

Paradise 71

Chapter 71: Six Armed Demon In A Purple Dress

The Six-Armed Demon belonged to the undying species. Legend says that the undying were a new species that was born from drinking the water at the Fountain of Youth. They were called the undying not because they could not be killed but they had a long life. In this world, most of the human below transcendent had 360 columns on their Life Wheel and each column of Life Light represented one year of life. Even if all of the gray columns were activated at once, the most one could live was less than 720 years. Even gold-level creatures were not exceptions to this unless they upgraded to a transcendent.

Besides humans, most of the monsters below transcendent could not live more than 1,000 years. On the other hand, it was a different story for the undying. If they were not killed, they could easily live up to thousands of years, sometimes 10,000 years. They lived longer than most monsters did.

The Union Government's species research institute had captured more than 100 different types of undying creatures for research purposes. They found out that as long as the undying was not triggered by the outside world, it could wander in a room which was less than 10 square meters for a few hundred years. It did not need food or a drop of water to live. It seemed like their purpose of life was to wander aimlessly until their long lives finally came to an end.

Six-Armed Demons were alike the other undying. They wandered around the small area in Wangyou Forest all year round. They were like souls that could not rest in peace on the lands. The area where Six-Armed Demons usually gathered had lands that were barren and black. There were no flowers or any plants, only dried rotten wood but the trees were actually dead. That area was obviously distinguishable from the rest of the forest.

The area was the undying's hub because their presence there slowly absorbs the lives of things around them. If they remained in the same area for a longer time, plants would stop growing and trees would eventually die.

It was 7:30 at night and the sky was dark. Lin Huang hid behind the tree outside the border. Half of his head was showing, he was peeking at the barren land. Within sight, he saw three Six-Armed Demons in red dressed wandering, they seemed to be guarding their territory.

Lin Huang chose to wait patiently as it was not a smart move to trigger three of these monsters at the same time. The Six-Armed Demon's combat strength was the same as Bai's strength. If three of them were to attack him at once, he would die there if he failed to away in time.

The three Six-Armed Demons' dresses were less than 20 centimeters above the ground. They wandered eerily on the burnt land, slow like a person taking a stroll in the park. Lin Huang was a little scared as it was the first time for him to see a monster like this. It looked so much like the ghost that he saw in the movies when he was young.

After waiting for 10 minutes, finally, two of the Six-Armed Demons disappeared. It was coming towards his direction. "Xiao Hei, connect my Life Wheel with Bai's!" Lin Huang said to Xiao Hei immediately. Only

three columns in his Life Wheel were gray columns, he had to get Bai to kill a monster so that the Life Light in his Life Wheel would be completely full.

“Life Wheel has been connected!”

After hearing Xiao Hei’s voice, Lin Huang said softly to Bai, “I will go out later and once the Six-Armed Demon has noticed me, you will kill it that instance. Remember, you have to break the mask on her face!”

Lin Huang jumped towards the right side of the tree and waved at the Six-Armed Demon, “Come get me, beauty. Come catch me... Hehehe...”

The Six-Armed Demon immediately began running towards Lin Huang. “What the, why is it moving so fast!”

The six crystal jade arms came towards Lin Huang like sharp knives. If he was hit, his body would be sliced into pieces. “Bai, quick!” Lin Huang managed to dodge the collision. At the same time, a golden glow shone in the dark. A crimson gold sharp thorn stabbed between the Six-Armed Demon’s mouth and nose on its mask, it pierced through the back of its head. The other side of the thorn was connected to Bai’s back. Ever since Bai used the Flawless Card the last time, his Blood Power turned from red to gold and it was a few times sharper than it used to be.

The Six-Armed Demon stood still but there was no blood at all. The mask on its face broke, its body in the red dress and six arms started to disintegrate. Soon, it was left with its black hair on the ground. Seeing that the Six-Armed Demon had died, Lin Huang got up from the ground and patted the soil away from his body. There was something going on with his Life Wheel. The last three gray columns in his Life Wheel were filled with white Life Light. The 360 columns in Lin Huang’s Life Wheel were completely filled with white Life Lights!

