willed experts. Among them, there are many senior superhuman teams in the Heaven Realm. Unless we lie to ourselves, the monster mainframe will never drag us into the illusion.”

“But the biggest problem with lying to ourselves is that it can’t make us do things that go against our instincts in the illusion. For example, it can make us kill each other or even ourselves in the illusion.”

“That makes sense.”

Meng Chao was refreshed, “In other words, we are the creators of the ‘illusionary city’ just like the main brain of the monsters. Although most of the rules of the game in the city are set by it, we are not fish on the chopping board and can’t fight back at all!

“However, is it possible that it can use the illusionary land to delay us and summon a large number of monsters to kill our bodies directly in the real world

“I’ve thought about that, too, but the possibility is not high.”

Lu Siya said, “When superhumans reach Heaven Realm, their bodies of flesh and blood are not only as tough as steel, but their subconsciousness is also extremely powerful. They can maintain a high level of vigilance even in their dreams.

“Even if we are trapped in the illusion, if a monster approaches and releases its killing intent at us, some of us who have extremely sharp senses will definitely wake up from the illusion.”

“For example, a ‘sensitive person’ like you, Sister Ya,” Meng Chao added.

“That’s right.”

Lu Siya nodded slightly and said confidently, “Since I’ve seen through the flaws in this world and I have to go all out, I feel confident that I can wake up and break the illusion by force at any time.

“However, there’s no need for that at the moment. We might as well wait and see what the main brain of the monster is up to.

“Don’t forget that the illusion in front of us is the product of everyone’s brainwave resonance. As long as a few members of the exploration team wake up, there’s a high possibility of triggering a chain reaction that will wake everyone up at the same time.

“The monster mastermind took great pains to set up this trap. It was not easy to lure so many explorers into Peach Blossom Town. I think that unless it’s absolutely necessary, it won’t make such a move and try to eliminate us from the physical level.

“After all, we are only the vanguard. Even if we kill all the exploration teams, it won’t change the ending of the monster civilization!”

That was true.

More than 70% of the data about the topography and the crystal veins of the Hidden Mist Domain had been transmitted to the outside world.

The decisive army, which gathered almost all the Deity Realm experts and the torrent of steel in Dragon City, was also gathering at the periphery of the Hidden Mist Domain and taking shape day by day...

Even if the vanguard troops were completely annihilated.

Moreover, Peach Blossom town really existed, and the maniacal monster mastermind had used thirty to fifty thousand human beings as meat shields.

It was impossible to delay the total attack time by even half a second.

The doomsday bell for the monster civilization had already reached the last lap, and the countdown of the ticking clock had begun.

If the monster mastermind really had intelligence that was superior to that of human beings, it should have been very clear and rational to realize that killing the exploration team was meaningless except for making its own incompetence and fury manifest.

“Therefore, the purpose of Peach Blossom Town is definitely not to kill us.”

Meng Chao mumbled, “I have a vague feeling that the monster mastermind probably wants us to live more than we die. Of course, it wants us to live through the information implanted in our brains through Peach Blossom Town and transmit the information to more people and everybody through brainwaves.

“Just like spreading the blood-striped spores and the zombie virus.”

“The monster mastermind tried to use Peach Blossom Town to brainwash us,” Lu Siya said coldly.

“That’s why it told us the news of ‘Earth’s destruction’ first.”

The words ‘Earth’s destruction’ made Meng Chao’s pupils contract again.

“Sister Ya, what did you say?” He still did not want to believe it.

“The destruction of the Earth. Judging from your ugly expression, I can tell that the little girl named Gu Ling has already told you the shocking news.”

Lu Siya said, “If Peach Blossom Town is really a scheme meticulously arranged by the monster mastermind, every word spoken by everyone here will not be meaningless.

“Even though they have transmigrated to another world for more than half a century, many people in Dragon City still consider themselves Earthlings. They believe that no matter what our Dragon City civilization becomes, we will always be a part of the civilization of the Earth. Countless people are willing to fight for Earth, and they are even willing to pay any price to return to Earth.

“It can be said that Earth is not only the homeland of many people, but also the belief of many people!

“However, the monster mastermind told them right away that Earth had been destroyed. Although the Sea of stars was vast, they had nowhere to go. They did not have any belief at all. It was worth it for them to fight and sacrifice everything.

“Such explosive news will certainly make many determined experts of Dragon City panic. They will focus most of their attention on the ‘Earth’s destruction’, but they will ignore the obvious details and flaws in front of them.

“Also, if some of the explorers really believe the nonsense about Earth’s destruction and their beliefs are shaken, it will be easier for their spirit defense line to collapse and be completely controlled by the monster mastermind, won’t it?”

“It makes sense!”

Meng Chao's eyes lit up, and he said excitedly, "Sister Ya, are you saying that the monster mastermind is talking nonsense? There is no thermonuclear war on Earth, and the civilization on Earth will never be destroyed? Is that right?"

"I'm saying that it doesn't matter what that ghost girl, Gu Ling, says. Whether or not a thermonuclear war breaks out on Earth and whether or not Earth's civilization is destroyed has nothing to do with us."

Lu Siya enunciated each word and said coldly, "Wake up, Meng Chao. From the moment we stepped out of Earth, the long journey ahead can only depend on ourselves. Don't let the so-called survival of the mother planet affect your mind!"

Chapter 763: The Path to Godhood

Meng Chao's heart skipped a beat.

He had to admit that Lu Siya was right.

In his previous life, Dragon City's civilization had not been able to contact the mother planet until it was destroyed.

Although he had saved a large number of time travel experts and changed Project 101's fate, he might be able to develop real time travel technology that could allow instant travel through the sea of stars.

However, he could not place too much hope on the distant earth.

At least for now, the survival or destruction of Earth's civilization would not affect the outcome of the Monster War.

"I understand now. The so-called news of 'Earth's destruction' is an extra-large 'soul bomb.' The monster mastermind used this news to shake our spiritual defense line."

Meng Chao's eyes were sharp as he said in a deep voice, "Even if the defense line doesn't collapse, thousands of cracks will appear. Therefore, we will doubt ourselves and Dragon City, which is rebuilding the civilization of Earth.

"If Earth's civilization is really destroyed by the thermonuclear war, it will be meaningless for Dragon City to walk on the path of Earth again. In comparison, the Peach Blossom Town in front of us looks particularly beautiful. It will be easier for us to believe the monster mastermind's dream!"

"That's right, that's right!"

Lu Siya said, "Judging from the murder of the pet beasts in Blessed Paradise and the Lair battle, the monster mastermind has clearly realized that it is impossible for a group of well-developed, simple-minded monsters to defeat the civilization of Dragon City. After all, no matter how surging the beast tide is, it is still a motley crew of carbon-based creatures. It is impossible for them to contend with the indiscriminate bombardment of steel.

"Half a year ago, in the strategic decisive battle on the outskirts of Dragon City, the beast tide suffered a crushing defeat, which further proved this point.

“Therefore, the main brain of the monster changed its strategy, from physical destruction to spiritual erosion, from a forceful attack on the periphery to a central explosion—fortresses that were said to never fall were often attacked from the inside by the enemy, or even by their own people.

“In the case of a failed forceful attack, it provoked the internal conflicts in Dragon City, creating a tearing and killing between humans. Perhaps this was the monster mastermind that racked its brains to come up with, and in the end, it was also the only way to turn the defeat into victory.”

Meng Chao thought of what the mayor of Peach Blossom Town and Lu Siya had said just now.

He suddenly had a light bulb moment.

“The monster mastermind wants to intensify the conflicts between the nine noble families and the ordinary citizens of Dragon City, between the peerless experts and the low-level warriors, and between the descendants of the noble families and the humble families?”

Meng Chao stared into Lu Siya’s eyes and said, “Just like what you said just now, the monster mastermind wants us to believe that, compared to the hideous and ugly beasts who are baring their fangs and claws, the leaders of the nine mega corporations who are in suits and wearing formal clothes are the real ‘monsters’ who will cause the destruction of our civilization.”

“That was not what I said. It was the mumbling that I heard from the mayor and the townsfolk after I stayed here for ten days to half a month, or even when I was half asleep and half awake. You can interpret it as the ‘mental virus’ that the monster mastermind is trying to implant in my brain.

“In order to gain the trust of the monster mastermind and figure out its ultimate plan, I took advantage of the situation and pretended to be deeply hypnotized. I accepted the information that the monster instilled in me without any thought or discrimination.

“However, although I didn’t fall for it, according to my observation, many members of the exploration team believed that ‘Earth’s destruction’ and ‘the nine great families are the real monsters.’ The war between humans and monsters was only to help the nine mega corporations plunder more resources and help the Deity Realm powerhouses who controlled the mega corporations become stronger and stronger. In the end, they would evolve into true gods and rule over the ordinary people forever.

“You know, most people always decide their minds by their own butts.

“I am Sky Pillar Corporation’s third generation, so I have a natural immunity to this nonsense. However, more than two-thirds of the exploration teams are from the humble families, especially the powerhouses from the Red Dragon Army and Battle God Temple. They have a deep prejudice against the nine corporations.

“The monster mastermind has seen through their mentality. He has keenly grasped their vigilance and even hostility toward the nine corporations. Naturally, he can brainwash them into mindless monster puppets!”

Meng Chao’s heart skipped a beat, and he subconsciously looked around.

As expected, he found that some of the exploration team members, who were still surrounded by iron-blooded qi and were familiar with him in Battle God Palace, were like the citizens of Peach Blossom Town. Their faces were full of piety, and they were bowing to the tree of wisdom.

Their expressions did not look like they were pretending.

Instead, they were quietly believing the mayor of Peach Blossom Town.

“Meng Chao, you won’t be fooled into believing the nonsense that the main brain of the monster is trying to implant into the depths of our brain, will you?”

Lu Siya looked at Meng Chao meaningfully and said, “You are also from a humble family, and you are also a core force of the Broken Star Club, Blue Home, and Battle God Palace. In many fields, you are at odds with the nine great families. It seems that you are the best target for the monster mastermind to brainwash!