“My Life Lights are finally full! As soon as I kill one more Six-Armed Demon myself, I would complete a Life Light Baptism and obtain a Life Seed to be upgraded to iron-level!” Lin Huang was getting excited. “Let’s go, we will search along the border to look for lonely Six-Armed Demons!” Lin Huang said to Bai and left the place.

As Lin Huang and Bai walked along the barren area, they did not see any other monsters at all. They walked for five to six kilometers and finally, they saw a couple Six-Armed Demons gathering around. There were more than five of them in a group; there was no way for Lin Huang to attack.

A couple of hours later after they were halfway through the burnt area, Lin Huang finally saw two Six-Armed Demons under a dead tree. However, one of them had a different colored dress. Instead of bright red color, it was a pale purple dress. “Could this be a mutated monster?” Lin Huang looked at the Six-Armed Demon in a purple dress for quite some time hesitant to attack it just yet.

The Six-Armed Demon in purple dress was staring into space under the tree while the one in the red dress was wandering less than 10 meters behind it, it seemed to be protecting the one in a purple dress.

Lin Huang finally came up a risky decision after observing the Six-Armed Demon’s habits and characteristics, “I don’t care, let’s kill the one protecting and then the one that’s staring into space.” They did not have a vocal cord and therefore, they cannot alert their companions when they were in

danger. Also, whenever they noticed there was an enemy around, they would move alone and not in a herd. What Lin Huang wanted was to use the gap of time before the mutated Six-Armed Demon could react to kill the one that was protecting the other one. By that, he could avoid fighting the both of them at the same time.

Lin Huang whispered to Bai, "I'll distract the one guarding and you must be quick to break its mask. Then use your Blood Power to lock down the one in the purple dress but leave that for me to kill." Lin Huang then went into the forest and waved to the Six-Armed Demon that was guarding. It saw Lin Huang immediately and plunged towards him. At the same time, the one in purple dress turned 180 degrees. It had a strange white mask and a pair of bloody eyes that opened suddenly, staring deadly at Lin Huang. Lin Huang had goosebumps that very moment...

Chapter 72: Transforming Into A Vampire

"Oh no!"

Being stared at, Lin Huang felt in his bones that something was going to happen. The Six-Armed Demon was mutated and much more dangerous than a vampire. Its ability in that purple dress was definitely no weaker than Bai. What scared Lin Huang was that the other Six-Armed Demon would plunge towards him.

By then, it was definitely impossible to escape. These demons moved at the speed of light and if they stood still, they would die. "Bai, kill the one in the front first!" Lin Huang yelled at Bai. He thrust his iron sword forward, his body like an arrow shooting towards the Six-Armed Demon.

Lin Huang knew that every second mattered in this battle. He and Bai must kill the Six-Armed Demon in front before the demon in the purple dress attacked them.

The Six-Armed Demon shot its six arms like six guns towards Lin Huang. Its arms seemed smooth but they were actually as tough as metal. It was nothing less than an iron-level armor, powerful. Its nails were like sharp knives, they glowed underneath the moonlight. Its six arms could transform into various killing weapons anytime it wanted.

The six arms shot at him like lightning. Lin Huang did not retreat but moved even closer. He knew very well that if he did not handle this demon's six arms, Bai will not be able to kill it with one shot. Lin Huang glanced at that demon in the purple dress which stood behind him. Lin Huang was slightly relieved as it hadn't moved, yet.

Lin Huang quickly started a short distance combat with the Six-Armed Demon. The iron sword in his hand slashed at it again and again. He was weaker than the iron-level rank-3 Six-Armed Demon. Lin Huang would be asking for death if they made a frontal collision and playing defensively was the only strategy that might work.

However, the six arms deviated from its original attack plan and began attacking like a tarsal bone maggot. Lin Huang's pupil shrunk, his no trail snow-stepping power had reached its ultimate level. He swung his sword again to defend himself from attacks. "Bai!" Lin Huang cried to Bai.