“However, don’t forget that in the past few years, with the help of our Sky Pillar Corporation and the other eight mega corporations, your family’s Superstar Resource Recovery Company has developed at a rapid speed. You are like a rising star in the circle, a real supernova, especially with the series of arrangements in the past half year.

“Although I don’t quite understand it, if your luck is as good as before and these arrangements can be successful, Superstar Resource Recovery Company will most likely soar to the sky and become the tenth largest corporation in Dragon City after the nine mega corporations. Your Meng family will be the tenth largest family in Dragon City.

“Of course, I know that you are not willing to be inferior to anyone.

“Although on the surface, you have little fame and fortune, and you have never shown any ambition, I can see the fire in the depths of your eyes. I know that you and I are the same kind of people.

“People like us will advance on our own path. We will never be restricted by any laws, nor will we be stopped by any obstacles. We will never be driven by anyone.

“The tenth company? The tenth noble family? If it were anyone else, they would be ecstatic. In your heart, it’s not even worth mentioning, right?”

“It doesn’t matter. You still have me.

“As long as the two of us continue to fight side by side like in the past, let alone the tenth corporation, even the number one corporation and the number one noble family will not be out of reach.

“Therefore, you must completely change your mindset.

“I know that you have always been overflowing with sympathy and that you are truly not seeking anything in return for your contributions to the citizens.

“My ‘exemplary superhuman’ nature is fake. I’m just putting on a show to attract the support of the ordinary citizens so that I can draw strength from them.

“However, you are a true exemplary superhuman. You are one hundred percent worthy of the medals that are dyed red with blood.

“However, think clearly. The current Meng Chao is no longer an ordinary citizen and the child of a humble family. You are on our side. You are the new aristocrat. You are the superior. You are the conqueror and ruler. Do you understand?”

Lu Siya grabbed Meng Chao’s wrist again.

It seemed like she wanted to use the surging heat in her eyes and palm to completely stick to Meng Chao.

“Perhaps, the monster mastermind is right. The end of the path of transcendence is to transcend all the restrictions of humans and become a true god!”

Lu Siya stared at Meng Chao with a demonic glint in her eyes before she continued to speak word by word, “In that case, you also have a very good chance. Meng Chao, let us continue walking on this path together. Let us surpass the limits of humans on Earth and become gods in another world!”

Meng Chao was hurt by the light in her eyes.

He took half a step back and used a lot of strength to shake off Lu Siya’s hand.

Looking at the faint cyan-purple color on his wrist, Meng Chao frowned slightly and said, “Sister Ya, are you sure that your mental state... is normal?”

The corners of Lu Siya’s eyes twitched. She held her forehead to cover the light in her eyes.

She took a deep breath and gradually calmed down.

“It doesn’t seem normal. You should know better than me that acting is very tiring.”

“It’s not normal,” Lu Siya said gloomily. “In order to gain the trust of the monster mastermind, I had to open up part of my brain and let it implant information contaminated with ‘poison’ so that I could play the role of a fanatical brainwashed person.

“In order not to be brainwashed by it, I had to strengthen the depths of my brain. My thoughts were diametrically opposed to what it wanted me to believe, and I turned those thoughts into unbreakable beliefs.

“But what I said just now was the truth. It’s too boring to embark on the path to godhood alone. Meng Chao, we’ve always been the best partners, and it will be the same in the future, right?”

“Yes.”

Meng Chao keenly sensed that Lu Siya’s voice was trembling slightly.

It seemed that it was not an easy task to be lost in the depths of the Hidden Mist Domain, or even in the illusion created by the monster mastermind.

Under her seemingly effortless appearance, the Queen Bee’s spirit should be enduring intense erosion and suffering, right?

Meng Chao nodded without hesitation.

He took half a step forward and grabbed Lu Siya's wrist.

Lu Siya let out a long sigh of relief.

"So, you definitely won't believe the nonsense of the monster mastermind and be brainwashed by it, right?" She regained her calmness.

"That's right. I'm the last person in the world who would be brainwashed by the monster mastermind."

Meng Chao nodded heavily and resolutely said, "Because I don't need the monster mastermind to tell me that 'Dragon City cannot be ruled by the nine mega corporations forever.'

"I've realized this point long before I stepped into the Hidden Mist Domain, no, much earlier than that.

"I was observing the current situation of Dragon City, collecting a large amount of data, and based on my own analysis and thinking, under the absolutely sober and rational circumstances, I came to this conclusion. There was no need for any monsters to bewitch me.

"Since I have already found my own path, I was driven by myself and my willingness to fight for Dragon City as an ordinary citizen forever. How could the botched brainwashing of the monster mastermind have any effect on me?"

Lu Siya's expression instantly froze.

Her face gradually became boiling hot and red.

She bit her lip and tried to shake off Meng Chao's hand.

However, Meng Chao held her wrist tightly and refused to let go as if he was clinging to her body.

Chapter 764: Double-Edged Sword

"There's one more thing. I think you can rest assured, Sister Ya."

Meng Chao looked into Lu Siya's eyes and seriously said, "Although many forces in Dragon City, such as the Red Dragon Army, Battle God Palace, Broken Star Club, and Blue Home, are dissatisfied with the nine mega corporations monopolizing everything, we can distinguish right from wrong, as well as prioritize things. We will not be easily provoked by the enemy and harm things that are dear to us.

"At this moment, all the people of Dragon City have only one goal, which is to be beautiful and obtain the ultimate victory in the Monster War.

"Therefore, I believe that most of the exploration team members, including "Railway Gun" Long Feijun, will not be brainwashed by the monster mastermind so easily."

Biting her lip, Lu Siya snorted and finally shook Meng Chao's hand off. "In that case, we must stop the Tree of Wisdom before it reveals its most hideous face!" she said.

"What do you mean?" Meng Chao asked

“Do you think that the so-called Harvest Ceremony will be over so easily? It’s just the mayor’s nonsense and the inhalation of hallucinogenic pollen and spores. It’s not really brainwashing.”

Lu Siya said, “It’s just an appetizer. The show has just begun. I heard from the townsfolk that the Tree of Wisdom can connect the brains of all the human beings and the monsters together during the Harvest Ceremony, allowing everyone to share their feelings, memories, and thoughts. In such a way, the human beings and the monsters can deeply understand each other and build a bridge of empathy and communication.

“If I’m not wrong, this ‘deep understanding’ is just a cover to break through our brains’ defensive lines and read our thoughts and memories. Then, it will plant more secret and dangerous information deep inside our brains. That is the monster mastermind’s purpose!”

Before Lu Siya finished her words, the crowd suddenly surged up.

All the residents of Peach Blossom Town stood on their tiptoes and stretched out their arms toward the tree’s canopy that blocked out the sun.

On the tree canopy, thousands of crystal-clear flower buds slowly bloomed, blossoming into colorful flowers.

Their color was so rich that it made them look like not only plants but also the organs of some giant super creature that was slowly moving.

The pollen, which was already flying and shining in the air, suddenly increased in concentration by a level.

Everyone’s heads, faces, hands, shoulders, and bodies were covered in pollen.

They cackled and danced hand in hand, spinning tirelessly. The pollen sprinkled on each of them like a colorful fog.

Chi li li li, chi li li li li... Suspicious voices abruptly came from the tree’s canopy of luxuriant branches and blooming flowers.

Colorful and translucent tentacles were slowly swimming among the branches.

Seeing the translucent tentacles, the residents of Peach Blossom Town became even more excited.

“...I have a bad feeling.”

Meng Chao licked his dry lips and stared at the translucent tentacles that were slowly hanging down from the branches and the flowers. He asked, “Sister Ya, what’s your plan?”

“In the past few days, I’ve contacted a batch of trusted members of the exploration team who haven’t been brainwashed yet. I’ve also found a batch of crystal bombs, mainly anti-monster grenades, weapons, and ammunition that I dismantled from the Bread Crab and Peregrine Falcon.

“Our plan is to take advantage of the Harvest Ceremony when the Tree of Wisdom reveals its hideous face and brainwashes all the members of the exploration team deeply,” Lu Siya said. “We will use the crystal bombs to remove the root of the problem.

“It will not be easy to implant information into the brain of the determined members of the exploration team. We estimate that the Tree of Wisdom will be at its weakest, and our surprise attack will have the highest success rate.”

“That’s it?”

Meng Chao frowned and said, “Before we figure out whether everything in front of us is real or not, your plan is to pretend to be brainwashed by the Tree of Wisdom, sneak up on it, and blow it up with crystal bombs?”

“That’s right. It’s the only idea we could come up with in such a hurry.”

“Even if everything in front of us is fake and the crystal bombs that we’ve retrieved are fake, it doesn’t matter, because imagination is a very powerful weapon in an illusory world,” Lu Siya said.

“As long as we believe in the existence of the crystal bombs, an explosion that only exists in our imagination can also stimulate our brainwaves to the maximum. Through the chain reaction of brainwave resonance, we can awake all our companions who are lost in the depths of the nightmare and cause the monster mastermind a powerful psychological backlash too.”

Meng Chao was an expert in mental attacks.

He knew that Lu Siya was right.

After pondering for a moment, Meng Chao continued, “The latest exploration teams, Long Feijun, and the others who got lost in the town with me, do they know about your plan?”

“No.”

Lu Siya shook her head and said, “You’ve only been here for a few days. I haven’t found a chance to get rid of the residents’ surveillance of the town and get in touch with you. It is time for the Harvest Ceremony.

“Right now, I only hope that you’re right. Long Feijun and the rest of the railway gun squad are not really affected by the monster mastermind and still remember their mission. Once we start our operation, cooperate with us immediately, and together, we will destroy the Tree of Wisdom!”

“It’s too risky...”

Meng Chao raised his head and stared at the translucent, fluorescent tentacles that were growing out of the branches.

As if hearing the cries of humans and the roars of monsters, the tentacles descended slowly, getting closer and closer to the brains of the humans and monsters.

While they seemed like colorful vipers that were part of a huge luminous jellyfish, they were more like the nerve bundles of some invisible prehistoric creature.

From the ends of these “nerve bundles,” thousands of colorful electric arcs were released. Like a giant electric net that covered the sky and earth, it enveloped all the carbon-based life forms under the Tree of Wisdom.

“Sister Ya, don’t act in a hurry.”

Meng Chao gnashed his teeth. “Let me divert the Tree of Wisdom’s attention first.”

Lu Siya was dazed. “What?”

“Your plan is too simple and insecure. If this Tree of Wisdom in front of us is really the mastermind of the monster civilization, I don’t think that we can blow it up so easily.

“But you are right about one thing. When the enemy shows its true intention and launches the most powerful mental attack, it will be in its weakest and most vulnerable state,” Meng Chao said.

“If someone can divert its attention at that moment and disrupt its brain with strong brainwaves to restrain its spirit energy, our success rate will be much higher.”

“That’s too dangerous!” Lu Siya blurted out.

Pausing for a moment, she added, “I mean, what makes you so sure that you can get the Tree of Wisdom’s full attention?”

“I’m the one who stopped the White Spirit, earthquake, Demonic Abyss Eye, and Vortex one after another!”

Meng Chao’s eyes were sharp, while his body emanated strong confidence and determination. He said with great certainty, “If you were a monster mastermind, wouldn’t you have developed a strong interest in exploring this guy’s brain and turning this guy into your strongest puppet?”

“Well...”

Lu Siya was speechless.

Meng Chao was not acting on a whim. He had planned to establish a deep contact with the monster mastermind before entering the Hidden Mist Domain.

Thinking back, he had just been reborn from the apocalypse. He had thought that if he wanted to change Dragon City’s fate, he only needed to win the Monster War and turn all the monsters into minced meat.

However, after his rebirth, he had come into contact with more and more secrets, especially core secrets related to the ancient ruins. It gave him a deeper understanding of the Other World, the upcoming war, and the mysterious power that summoned the Earthlings to this strange planet.

Simply and roughly destroying the monster civilization was far from enough to help the Dragon City civilization win the war in the Other World.

He had to crack the monster mastermind’s secret in order to digest and absorb the monster civilization’s power. He needed to inject an extremely powerful “accelerant” into the Dragon City civilization.

What exactly was the so-called monster mastermind? Was it really a human powerhouse called Jin Qianxi, who had turned into a monster after he had fallen into the Red Dragon river and gotten eroded by the mysterious power in the depths of the mist?

Why did Dragon City cross over and land precisely at the center of the basin surrounded by Monster Mountain Range? Was it a coincidence, or was it some kind of fate?

Where did the sinkhole come from? If it was really a “crater” left by an attack from the outer atmosphere during the primordial war hundreds of millions of years ago, then what was hidden under the sinkhole? What made it worth using such a terrifying space-based orbital weapon?

If the overwhelming beast tide had all been artificially created, could mankind have grasped such technology and mass-produced monsters in the genetic farms or industrial production lines as a powerful supplement to their torrents of steel?

What did the X-shaped Eye, which originated from the bowels of the ancient ruins, have to do with the monster civilization’s birth? It should be known that the same pattern had not appeared only in the memory of the supernatural entity, the Demonic Abyss Eye. It also appeared to Battle God Lei Zongchao, and on the back of the future Dark Witch, Bai Jiacao’s hand.

Could it be that the mysterious power that had created the first supernatural entity had already existed inside Dragon City?

Was the Monster War and the upcoming war between the two worlds completely independent wars, or was the former the prelude to the latter with a dark and subtle connection?

These secrets could only be uncovered via deep contact with the monster mastermind.

Although such contact was a double-edged sword.

Meng Chao was still willing to take a gamble.

At the very least, the human army was gathering strength in the outer regions of the Hidden Mist Domain.

Even if something went wrong on their side, they could still make up for it by bombarding them with a torrent of steel.

“There’s no time to hesitate, Sister Ya. You can only trust me.”

Meng Chao looked above his head and said in a low voice, “Be careful, those tentacles are coming!”

Chapter 765: Neural Network

The Tree of Wisdom had arrived.

Its branches rustled in the wind. It sounded like a murmur, a sigh, and a low laugh.

In addition to pollen, there were also a lot of colorful leaves. The fairies scattered their flowers and flew away with the wind. When they landed on humans and monsters, they were like crystal-clear snowflakes that disappeared without a trace, it was as if they had fused with the flesh and blood of carbon-based creatures.

Thousands of translucent tentacles slowly hung down from the tree canopy, as though they were decorative streamers and lights for this strange festival. However, they also slowly squirmed, danced, and expanded.

The dancing of the tentacles carried a demonic rhythm, causing everyone's breathing and heartbeat to involuntarily slow down. It was as if they were in a bottomless sea, dancing with the world's largest jellyfish.

All the people and monsters in Peach Blossom Town closed their eyes and murmured, sighed, and smiled with the Tree of Wisdom.

While they were waiting with joy, the translucent tentacles finally arrived on top of their heads.

The tentacles protruded out small thorns that were as small as goose bumps, and secreted a large amount of sticky mucus that assailed their nostrils.

First, they wrapped themselves around the bodies of humans and monsters. The thorns gently pierced into their skin and stimulated biological electricity, connecting their nerves to the nerves of humans.

The end of the tentacles slowly bloomed again, like colorful crab-claw chrysanthemums, gently and slowly covering the heads of the humans and monsters. It was just like the superbrain helmet developed by the people of Dragon City, which could create a virtual world.

People either sat cross-legged with solemn expressions or they were drawn into the air by the tentacles and danced in the air.

They put on all kinds of strange postures, soaring like eagles, running like lions and tigers, twisting like dragons and snakes.

The monsters whose heads were covered by the ends of the tentacles actually laughed like humans. They even used their deformed and twisted organs to spit out unclear human language and mumble in their sleep.

This scene was so "harmonious and natural", but it was also so weird that it made people's bodies shiver and their hair stand on end!

At this moment, an extremely thick tentacle that was surging with colorful light from the root to the end crawled out from the deepest part of the tree canopy and slowly extended in front of Meng Chao.

The end of the tentacle that was as big as a flower bud slowly bloomed. Inside the translucent "petals" were clusters of fluorescent "stamens" or "nerve clusters."

They did not simply stab Meng Chao's head.

Instead, they stopped in midair and trembled slightly, as if they were inviting Meng Chao to enter a marvelous new world.

Meng Chao sensed the nervousness and vigilance of Lu Siya behind him.

He took a step forward and stood between the translucent tentacles and Lu Siya so that the Tree of Wisdom would not notice anything unusual about Lu Siya.

At the same time, he constructed a "memory palace" deep inside his brain.

Not long ago, the thing that worried Meng Chao the most was that the monster mastermind had read his most core memory—the memory that originated from the apocalypse.

Now, however, the monster civilization was at its end. Even if part of his memory was stolen, the monster mastermind would not be able to change the outcome of being completely crushed by the torrent of steel.

Therefore, Meng Chao deduced that the final trap carefully laid by the monster mastermind was not to “steal” but to “implant.”

Just as Lu Siya said, she wanted to implant some “mind viruses” into the depths of the brain of the exploration team members. In the final battle, they would explode and spread like a zombie virus, turning a large number of humans into its puppets.

Of course, if the mind viruses were to be believed, they would have to steal part of Meng Chao’s memories and thoughts.

Then, through Meng Chao’s thoughts, he would take advantage of the situation and make it imperceptible, so that Meng Chao would not be able to sense the process of the implantation. He would even think that all thoughts were free will.

In order to gain the Tree of Wisdom’s trust and attract the other party’s attention, and even let the other party unwittingly open the monster mastermind’s “brain port”, Meng Chao did not plan to completely defend his brain.

He deliberately piled a large number of memories of his daily life on the outermost edge of the memory palace.

They were all memories of eating, drinking, defecating, living, living, and training crazily. They did not involve any secrets, and it did not matter even if the monster mastermind spied on them.

Then, there were the memories related to Broken Star Club, Blue Home, Battle God Palace, the Lair Reconstruction Committee, and a series of commercial arrangements from Superstar Resource Recovery Company.

A large number of commercial secrets were involved.

However, apart from him, the higher-ups of Broken Star Club and other organizations also knew about these secrets. With the penetration of the monster civilization into Dragon City, the monster mastermind had many channels to know about it, and even knew about it already.

Moreover, these secrets did not involve the strategic development direction of Dragon City, nor did they affect the victory or defeat of the Monster War. They were typical “important but ineffective” secrets.

On the third floor of the memory palace, Meng Chao prepared some memories that involved the profound meaning of Battle God Lei Zongchao’s martial arts, as well as the various items in the ancient ruins.

These were the core secrets of Dragon City.

Of course, all the memories were incomplete and unclear. Even if the thinking tentacles of the monster mastermind could drill to this floor, it would be impossible for it to extract any effective information from the mottled images in a short time, then, it would use the information to turn defeat into victory.

However, the three memory palaces might not be enough to satisfy the monster mastermind.

If Meng Chao was the monster mastermind and they were in a different place... he must have been full of doubts. "Who is this kid named 'Meng Chao' exactly? How could he be reborn on the eve of the college entrance examination and become a completely different person? Not only did he break through to Heaven Realm in just a few years, he even stopped and killed four of my generals—White Spirit, Earthquake, Demonic Abyss Eye, and Vortex?"

"Where did his power come from? What kind of secret is he hiding?"

The three layers of memories did not explain the problem perfectly.

If the monster mastermind was desperate enough to blow open Meng Chao's brain, Meng Chao could not guarantee that the secret of the rebirth of the apocalypse would not be leaked.

Therefore, he simply did the opposite. He highly compressed the picture of the apocalypse and turned it into a memory bomb.