Bai sprang from the forest. It ran fast and a pair of crimson gold wings on top of his back emerged, turning into a spear. It shot the mask of the Six-Armed Demon. Just then, a ghostlike purple shadow appeared beside Lin Huang, a white glow was moving towards Lin Huang's heart silently.

"F*ck!" Lin Huang was sweating, he did not expect the Six-Armed Demon in the purple dress to sneakily dodge his attack. Lin Huang could not avoid it.

"Warning! You are being attacked. Within 0.3 seconds, your death rate would be 100%. An emergency plan is automatically activated!"

"Looking for available cards to solve the crisis... Looking for emergency plan... You can use your Provisional Transformation Card to transform yourself into a vampire to block the current attack."

"Would you like to utilize your Provisional Transformation Card?"

Suddenly, Xiao Hei's notifications popped out in his mind. When he heard the last sentence, he yelled "Yes!"

Just when he said that Lin Huang felt like the world was slowing down and his body was transforming at a rapid pace. He could not see what happened to his appearance, but he could feel that his body was different. A warm force was rising in his heart, there was a strange feeling on his back. He felt something springing out from his back. All at once, the world appeared red in his eyes.

In the bloody world, he saw what exactly happened in the battle that he was in. Bai's Blood Power wings were turned into a spear and almost pricked through the Six-Armed Demon's mask while the demon in purple dress was about to attack him from a meter away. The other side of Bai's Blood Power wings turned into another spear and attempted to attack the demon in the purple dress but it was blocked by its five arms.

An arm of the Six-Armed Demon in purple dress transformed into a long needle that looked like a poisonous scorpion and it was less than three centimeters from Lin Huang's chest...

"Block this!" Lin Huang had that thought immediately.

His heart was racing, he felt his back turn warm. Within seconds, a pair of red gold wings shielded his chest and collided with the sharp arm.

Bai, on the other hand, used his wings as a spear and pierced through the Six-Armed Demon's mask. After killing the first demon, Bai continued to slash the mask of the Six-Armed Demon in the purple dress.

Lin Huang did not care if the transformation to kill the Six-Armed Demon in purple dress may have prevented him from upgrading to iron-level. His Blood Power wings combined with Bai's attack turned them into two crimson gold swords. The swords pierced through the Six-Armed Demon in the purple dress.

It did not panic at all. Its three arms on the left held Bai's left Blood Power wing while the remaining three arms were defending against the attacks. Lin Huang retreated when the attack did not work because short distance combat was not his strongest trait.

However, the Six-Armed Demon in the purple dress seemed to know Lin Huang's intention. Its ghostly body followed him. Its six arms were turned into sharp knives and attacked Lin Huang like thunderstorms, again and again. Thankfully, Lin Huang's crimson gold Blood Power wings managed to block all the attacks.

Noticing that its attacks were redundant, the Six-Armed Demon in the purple dress was forced to retreat. Bai did not look anywhere else but stared deadily at the Six-Armed Demon in the purple dress. It stared back but upon realizing that it might lose the battle, it vanished.

"What, you're running away?! You have wasted my Transformation Card and now you're running away? I will not let that happen!" Lin Huang shouted and chased after the Six-Armed Demon in the purple dress. Bai followed behind him.

Chapter 73: Leveling Up To Iron-Level

After he was transformed into a vampire, Lin Huang's body was a complete copy of Bai's characteristics. His movements were as fast as Bai, they were chasing after the Six-Armed Demon in the purple dress but it was still faster than they were.

Initially, when the Six-Armed Demon in the purple dress gave up on attacking Lin Huang, it was already out of the attack zone of his Blood Power. Now that the both of them were chasing it, the distance was getting farther. Lin Huang could not get over the fact that the demon was getting away. He was almost killed by the Six-Armed Demon in the purple dress and he was forced to use his provisional transformation card. If he did not kill this Six-Armed Demon in the purple dress, he would never forgive himself.

Furious, he was utilizing his Spectral Snowsteps without even realizing. His speed was a few times faster and soon, he was near the Six-Armed Demon in the purple dress.