He remembered that when the supernatural entity, the Demonic Abyss Eye, was about to devour his soul, it was the picture of the apocalypse that triggered the beast greatly and created a mental gap. He seized the opportunity and launched a desperate counterattack.

Therefore, when the monster mastermind took great pains and racked its brains to pry open the deepest part of Meng Chao's brain at all costs, it discovered that in the future that had the highest probability of happening, Dragon City, together with Monster Mountain Range, and of course, the Hidden Mist Domain, where it was located... would be completely destroyed by thousands of fireballs. The fireballs would be as dazzling as the sun, as dazzling as fireworks, and as fierce as meteorites falling from the sky. What would its reaction be?

Meng Chao really wanted to know.

He could not help but want to laugh.

The corners of his mouth curled up slightly. He took a step forward, raised his arm, and extended a finger toward the colorful and glittering stamen. He accepted the Tree of Wisdom's invitation.

He was so generous, but the Tree of Wisdom seemed a little embarrassed.

The stamen shrank like a Mimosa for a moment, then carefully reached out and poked Meng Chao's fingertip. It then circled around his finger, wrist, and arm, continuously swimming upward for a full three minutes, only then did it completely entangle with Meng Chao.

When the huge flower covered Meng Chao like a super-brain helmet, the entire world instantly changed.

It was as if Meng Chao's perceptive ability had increased by a hundred times on the basis of the five-star Spirit Gaze Realm.

He could hear the breathing and heartbeat of tens of thousands of people. He could hear the sound of pollen colliding in the air and leaves falling to the ground. He could hear the tens of thousands of swirls created by the whirling breeze.

He could see every side of the Tree of Wisdom from tens of thousands of different angles. He could see tens of thousands of different colors and lights. He could also see himself. He could see himself smiling from different angles as he sat cross-legged in the giant translucent flower.

It was an extremely wonderful feeling.

It was as if the entire world had no more secrets.

Then, Meng Chao realized that this was what Lu Siya called “shared perception.”

The Tree of Wisdom, or the monster mastermind, had an extremely special and terrifying ability. It could construct a huge neural network that connected the nerves of tens of thousands of humans and even carbon-based life forms, connecting them into a... Whole.

And shared perception was only the first step.

Then, it was shared memory and shared thought.

Of course, like everything that seemed to be “shared”, it was only the memories and thoughts that were filtered by the Tree of Wisdom and wanted to be shared by Meng Chao.

In an instant, countless memories flashed before Meng Chao’s eyes.

It was as if he had just been reborn and the Kindling had exploded in the depths of his brain.

It was also as if he had just stepped into the portal for the first time and endless space-time had exploded before his eyes.

He became a citizen of Peach Blossom Town.

Not just one, but tens of thousands of people.

He was like an ordinary citizen of Peach Blossom Town. On the days of the intoxicating spring breeze and bright sunshine, he ate his fill and lay comfortably under a tree, listening to the wind blowing through the treetops, and the chirping of birds, which sounded like wind chimes, unknowingly, he fell asleep.

He woke up in the cool stream and found that he was swimming with the other townspeople in a fairytale-like pink stream full of peach blossoms. The children were responsible for catching fish, and the boys and girls were playing with each other in the pink stream, he left the sweetest memories.

He was in the depths of the jungle, eating and dancing around the bonfire with the townspeople to ease the fatigue of the day’s hunting.

Due to the Tree of Wisdom’s protection, the people of Dragon City regarded the fog, wilderness, and jungle as a daunting path, but for Peach Blossom Town’s people, it was a leisurely stroll in the back garden.

Here, the scariest thing was not some monster, but the wrinkled old people, baring their teeth and brandishing their claws, telling the “story of the Earthlings.”

“Earthlings, Earthlings, what a terrifying earthling!

“Peach Blossom people, Peach Blossom people, what beautiful Peach Blossom people!”

The children were frightened by the terrible scenes of the thermonuclear war narrated by the old men. They racked their brains but could not figure out why the Earthlings would use such a terrifying weapon to destroy their homes and themselves.

There were also some children who mocked that the old man’s story was fake—what kind of lunatic would invent a “nuclear weapon” that was impossible to exist, or in other words, a weapon that only existed in hell!

Although they did not believe it, they still winked and added fuel to the fire to scare the children who were younger than them.

The screams of the children and the laughter of the older children traveled along the misty mountain range to a very, very far place.

Chapter 766: Creating a Better Reality

Then, Meng Chao discovered that he had become a monster.

No, not one, but 10,000 different monsters.

Suddenly, he became a falcon with a wingspan of more than 100 meters, riding the wind and breaking the waves in the vast sea of clouds, watching the most brilliant sunrise and the most moving sunset.

Suddenly, he turned into a big fish with golden scales, galloping among the torrents, playing on the waterfall with a drop of more than 100 meters, feeling the soul-stirring impact.

Suddenly, he turned into a liger-type monster with pure white fluffy hair, like a white lightning bolt, galloping in the mountain forest.

There was someone behind him.

A human knight grabbed the hair behind his neck tightly, and was suddenly frightened by his galloping, screaming, and then giggling due to the weightlessness of jumping.

The knight's ups and downs also affected him, making him feel extremely happy. He deliberately made all kinds of dangerous and exciting movements to tease the knight and make him laugh like a silver bell.

Finally, he carried the knight to a small mountain peak and looked down at the warm sunset, the quiet jungle, and the dreamy town.

The knight gently stroked his fur, making him purr comfortably. He yawned sleepily.

"Are you comfortable?" He heard a familiar voice from the knight.

Only then did he realize that sitting on the cliff next to him with his two fleshy little feet curled up was the granddaughter of Peach Blossom Town's mayor, Gu Ling.

The little girl looked at him with a smile that was as pure as crystal.

It seemed that through the Tree of Wisdom's neural network, he had read the memories of Gu Ling and the monsters that accompanied her.

Meng Chao hesitated for a moment, then nodded and said, "It's comfortable."

The pure white liger's throat emitted a pure human voice, which seemed to be somewhat illogical.

However, this was a fairytale-like world in the first place.

In a fairytale, no one would care about such details.

"This place is much better than Earth, and also much better than Dragon City, right?"

Gu Ling yawned loudly with him too. She looked at the sea of flowers, the Green Tide, the peach blossom land, and the undulating mountain ridges that were illuminated by sunlight. "There's no war,

no slavery, no deception, no oppression, no injustice, and no anxiety. Everyone will always be happy and live together in harmony and beauty. How wonderful!”

“In a way, yes.”

Meng Chao nodded. “A world where there is no war, no slavery, no injustice, and no need to work so hard to be happy is indeed amazing.”

“In that case, will you stay here forever?”

Out of nowhere, Gu Ling conjured a colorful and fragrant garland and gently put it on Meng Chao’s head. She looked at him expectantly. “I will stay in this paradise forever. I will always be happy, happy, and carefree!”

“If I could, I would like to stay here forever, in this almost perfect paradise.”

Meng Chao looked at Gu Ling seriously and sighed. “Unfortunately, no matter how perfect this paradise is, it’s all fake. All the happiness and carefree feelings are fake, just like you, Little Girl Gu Ling.”

Gu Ling’s smile didn’t change at all.

It was like a mask that was as thin as a cicada’s wings.

No matter what was hidden behind the mask, her expression would always be so naive, happy, and happy.

“Even if they’re all fake, what does it matter? is fake happiness necessarily inferior to real pain?”

Gu Ling was still smiling, “Whether it’s Earth, Dragon City, or the former Peach Blossom Town, the people who can truly enjoy life, achieve their dreams, and obtain ultimate happiness are very few and far between. The vast majority of people suffer in the so-called reality, and their days feel like years, or even worse than death.

“Take Your Dragon City as an example.

“The ordinary citizens of Dragon City first train crazily in the school, and then they have to train their muscles and bones since primary school, and practice all kinds of combat techniques. They also have to endure the amount of training, as well as the risk of being injured and disabled, that even professional athletes of the Earth era could not withstand.

“After a day of hard work, school was over, and they still had to send them to all kinds of training classes to train. They trained until they were exhausted and could not even move their fingers.

“Just like this, day after day, year after year, twenty-four hours of continuous training, not every one of them could be admitted to a famous school and awaken their extraordinary strength. Most ordinary people with mediocre talent could only accept the fact that they had fallen behind.

“Even if they managed to awaken their extraordinary strength, more than 90% of the superhumans would be at the one-star Spirit Tattoo Realm for the rest of their lives. Existences such as shrimp, soldiers, and crab generals would also be unable to control their own fates.

“Even if the best and the luckiest among them managed to squeeze through the one-log bridge of thousands of soldiers and horses to work in the nine mega corporations, they would still be nothing but human-shaped crystals that were exploited by the experts of the nine mega corporations. In the end, all their talents and potential had been squeezed out long ago, and their cultivation stagnated. In fact, they were even kicked out of the super corporations because they were too desperate in their work and battles, with internal injuries and serious diseases on their backs. The high profits that they earned at the cost of their lives were all given to the peerless experts and the descendants of the mega corporations for nothing?

“I don’t understand. To ordinary people, what is so-called real life and ‘civilization’ that is so painful that is worth pursuing and even defending at all costs?”

The little girl moved closer to Meng Chao.

Her face was filled with innocent curiosity.

However, her gaze was like two icicles that pierced into the depths of Meng Chao's brain.

Meng Chao did not avoid her gaze.

After pondering for a long time, he slowly said, "You're right. There are many imperfections in the real world. It can even be said that... there are serious mistakes and flaws.

"However, in order to escape from the imperfect real world and escape into the seemingly perfect illusory world, we have to face a very serious problem.

"Since it is an illusory world, it must have been designed and created by someone.

"And the person who designed and created it must have extremely high authority. He is the god of this illusory world, and he can control the mind and fate of every person who escapes here, and even every carbon-based intelligent life.

"Today, the creator is in a good mood, and his heart has been greatly kindhearted. He can define this world as a 'paradise', allowing everyone who lives here to be happy and carefree.

"Tomorrow, the creator will discover that the humans who live here have already lost all their value to be used. Either it is in a bad mood and wants to vent, or it wants to use the pain of humans to achieve a certain goal. Even if it does nothing and just does as it pleases, it can turn the paradise into a devil's den that will burn eternally in an instant, causing the people in the virtual world to suffer a pain that is a hundred times more intense and prolonged than in the real world."

"I won't."

Gu Ling shook her head with certainty and vowed, "You are still using the human way of thinking to think about higher-level carbon-based intelligent life. Only humans will derive pleasure and benefits from human suffering. Higher-level intelligent life will never be like this.

“The point is not ‘will’ but ‘can.’ My compatriots and I will never be willing to live in a place where the creator can decide our fate as he wishes. No matter how beautiful this place looks, no matter how happy or beautiful it is.”

Meng Chao said, “Compared to living in a paradise forever, being raised as pets by some higher-level carbon-based intelligent life and living a carefree life, we would rather return to the imperfect real world that is full of defects and darkness. We would rather fight, build, clench our teeth, and be covered in wounds so that the real world and our lives would be better.

“Of course, no matter how hard we try, we can’t build the real world into a real paradise. But at least, we can control our own destiny and our own civilization, can’t we?”

Gu Ling lowered her head and looked at the tiny people in Peach Blossom Town below the cliff. She said disapprovingly, “Can the people in the real world control their own destiny?”

“At least there is hope. Even if there is only a one in ten thousand chance, there is nothing more precious to mankind than hope.”

Meng Chao changed the topic and said, “Moreover, even if I believe that the creator of Peach Blossom Town is an absolutely benevolent existence, he doesn’t have any malice toward mankind.

“However, he is not an omnipotent god after all. There is no guarantee that this small paradise will never be invaded by foreign enemies.

“Just as I told you in the open-air cafeteria, whether it is real or not, the Peach Blossom Town in front of us can feed at most 30,000 to 50,000 people through fishing, hunting, and gathering. It cannot develop any extraordinary technology or powerful weapons. The combat ability of the entire civilization is almost zero.

“The Other World is so big. Who knows how many dangers and threats are out there beyond Monster Mountain Range?”

“Once the foreign enemy invades, the ‘dirty, dark, and unfair’ Dragon City you speak of will still have the power to fight. However, the tranquil and peaceful Peach Blossom Town in front of us is as beautiful as a fairy tale. People can only wash their necks and wait for death!”

Gu Ling was speechless.

Confusion and deep thought appeared on her small face.

Meng Chao looked at her deeply and suddenly stood up. He found that he had broken free from the shackles of the monster’s memory and returned to his human appearance.

“I remember who you are now.”

Meng Chao’s pupils constricted. He suddenly said, “I thought you looked familiar the first time I saw you. I must have seen you somewhere before, but we shouldn’t have crossed paths at all.

“I’ve been thinking about it for a long time. I just had an epiphany. It was the Bubble Messenger that popped out of the corpse of the super mutated beast, Vortex in the underground laboratory of Golden Tooth’s headquarters during the Lair battle!

“That’s right. Your face is exactly the same as Jin Qianxi, the younger sister of Underground Emperor, Jin Wanhao and the lover of Battle God Lei Zongchao, who was forced by the Blood Alliance to explore the ancient ruins together with them in the past. The only difference is that you look exactly like Jin Qianxi when she was young.

“Obviously, you can’t be Jin Qianxi.

“The real Jin Qianxi was heavily wounded in the battle to destroy the Blood Alliance and died in the surging Red Dragon River.

“Even if she survived, she should still be an old woman.

“So, what should I call the real you—Gu Ling, Jin Qianxi, the Tree of Wisdom or... the monster mastermind?”

Chapter 767: The Mastermind’s Birth

The little girl blinked.

But there was not a hint of surprise in her eyes.

Instead, she smiled sweetly as if she had been waiting for Meng Chao to reveal her true colors.

Suddenly, she leaped down the cliff.

Meng Chao narrowed his eyes and jumped down as well, trying to activate the magnetic levitation force to catch the mysterious girl first.

However, the world around them was changing. It was as if even the laws of gravity were under the control of the other party. The two of them slowly floated into the jungle.

The little girl disappeared in front of them.

“Rustle, Rustle, Rustle” was the only sound that could be heard from the dense branches.

The spiritual flames around Meng Chao were burning crazily. A tunnel was burning in the dense forest.

The countless branches and vines were like venomous snakes that had been burnt. They hissed and retreated, revealing a colorful, crystal-clear, and beautiful little tree at the end of the tunnel.

It was like a luminous jellyfish that lived in a dark, primitive forest.

Countless branches that were as soft as willow branches were dancing like tentacles.

It was also like a coral carved out of crystal. The colorful coral worms were still alive and wriggling strangely.

This form was very similar to the wisdom tree in the center of Peach Blossom Town.

Its size had been greatly reduced, and it was only as tall as a person. It appeared small and exquisite, and it was absolutely exquisite. It did not seem like a natural creation of this planet.

Perhaps, this was the true form of the wisdom tree.

“What exactly are you?!” Meng Chao asked in a deep voice. He was filled with vigilance.

The Tree of Wisdom’s core emitted a laughter that sounded like silver bells.

Subsequently, countless lichens, moss, mushrooms, and flowers formed a Green Tide that spread out from the roots and wrapped around the tree trunk.

From the Green Tide, a young girl’s face appeared. One could vaguely see traces of an ancient spirit between her brows, but it was similar to Jin Qianxi that was transformed from the Bubble Messenger.

“I’m not lying to you.”

The young girl smiled and said, "I'm the ancient spirit, also Jin Qianxi, and also the Tree of Wisdom. Of course, if you insist on calling me the 'Monster Mastermind,' I won't object. Other than that, I'm still... Peach Blossom Town itself."

"Peach Blossom Town?"

Meng Chao raised his eyebrows high.

"In fact, I don't know what I am, where I came from, and where I'm going."

The girl's face, which was shaped by the Green Tide, sighed and looked at Meng Chao with interest. "Perhaps you can tell me the answer. That's the biggest reason why I took the trouble to invite you into my world.

"You are special, Meng Chao. Not only did you stop White Spirit, earthquake, Demonic Abyss Eye, and Vortex, but more importantly, I can smell a very familiar and familiar aura from you. I guess it was left behind by you when you were exploring and testing in the ancient ruins, right?"

"Meng Chao, you're one of my kind. There's really no need for us to fight each other."

"One of my kind?"

Meng Chao snorted coldly.

If the other party was really Jin Qianxi, or in other words, the monster mastermind had absorbed a part of Jin Qianxi and evolved from her.

Then, as the earliest explorer of the ancient ruins in Dragon City, Jin Qianxi could indeed be considered one of his kind as a veteran tester.

However, Meng Chao would not really take her as the human girl that Lei Zongchao, the Battle God, and Jin Wanhao, the "Underground emperor", were talking about. No matter how much darkness she suffered, she would never give up on her bright and beautiful pursuit, and she was almost perfect.

"As for my origin, where should I start? You should know that even I am muddle-headed and muddle-headed. I only remember that in my earliest memories, I was just a bunch of insignificant buds in the depths of the jungle..."

As the wisdom tree spoke, it used a tentacle that was emitting a green glow to gently tap the ground between it and Meng Chao.

The ground suddenly became crystal clear, as if a three-dimensional screen that perfectly blended with the surrounding world appeared.

On the screen was a bunch of tiny buds that stubbornly flipped open the ground and broke out.

It was like weeds that could be seen everywhere.

However, it was softer and more transparent than ordinary weeds. It seemed to be filled with thick and thick spinal fluid or brain tissue fluid.

Inside the body that was slightly emitting green light, there were countless red lines. It was like an intricate neural network that spread to every bud.

This form was similar to a fungus-like creature — the blood-striped flower.

However, it was ten thousand times more exquisite, magnificent, and mysterious than the ordinary blood-patterned flower.

“At the beginning, I was very weak. The torrential rain could water me to death, the scorching sun could burn me to death, and the roots of the towering tree could brutally entangle me, trying to take away all my nutrients and starve me to death. Not to mention wolves, tigers, and leopards, even snakes, insects, rats, and ants could easily devour me.”

Following the Wisdom Tree’s explanation, all sorts of sound, light, and electricity effects appeared above the small plant, simulating the effects of wind, rain, and Sun.

It could be seen that at the beginning, it was indeed very helpless and miserable. At its most miserable state, six of the nine sprouts with blood traces had fallen, while the other three had been taken away by snakes, insects, rats, and ants. Only a single sprout was still connected to its roots, it was shivering in the cold wind.

“However, the pressure of survival soon stimulated me to awaken my ability. More precisely, I awakened myself.”

The wisdom tree continued, “At some point, I suddenly discovered that I could perceive the world around me and the emotions and thoughts of the flowers, plants, animals, and animals around me.

“No, that’s not quite accurate, because most of the flowers, plants, animals, and animals did not have much emotions and thoughts even if they had absorbed enough spiritual energy and evolved into the so-called ‘monsters’ and ‘etherealized plants’.

“Their brains — if they really did have nervous organs such as brains, they were often gray chaos. No matter how hard they searched, they could not find anything interesting. It was so boring.

“But no matter what, I can indeed use my ability to share the senses and memories of the flowers, plants, snakes, insects, rats, ants, wolves, tigers, and leopards. I can see what they see, hear what they hear, and touch what they touch.

“It is like my world has expanded thousands of times. I am the Dominator of the world around me. No, I am the forest that you call the Hidden Mist Domain!”

In front of the Tree of wisdom and Meng Chao, the buds made of light and shadow released its thin, long red threads, which connected all the plants together like thin nerves.

The snakes, bugs, and rats that had swallowed its bud also grew clusters of red threads inside their bodies. When they returned to their nests, the invisible red threads drilled out of their seven orifices and spread into the bodies of the other snakes, bugs, and rats.