"Wait, can I still use my own skills while in transformation mode?!" Lin Huang thought he could not use his own skills after he was transformed. His eyes brightened up, "That means I can also use my 'Great Sword Scripture'!"

He caught up to the Six-Armed Demon in the purple dress soon and turned his right Blood Power wing into a sword and swung at it. It was the 19th style in the 'Great Sword Scripture'. The red gold sword was like an arrow plunging towards the back of the demon's head under the moonlight.

The demon had senses in its back and tried to dodge Lin Huang's attack. Just when it attempted to escape, it realized that one of its arms on its left was tied by a crimson gold object. Lin Huang had secretly turned his left Blood Power wing into a long rattan to tie one of its arms up while he attacked earlier.

The demon turned his head 180 degrees and stared a deadly stare at Lin Huang with its bloody eyes under the pale mask. It then plunged towards Lin Huang. Just when Lin Huang was plunging forward, it lunged at him as well. Their distance was so close. Its six arms were turned into six different weapons and attacked Lin Huang like a thunderstorm.

If Lin Huang was in his regular combat mode, he would definitely die under these attacks. However, now that he was transformed into a vampire that was the same with Bai, a mutated vampire, his combat level was also on iron-level rank-3, which was the same with this Six-Armed Demon in the purple dress. He was not afraid at all, his Blood Power wings were turned into a pair of sharp knives and collided with the demon's arms. Seeing that Bai was getting closer to Lin Huang, the Six-Armed Demon in the purple dress seemed to give its all so that it could kill Lin Huang before Bai arrived. It then used its ultimate skill, the Thousand-Handed Soul-Reaper at Lin Huang. Its six arms were so fast that they seemed to turn into more than 10,000 arms attacking him.

Lin Huang stopped attacking and started defending immediately and blocked all the Six-Armed Demon in the purple dress's attacks. Within seconds, they collided more than 100 times. Bai finally arrived, his Blood Power wings were extended when he was 10 meters away and attacked towards the Six-Armed Demon in the purple dress. It knew that it could not fight the both of them, it attempted to escape again.

Just when the Six-Armed Demon in the purple dress turned around, a crimson gold blade shone. It pierced through the back of its head and broke its mask. The Six-Armed Demon in the purple dress was motionless, its mask was breaking down and its body was fading away fast. Withdrawing his crimson gold blade, Lin Huang smirked, "Try to escape from me?! I've been defensive not because I couldn't kill you, but I was familiarizing the use of these Blood Power wings so that I could use my 'Great Sword Scripture' accurately."

Just when Lin Huang was done talking, a white glow flowed out of the Six-Armed Demon in the purple dress' head that was covered by its mask. Lin Huang was completely covered in the glow.

"You are experiencing a Life Light Baptism, abort from transformation by force!"

Xiao Hei's voice was heard and before Lin Huang could respond, he was withdrawn from his vampire transformation and turned into a human again.

His body was showered in the white glow, there were changes to his Life Wheel.

His Life Wheel that was made of gray stone was changing to a black metal one. Lin Huang knew that his Life Wheel was transforming into an iron-level Life Wheel. After it was turned into a black metal material, it shrunk into 1/3 of its original size and three circles of white columns were created. Each circle was the same with the Life Light columns, having 360 columns in each circle. However, it was not Life Light columns, but Life Power columns. If the inner circle was filled with Life Power, that would mean iron-level rank-1, the second circle would be iron-level rank-2 and the third circle would be iron-level rank-3. When all 1080 Life Power columns were filled, another round of Life Light Baptism would take place and he would be leveled-up to bronze-level.

Lin Huang had researched about this countless times on the Heart Network.

When the transformation of Life Wheel was done, the Life Light Baptism would end as well. Just when the Life Light Baptism was almost over, a black-gray colored bead that was the size of a thumb came out of the Six-Armed Demon's body and went into Lin Huang's body. It absorbed into his new iron-level Life Wheel.

Lin Huang looked into his Life Wheel. Among the Life Wheel that was covered in a white glow and more than 10 cards, there was an additional black-gray colored bead in it.