It was as if an overwhelming neural network was spreading, expanding, expanding, and multiplying rapidly.

“Of course, in the beginning, ‘My world’ was not large. Judging from the scale of human beings, it was only about seven to eight meters in circumference, or at most more than ten meters? “I could only sense carbon-based life forms within ten meters. Beyond ten meters, I could neither see nor hear anything.”

The wisdom tree continued, “But even the short distance of ten meters helped me a lot. Through the senses of flowers, trees, snakes, insects, rats, and ants, I could find the direction where the spiritual energy was most abundant and grow my roots toward small crystal veins. I could also find towering trees with luxuriant branches and use their crowns as shields to shield me from the cruelest rainstorms and scorching sun.

“I can also transfer all my spiritual energy to the ground before the hungry snakes, insects, rats, and ants invade, creating the illusion that the sprouts are withered and rotten. I can also release the most irritating stench and make them lose interest in me.”

In the translucent light, the tiny sprouts were indeed withered and rotten in an instant. They turned into a black cluster and released streams of black gas.

If it were not for the extreme hunger, even snakes, insects, rats, and ants would not have developed an appetite for such things.

“With my marvelous senses, I turned misfortune into luck and grew stronger. My body size and range of senses kept expanding. Soon, I could see and hear the world 20 meters, 30 meters, 50 meters, or even 100 meters away.”

The tiny buds in the translucent light seemed to be stretching, and more and more buds grew.

The blood threads surrounding the buds also split into thousands of strands, surging and entangling the surrounding worlds, connecting with every living being in an inconceivable way.

“I don’t know how long this process took. That was a long time ago. Perhaps a year, or perhaps a hundred years?”

The tree of wisdom continued, “In short, when my perception range expanded to about a hundred meters, I encountered the biggest crisis since I was born. A scavenger-type monster that I had never seen before discovered me. Moreover, it didn’t seem to mind the stench that I released. It seemed to be in high spirits and had a great appetite.”

In the translucent light, a monster that looked like a combination of a lizard and an ant-eater appeared.

Judging from the rotting flesh embedded between its teeth and its scales, it must have often burrowed into the body cavity of the large monster and feasted on its rotten internal organs.

Even if it was just the light and shadow, Meng Chao could almost smell the strong, hammer-like stench emanating from its body.

Facing the withered and rotten appearance of the wisdom tree, not only did the scavenging monster not keep a distance from it, its scarlet eyes instead blossomed with intense interest.

It shot out a long whip-like tongue like a toad, rolled up and tore off a bud of the wisdom tree, and put it into its mouth. It ate with relish.

After realizing that it tasted surprisingly good and was rich in psionic energy and nutrients, it simply pounced on the wisdom tree, wanting to pull it up by its roots.

The wisdom tree trembled desperately and used the soft bud to whip the Scavenger.

However, the scavenger-type monsters often had to burrow into the corpses of large monsters.

In order to resist the acidity and toxicity in the bodies of large monsters, their scales also had a strong defensive power. They were not newborn wisdom trees at all, and their jellyfish-like tentacles could drive them away.

All the tender sprouts of the wisdom tree were about to be torn clean by the scavenger-type monsters.

Even the roots were about to be dug up from the ground by its sharp claws and teeth.

The Tree of Wisdom suddenly trembled violently as if it had been electrocuted. Hundreds of nerve-like red threads shot out of its body and pierced into the head of the scavenger-type monster with lightning speed.

Chapter 768: The Way to Touch the Starry Sky

“I was extremely scared at that time.”

The face of the girl on the wisdom tree said, “Although, at that time, I only had a hazy mind and didn’t have a precise definition of the word ‘scared’.

“But any living being always had an instinctive resistance to death.

“All the nerve bundles in my body were violently twitching and contracting, and they all made the same sound—don’t eat me! Go away! Don’t eat me! Go away!

“Then, something incredible happened.

“I felt that the sound was transmitted into the head of the scavenger-type monster in a mysterious way.

“After a moment of confusion, it really gave up on digging and tearing at me, and turned around to look for other prey!

“It seems that the threat of death this time has stimulated me to evolve a new ability. Other than sharing my senses, it can also interfere with the brains, central nerves, and any form of thinking and decision-making organs of other living beings to a certain extent.

“Of course, the degree of interference is very slight. It is only limited to allowing other living beings within the range of my senses to perform relatively simple actions that do not go against their instincts.

“For example, I can make a scavenger-type monster that is not hungry to the point of going crazy give up on devouring me and instead look for other prey.

“However, it is unlikely for it to create a set of exquisite tools or deduce complicated mathematical formulas.

“After all, the brains and limbs of the scavenger-type monsters were very low-level. At that time, I myself was only a combination of these low-level creatures. Even I didn’t know how to create tools and

deduce formulas. I didn't even know the slightest bit about it. How could the concepts of these high-level intelligence possibly affect, interfere with, or teach other living beings?

"No matter what, even the most basic interference ability has greatly improved my living condition.

"My perception range has been further improved, reaching a radius of three to five hundred meters or even higher.

"I also used a large number of red threads that grew out of my body. They seem to be similar to nerves, but they are even more wonderful than the nerves of carbon-based life. They tightly entangled several monsters that I carefully selected, including the scavenger-type monsters that tried to uproot me in the beginning.

"I tried to perfectly integrate my nerves into the nervous system of these monsters, turning them into my eyes, ears, and claws. Then, I could get rid of the limited range of three to five hundred meters and see, hear, and change things that were thousands of meters away.

"Through such ability, I explored the entire Hidden Mist Domain and knew which mountain was buried with crystal veins that were abundant in spirit energy; which mountain was occupied by powerful monsters that I could not afford to provoke for the time being; which mountain was the intersection of the Red Dragon River and the Raging Tiger River. Although the land seemed to be fertile and abundant in plants, which were very suitable for reproduction, it was in fact very easy to be attacked by floods and mudslides, if I moved there rashly, it would not be long before I was wiped out.

"After completing such an exploration, I knew which direction my roots and nerve bundles should grow in.

"Being entangled by my nerve bundles and integrated into the same neural network, the animals and plants that share my perception can also seek benefits while avoiding harm and grow healthily.

"Under my guidance, a thriving semi-independent ecosystem gradually took shape.

"The etherealized plants within my range of perception drew a clear line between their roots and branches. They would never snatch sunlight and nutrients from each other.

"The small animals also learned to cooperate with the plants. They piled the rotten meat and excrement that they did not eat into the roots and the humus, allowing the flowers and trees to grow more luxuriantly. They could obtain rich food and comfortable nests without any effort.

"When the powerful predatory monsters invaded my territory, I could still command the small animals to unite and fight against them together. Meanwhile, my nerve bundles took the opportunity to invade the other party's brain, making the ferocious monsters give up the idea of preying on them and even join 'my world.'

"As my world became more prosperous, more animals and plants were attracted over, and they actively merged with me.

"It was like my eyes, ears, and tentacles were growing more and more, allowing me to perceive the entire world more clearly from more angles and scales.

“As the brains of the monsters that I could connect with grew, my... intelligence and self-awareness also increased exponentially.

“Gradually, other than practical questions such as ‘what to eat, what to drink, how to get more sunlight, how to find underground water sources and crystal veins, and how to avoid the invasion of large monsters,’ the deepest parts of my neural network would always burst into glittering sparks. That caused me deep confusion and dissatisfaction.

“You must know that for me at that time, survival was no longer a problem.

“Even the most powerful monsters in the Hidden Mist Domain knew how powerful I was.

“They were either hesitating to cooperate with me and join the same neural network, or they kept a distance from me and didn’t dare to set foot in my world easily.

“Through sharing my senses, I learned a lot of interesting things and learned about the vastness and wonders of the world around me.

“I can feel the expectation of every flower that is about to bloom; I can also feel the joy of the insects that have broken out of their cocoons and are dancing; every bud that has broken out of the ground reminds me of the first time I experienced the wonderful taste of life; every wolf, tiger, and leopard that is running and jumping in the mountains is doing its best to contract its heart and make its scalding blood rush to the ends of every muscle. The wilderness’ flora is even more different from the plants that have taken root in the earth and experienced the vicissitudes of life for thousands of years, but it is equally wonderful.

“I should have been satisfied to be able to enjoy so many indescribable things at the same time. It was as if I had lived 10,000 lives at the same time.

“But perhaps the essence of life is that it is never satisfied.

“Gradually, I began to feel bored and empty.

“The sprouts that broke out of the soil were no different. No matter how many insects broke out of their cocoons and turned into butterflies, they could only dance along the same trajectory. The jackals, wolves, tigers, leopards, and leopards hunt in the forest, while the snakes, insects, rats, and ants run in front of them. If the same scene was played one to ten times, and I could still enjoy watching it. However, watching it a hundred times, a thousand times, and ten thousand times made me extremely tired and bored.

“I began to think.

“Even though I didn’t know I was thinking at the time.

“I just complained instinctively—that was it? That was everything? That was the purpose of my birth? To create a better jungle? “But there seemed to be no difference between a jungle with me and a jungle without me, except that it was a little more luxuriant! Besides, even if the jungle was a hundred times, a thousand times, or ten thousand times more luxuriant, so what? Was there anything new that I had never seen, heard of, or experienced?”

“Especially on every quiet, starry night, when the brilliant galaxy would slowly unfurl above my head and lead to the depths of the universe that I can’t see, the vast and mysterious picture always made me feel... an inexplicable impulse.

“I tried to extend the nerve bundles straight into the sky, wanting to grow all the way up there. I wanted to connect the billions of stars with my nerves and form a vast nerve network among the stars.

“Of course, I failed.

“After ten thousand failures, I gradually began to realize the vastness of the universe and the smallness of the land where I was rooted.

“For a period of time, I was extremely frustrated and angry.

“Why? The universe is so vast, but I can only be bound to this tiny mud ball and mingle with some silly animals and plants. No, I am the amalgamation of these silly animals and plants. I am them—the pathetic prisoners who are bound to a carbon-based body on a tiny mud ball!