“Life Seed has been detected, do you want to turn it into a card?” Xiao Hei said.

“I can turn the Life Seed into a card?!” Lin Huang asked.

“You can directly turn it into a card without needing to add any materials.”

“If I turn it into a card and you escape from my body, does that mean that my Life Seed gifts would be gone?” Lin Huang was obviously concerned.

“No, Life Seeds are not really cards but they’re an object instead. If I were to escape from your body, the Life Seed would turn back into its regular form.”

Lin Huang was relieved after Xiao Hei’s explanation, “Alright, turn it into a card!”

Soon, Xiao Hei spoke again.

“It has been done. A new card is added, Life Seed Card!”

Lin Huang immediately looked at the Life Seed Card that he had just obtained. There was a fluffy gray-black ball on top of the card. He then turned the card around to read the detailed description.

“Life Seed Card”

“Life Seed Name: Sly Hands”

“Rarity: Rare”

“Type: Synthetic”

“Talent Effect 1: Finger agility +20% (Beginner)”

“Talent Effect 2: Attack speed of both arms +20% (Beginner)”

“Talent Effect 3: Flexibility of both arms +20% (Beginner)”

“Level-up Effect: With every upgrade, the three gifted effects would gain an additional 20% each”

“Card Remarks: Passable”

Lin Huang was shocked to see the gift card. He remembered clearly that the Sly Hands Life Seed would give an addition 10% only for beginner stage and each upgrade would also be an additional 10%. But now he was given a 20%. He thought about it and figured probably the Six-Armed Demon in the purple dress that he killed had a higher rarity. Therefore, the 20% talent effect was nothing out of the ordinary. However, he was still surprised at what he got.

“Beginner would get an additional 20% and if I am upgraded to gold-level, I would gain an additional 80% which means my speed would be twice as fast. This talent effect isn’t bad at all!” Lin Huang had finally achieved his mission to be leveled-up to iron-level. It was a bonus that he obtained a better Life Seed! He let out a gentle sigh, “I am finally an iron-level!”

Thinking of his characteristic changes, he tapped open his exclusive card to take a good look.

“Host: Lin Huang”

“Gender: Male”

“Age: 15”

“Combat strength: Iron-level rank-1”

“Life Seed: Sly Hands (Rare)”

“Combat Skill 1: Great Sword Scripture (Sword Skill)”

“Combat Skill 2: Spectral Snowsteps (Body Movement)”

“Monster Skill 1: Blood Power (Level-2)”

“Monster Skill 2: Robust (Intermediate)”

“Monster Skill 3: Powerful Strength (Intermediate)”

“Monster Skill 4: Magic Eye Deterrence (Intermediate)”

“Monster Skill 5: Absolute Defence (Beginner)”

“Summon Authority: Activated”

“Available Number of Summons: 2”

“Remark: Wow, you have finally been leveled-up to iron-level.”

“Finally, my combat strength is no longer ‘none’ like it used to be...” Lin Huang took a closer look, “There’s Life Seed added, combat skills and monster skills were separated. Now I can summon two monsters at once!” He had got used to ignoring Xiao Hei’s mean remarks. In conclusion, the journey into Wangyou Forest exceeded his expectation. Not only he was leveled-up to iron-level, the gift of the addition of his Life Seed was a pleasant surprise. Besides, he had also obtained an epic dragonkin summon card.

“Now I’m wondering when Miss Leng and the rest will complete their mission. I shall try my best to fill up the Life Power in my iron-level Life Wheel in the next few days!”

Chapter 74: Glorious Return

Lin Huang left the Six-Armed Demon’s territory immediately after he leveled-up to iron-level. Although he obtained a card piece for killing the Six-Armed Demon in purple dress earlier, he could not bear the sight of that monster. If he were to summon the monster on the street, people would be terrified.

After a fairly decent distance from the Six-Armed Demon’s territory, Lin Huang found an empty space in the forest and summoned the Undying Baby Dragon. It was a three-meter-long baby dragon and was pitch black. Its wings were about five meters wide when they were fully spread and there were horns on its head that were about 10 centimeters long. Its face was flat and round, looking nothing like the ferocious monster it was from the dragon family, more like an ugly monster that was quite adorable.