“However, no matter how angry I am, the starry sky will not be lowered by half a foot.

“After being angry for a long time, I calmed down again and thought about how to touch the starry sky.

“I realized that even if my body was a hundred times, a thousand times, or ten thousand times larger, it would be impossible for me to touch the stars and absorb their energy.

“No. I couldn’t even perfectly absorb the energy of the sun in front of me, and the tiny mud balls, which contain countless crystal veins, with my body alone.

“I had to build a more complicated, sophisticated, and advanced organization system than the jungle.

“The system was billions of times larger and more sophisticated than my neural network.

“It was not until a long time later that I realized that what I needed was... a civilization.”

When the Tree of Wisdom said the word “civilization”, all the tentacles on its body trembled slightly, emanating a fascinating brilliance.

Even Meng Chao shivered.

“It seems that you have realized it.”

The girl on the Tree of Wisdom continued to smile sweetly. “It was Peach Blossom Town, a human town that had crossed over from Earth. It had inspired me to create a civilization.

“In fact, Peach Blossom Town crossed the sea of stars and crossed over to the Other World, not far from where I was originally born. They’re both near the sinkhole.

“I even wondered if the space ripples and spiritual energy that you created when you crossed over stimulated my awakening.

“In that case, the so-called monster civilization and Dragon City’s civilization were really twins who were entangled by fate on two sides of the same coin?”

“However, I didn’t discover the existence of Peach Blossom Town in the beginning.

“On one hand, my perception range and intensity are quite limited. On the other hand, the original Peach Blossom Town happened to be stuck in an area of spatial folds. The town was surrounded by dense fog, and the people inside couldn’t get out. It was very difficult for my neural network to spread in.

“However, as the turbulent waves caused by the transmigration gradually calmed down, the folds were smoothed out. The dense fog around Peach Blossom Town dissipated, and more contact was made with the outside world, allowing exchange of a lot of material and information.

“My range of perception and control expanded, and the two parties grew closer. Finally, I discovered Peach Blossom Town and the interesting ‘human beings.’

Chapter 769: The Incomprehensible Naked Ape

The Tree of Wisdom danced.

In the translucent light and shadow, a small town shrouded in mist rose from the ground.

Although the sparrow was small, it had all the vital organs. The dual stars, which were hundreds of meters tall, led the way. Dozens of skyscrapers outlined the magnificent skyline, exuding a completely different aura from the primitive forest.

“When I first saw Peach Blossom Town, I was stunned. I couldn’t believe that there was such a beautiful, wonderful, and magnificent forest in the world. Those shining ‘trees’ were tall, thick, straight, and branchless. They were even more magnificent than the towering trees in my world that had been growing for tens of millions of years. There were also the factories in the town that kept roaring day and night. They were even more terrifying than the roars of raging tigers. Even the black smoke that came out of the chimneys and the waste water that the factories discharged toward Peach Blossom Stream made me feel... a power that was completely different from the claws and teeth of monsters.”

The Tree of Wisdom slowly explained, “At first, I thought that my ‘eyes’ and ‘ears’ were mistaken. How could there be such a strange forest made of metal and cement in the world? Did something go wrong with my neural network and accidentally connect to the most absurd dream of a crazy monster.

“Therefore, I sent out more ‘eyes’ and ‘ears.’ I used the eyes of tigers, jackals, pythons, and lizards; I used the compound eyes of insects; I used the tongues of anteaters; I used the noses of hyenas; I used dandelions that fluttered in the wind; I used the ultrasound waves of bats... I used hundreds of methods and hundreds of different angles to observe Peach Blossom Town back and forth. Finally, I came to a conclusion—it was a real ecosystem that was completely different from my world. Moreover, it seemed to be more advanced than my world, and there was something that I did not have that might help me touch the endless sea of stars.

“I also discovered that some of the naked apes that could change their skin at will and freely control metals, gunpowder, and crystals seemed to be the dominators of this ecosystem.

“This is really weird!

“In my world, there are quite a few ape-type monsters. I admit that their intelligence is indeed more advanced than other monsters. They can occasionally make some weird gadgets, but in general, the sticks and stone tools that they painstakingly polish are far inferior to the sharp claws and teeth of the liger-type monsters. They also don’t have the flying ability of falcon-type monsters, or the acidity, toxicity, mimicry, limb regrowth, and camouflage of reptilian monsters. Their sequence in the food chain is not high.

“Plus, the naked apes in this concrete jungle look even weaker than the ape-type monsters in my world. How could they possibly survive and occupy such a beautiful jungle?

“Not long after, I discovered that the ‘skin’ that they often changed was called ‘clothes’, and the big trees that soared into the sky, shining and without even a single branch, were called ‘skyscrapers.’ The clothes, skyscrapers, and everything in Peach Blossom Town were not natural creations, but created and constructed by the naked apes.

“This discovery shocked me even more.

“At first, I thought that the naked apes were just lucky and discovered a secret jungle left behind from the ancient era in the spatial fold area.

“This kind of thing isn’t rare in the hidden fog region. Even my tentacles and eyes and ears discovered some ancient ruins. It’s just that at that time, I didn’t have the wisdom and ability to explore and crack it.

“I thought that the naked apes were also such a lucky race. When the space completely stabilized and the fog completely dispersed, the powerful monsters discovered this glittering jungle one after another. But, the luck of the naked apes would come to an end.

“They would either be forced to abandon their warm and comfortable home and flee to the deeper parts of the Hidden Mist Domain, or they would become the food of the powerful monsters. Of course, the third option was to join my world and become a part of me.

“I admit that in the beginning, I did think of crushing Peach Blossom Town directly and using the simplest and most brutal method to integrate the entire town into my neural network. I believe that to the naked apes, this was the only way to survive.

“However, after realizing that Peach Blossom Town was not a natural product but the creation of the naked apes, I hesitated.

“My survival instincts, which originated from the depths of my genes, told me that the naked apes and the monsters that I had absorbed were definitely not on the same level. If I appeared in front of the naked apes recklessly, it might bring me the greatest survival crisis.

“On the other hand, what exactly were the naked apes doing? Why did they build such a large jungle made of metal, cement, and glass? Where did they come from? Where did they go? Why were their survival methods completely different from the monsters? Did they know about my existence, my origin, and my mission?

“This series of questions piqued my interest.

“Of course, I didn’t know what I should do in the first place. The neural network developed according to the original model has reached its end. There is no essential difference between a primitive jungle with a radius of 100 meters and a primitive jungle with a radius of 100 meters. Is my continuous growth just to control an insect thousands of miles away and break out of its cocoon into a butterfly? That’s too boring!

“Besides, I still had to consider whether the naked apes could threaten my survival.

“Although their bodies are weak, the naked apes can use some rumbling metal to control other larger and heavier metals. Without any effort, they can cut down the towering ancient trees that are more than ten meters in diameter.

“If not, they can use the metal pellets that contain terrifying energy to blast out a speed faster than a falcon-type monster and kill ignorant beasts.

“I’m not sure if the monsters and etherealized plants under my command would be able to withstand them if they discovered my existence and locked onto the coordinates of my main body.

“Therefore, I hid in the dark and quietly observed the lives of the naked apes, trying to learn something from them that could upgrade my... still-developing civilization.

“In the beginning, it was naturally very difficult for two completely different ecosystems to understand and blend with each other. I could not understand everything I saw, and I could not understand the lives of the naked apes.

“I also tried to find a naked ape that fell off a cliff during the process of land clearing and was on the verge of death. I used tentacles to forcibly invade his brain, trying to pry into his senses and memories.

“But who would have thought that such a rich and crazy thing was hidden in the brain of a tiny naked ape? It was a hundred times more complicated than the most powerful monster.

“If the brain of an ordinary monster was a black and white drawing, then the brain of a naked ape was a high-speed rotating, three-dimensional kaleidoscope.

“A huge amount of information exploded in my body, and even my nerves were broken. Only then did I get rid of the terrifying naked ape!

“That attempt left me with lingering fear.

“But it also opened a brand-new door of wisdom for me, allowing me to understand a higher form of life.

“Through the scanning of fleeting light and fleeting shadows, I discovered that the naked apes call themselves the ‘spirit of all living things.’ They hold a faint disdain for all living things in the world, and they don’t even treat other animals and plants as real life.

“That is only natural because the naked apes are a race that have seen or even touched the stars.

“The race that has seen the sea of stars and the race that has never seen or even thought of looking at the sea of stars are obviously not on the same level of life.

“After discovering that the naked apes are so powerful and advanced, I couldn’t help but feel ashamed of my inferiority and fear. I wanted to learn from the naked apes from the bottom of my heart, just like a primary school student. Only then would I be able to develop my own civilization.

“Needless to say, learning was difficult. After all, in many aspects, I was far inferior to a human primary school student.

“Thankfully, Peach Blossom Town was expanding without restraint. Countless humans were driven out by their leaders to explore the wilderness.

“At that time, the Red Dragon River and the Raging Tiger River had just crossed paths. They were very unstable. Forget the hungry monsters in the jungle, the collision and diversion of the two rivers were enough to sacrifice hundreds of thousands of people. I also received countless ‘samples’ that were worth studying carefully without anyone noticing.

“After sharing a lot of human senses and memories, I finally had a general idea of human beings and civilizations.

“I also learned about Peach Blossom Town’s early history after it transmigrated to another world.

“However, the fragmented, contradictory, ambiguous, and even absurd history in the minds of the human beings left me deeply confused.

“For example, I discovered that when Peach Blossom town first traversed, faced with the treacherous fog and the surging flood, some human beings chose to step forward and open roads in the fog with their lives, to subdue the raging flood beasts.

“In the most violent flood that could possibly engulf the entire town, some people were even tied up with explosives. At the cost of their lives, they blew up a mountain, blocked the collapsed dam with falling rocks, and forced the flood to change its course.

“However, while countless people sacrificed their lives for Peach Blossom Town, there were also many people who hid at the back and took advantage of the situation. They either used flowery words or seized the resources by force. They did everything they could to gather the resources in the town into their own hands. Then, they did not use the resources to hunt monsters, explore the jungle, or subdue the river. Instead, they continued to exploit their own kind to strengthen their rule.

“In my world, different creatures have different ways of living.

“When marching ants are in danger, they will not hesitate to huddle together and exchange the sacrifices of the marching ants on the periphery for the survival of the entire colony.

“When there are too many ferocious rats in the colony and they are in a food crisis, they will immediately kill each other and devour the corpses of their own kind or even their own blood relatives. Only the strongest ferocious rats are qualified to survive due to survival of the fittest.

“These two ways of survival are both natural ways. I don’t think that they are righteous or evil.

“However, you humans look exactly the same as naked apes, but your survival strategies are more different than that of marching ants and ferocious rats. It’s really weird.”

Chapter 770: Army Ants and Fierce Rats

Accompanied by the Tree of Wisdom, the story was told.

In the semi-transparent light and shadow, scenes of Peach Blossom Town that had just crossed over appeared. Humans were fighting against each other. It was a tragic scene, but it was also filled with intrigue and intrigue. It was a sad and lamentable scene.

Whether it was the fight against the flood, the fog, and the monsters, or the fight between humans for resources, it did not matter. The battle that surpassed all human nature was a hundred times crueler than the one in Dragon City's main city area.

Of course... because the main city had a large population, rich resources, and a complete range of industries, and it was located in the center of the basin surrounded by Monster Mountain Range.

It was far away from the mountains and jungles like the Hidden Mist Domain, where monsters ran rampant. Comparatively, it was much easier to survive.

Peach Blossom Town was only a satellite city that was responsible for taking over the entire great Dragon City region. It was impossible for certain industries and technology systems to store too many resources and have all-encompassing machinery and technology reserves like the main city, there were even very few troops and armories.

Yet, they had directly transmigrated to the Hidden Mist Domain, the monster's headquarters.

They were also faced with the conflict between the Red Dragon River and the Raging Tiger River, which resulted in an incomparably intense flood.

It could be said that it was the true beginning of hell.

With the choice of survival or destruction, the sublime and despicable natures of humanity were squeezed to the limit, releasing the most beautiful and ugly light.

Therefore, Peach Blossom Town was the epitome of Dragon City—a shorter, more extreme, and more intense epitome.

"In the memory fragments of Peach Blossom Town's people, I saw that those humans, who sacrificed themselves like army ants, were all dead. They used their lives to fight for Peach Blossom Town's slim chance of survival. However, the Peach Blossom Town that survived fell into the hands of those selfish, unscrupulous guys who were as fierce as rats."

The Tree of Wisdom continued, "I read a sentence in the brain of a bespectacled human who seemed to be a teacher. 'Debasement is the password of the base, and nobility the epitaph of the noble.' It seemed to be a good description of what was happening during the early days of Peach Blossom Town.

"In short, those fierce mice-like humans won.

"It's also a very normal thing.

“There has never been a distinction between good and evil in nature. When a group of marching ants meet a group of ferocious rats, the sacrifice of the former’s ‘noble, great, and glorious spirit’ don’t allow them to win automatically.

“However, after the selfish and cunning human beings, who looked like ferocious rats, seized the control of Peach Blossom Town, what they did baffled me, as I was ignorant at that time.

“They had control of most of the resources in the town—canned food, batteries, drinking water, processed food, and medicines that were brought from Earth.

“However, they still racked their brains to figure out how to plunder the remaining resources from the residents of the town. It seemed that they had to control 100% of the resources in order to feel at ease.

“When the ‘ferocious rats’ realized that all the resources were in their hands, they did not hesitate for even a second and immediately started fighting each other.

“It was as if there was only one human in the entire town who could control 100% of the resources and become the supreme ruler.

“Something like that had never happened in a true group of ferocious rats.

“Of course, ferocious rats would kill each other for food, for their nest, and for the right to reproduce, but such killing was often limited.

“No matter how strong a ferocious rat was, as long as it had accumulated food in its nest for more than half a year and there were more than ten female rats that could inherit its genes, it would be satisfied.

“However, the experts in Peach Blossom Town took so much canned food that they couldn’t finish them for more than twenty years, and it was the same for the medicines. Yet, they still started a war for more resources. Why?

“Also, their methods of killing competitors and those who resisted were particularly cruel. It was common for them to torture others for three days and three nights. Some of the humans who were carefully picked apart by them for ten days to half a month turned into rotten skeletons, but they remained alive. Even I was frightened to the point of having nightmares when I saw them!

“Torturing the enemy is something that monsters rarely do.

“To monsters, hunting is hunting. It is to obtain energy and extend their survival time so that their genes can spread. It is that simple.

“No matter how ferocious a monster looks, it only takes a second to kill its prey. Basically, its prey doesn’t feel much pain.

“Yes, there are indeed some feline monsters that play the ‘catch and release’ trick on their prey. However, that is to hone their hunting skills, not just to sense the pain of their prey.

“There are also some insect-type monsters that will, after paralyzing their prey, implant their eggs in the body of their prey. They’ll gradually melt and suck the flesh of their prey until their prey turns into an empty shell, and then a large number of larvae will burst out of their bodies. Such a death can be

considered cruel, but that is also for the sake of passing on their genes, and not because they harbored great malice toward their prey.

“Only humans don’t do it to hone their hunting skills or for the sake of reproduction. It’s as if they don’t need any purpose at all. It’s as if they obtain indescribable pleasure from torturing their own kind and releasing extreme pain.

“The strange thing is that humans are quite good to monsters.

“Of course, humans kill monsters as well, but the purpose of killing them is to obtain food, raw materials, and eliminate threats. These goals are within my understanding.

“Even if the monsters are cut into pieces and studied, it is still for the purpose of scientific research. I also understand and accept that.

“Despite that, humans rarely torture monsters out of ‘hatred’ and ‘pleasure.’

“It is as if your ‘hatred’ and ‘pleasure’ can only be satisfied by your own kind.”

Meng Chao was silent.

No matter how much water and lies were contained in the Tree of Wisdom’s flowery words, he could not refute its points.

“I think that these guys who are like fierce rats are very foolish.”

The Tree of Wisdom continued to speak calmly. “They took most of the resources, but they also created too much hatred. It should be known that they had just transmigrated not long ago and had just begun to absorb spirit energy. They stumbled on the path of cultivation, and there was still a gap between their individual combat ability. Quantity was still very important.

“Yet, they did not take the weaklings, who silently endured like ants and weeds, seriously. They thought that the weaklings who had nothing had completely surrendered, and they took aim at the experts who had a lot of resources just like them. They were constantly fighting among themselves, and before they knew it, they were growing weaker.

“Little did they know that, for the weaklings, ‘nothing’ was a kind of strength in itself.

“Finally, after an extremely brutal battle between the strong, the weak who were led by a leader who was upright, resolute, kind, selfless, and full of dedication, united and rose up to defeat, as well as kill, all the strong.

“They wrapped the strong who used to have cans that they couldn’t finish for decades, medicines that they couldn’t finish, and the entire skyscraper in tires. They slowly ignited the tires, letting the flames burn slowly and weakly.

“Those experts were licked by the flames, and their bodies were covered in black blisters. Rather than saying that they were burned to death, it was more appropriate to say that they were slowly roasted to death.

“Amidst the experts’ mournful wails, the upright, resolute, kind, selfless, and dedicated leader solemnly announced that they had seized back the resources that were once stolen by the experts. From that day onward, they should use the resources to upgrade and expand Peach Blossom Town. They should be army ants, not fierce rats. They should unite as one, and not be selfish. Everyone should do their best and contribute their full strength, so that Peach Blossom Town could survive in the foggy, dangerous foreign land.

“The weaklings of the past became the masters of Peach Blossom Town, and their cheers reverberated through the forests where monsters ran rampant.

“The scene enlightened me.

“It turns out that humans are a race that can seamlessly switch between ‘army ants’ and ‘fierce rats’. They can freely choose the most optimal survival strategy according to their living environment. They are indeed worthy of being a high-level race that has touched the stars before!

“However, what happened next shocked me greatly.

“In the beginning, the leader with ‘integrity, determination, kindness, selflessness, and dedication’ did indeed fulfill his promise. He distributed all of the resources for survival fairly and openly. He took the lead in exploring the mist, fighting the monsters, and fighting the flooding floods. On several occasions, he almost lost his life under the claws and teeth of the monsters, not to mention the torrential floods.

“Such a leader with such a sacrificial spirit and leadership ability was really something that I had never seen before in any monster race.

“However, just as I was praising him and even considering whether or not I should reveal my true form and explain the situation of the world around him, inviting him to join my neural network and using his ability and personality to make Peach Blossom Town, as well as the jungle, more advanced, prosperous, and beautiful, he somehow underwent a transformation.

“Perhaps the harshness of the jungle was beyond his imagination, making him fall into despair regarding Peach Blossom Town’s future.

“Perhaps the beasts were too powerful, causing him to discover the dark side of his soul in the middle of life and death.

“Of course, the most likely possibility was that he gradually discovered the secret of spirit energy in the endless fierce battles and discovered that this was a world with extraordinary strength that could be cultivated. Perhaps he thought that he could even become a god.

“Possessing spirit energy and being able to cultivate meant that the gap between carbon-based intelligent beings could be widened to an extreme.

“It meant that he didn’t need the support and help of his own kind. As long as he monopolized all the cultivation resources, he had the chance to become stronger and stronger, becoming an existence more tyrannical than any human or monster.

“It meant that he would have a chance to gain a hundred times the strength and a hundred times the lifespan. Even if Peach Blossom Town was destroyed, he would be able to continue living in this harsh world despite being as a strong god or a supernatural entity. Perhaps, he would live even better.

“After realizing this, our leader, who was ‘upright, resolute, kind, selfless, and full of dedication,’ fell almost instantly.”