It rubbed its head against Lin Huang when it saw him, almost causing Lin Huang to fall from its playful act. "I did not expect you to have such great strength." Lin Huang smiled, shaking his head. He patted the baby dragon's head, "Since you're black, I'll name you Charcoal."

"With one more upgrade, Charcoal's rarity would be upgraded from Epic to Legendary. The concentration of dragon blood in its body would also be upgraded from beginner to intermediate." He then said, "Xiao Hei, I would like to use an Advance Card on Charcoal."

"You do not have enough Advance Cards."

"How is that possible? I remember that I have one Advance Card." Lin Huang knew he had kept an Advance Card and had been waiting for the perfect time to utilize it.

"To upgrade Normal Cards to Rare Cards, one Advance Card would suffice but from a Rare Card to an Epic Card, you require two Advance Cards. From an Epic Card to a Legendary Card, you would need three advance cards and from a Legendary Card to a Mythical Card, you would need five Advanced Cards. Lastly, to upgrade Mythical Cards to Godlike Cards, you would need 10 Advance Cards!" Xiao Hei finally explained the rules of upgrading.

Lin Huang was bummed. He only had one Advance Card at the moment and that card not enough, not even for Bai and the Sand Monster. He would be rewarded one Advance Card if he completed the mission and from then, he would still only have two Advance Cards!

"Even if you have accumulated enough Advance Cards, I don't suggest you upgrade your Undying Baby Dragon." Xiao Hei seemed to know what Lin Huang was thinking about.

"Why?" Lin Huang asked, confused.

"You do not meet the required qualification. The Monster Cards that you're able to master at the moment are limited to cards that are Epic and below. Monster cards that are Epic and above are temporarily sealed and can only be unsealed when you are a transcendent."

Hearing Xiao Hei's explanation, Lin Huang had to give up on his wishes of upgrading Charcoal. In reality, Lin Huang knew very well that even if Charcoal was not upgraded, its ability combined with Bai was sufficient for him to handle the risks at the borders of Wangyou Forest. If Charcoal was not restricted by Lin Huang's combat level, such dragonkin types were usually stronger than a common transcendent at birth. Bai, on the other hand, was a mutated vampire at bronze-level rank-3 since the very beginning.

Since Lin Huang was leveled-up to iron-level, Bai and Charcoal's combat strength was automatically upgraded to bronze-level rank-1. Lin Huang was fearless for what danger may lurk the border of Wangyou Forest because he felt safe with Bai and Charcoal. He trusted their strengths.

In the two days since he leveled-up to iron-level, Lin Huang has killed plenty of iron-level monsters with Bai and Charcoal's help. When the first 360 columns in the first layer of his Life Power circle for his Life Wheel was almost full, he got Xiao Hei to disconnect his Life Wheel.

He did that because he was concerned that Li Yanxing and the rest would figure out what he was able to do. After all, he was in Wangyou Forest to level to iron-level. If they found out that he managed to level-up from an ordinary person to iron-level rank-3, Li Yanxing and the rest would know that he had the ability to accumulate Life Power quickly.

Under normal circumstances, earning Life Power required the practice of Life Skill. By absorbing Life Crystals using Life Skill or the Life Light in Life Crystals and to convert them into Life Power. There were different grades of Life Skill depending on the conversion rate of Life Power.

A Life Power conversion rate between 30% to 40% would be considered as a Beginner Life Skill.

A Life Power conversion rate between 40% to 50% would be considered as an Intermediate Life Skill.

A Life Power conversion rate between 50% to 60% would be considered as an Expert Life Skill.

A Life Power conversion rate between 60% to 70% would be considered as the Ultimate Life Skill.

A Life Power conversion rate that surpassed 70% would be considered as Holy Life Skill. Lin Huang had never heard about any that surpassed 80%.

An iron-level's Life Power was 10 times concentrated than Life Power. A hundred years worth of Life Crystal could only fill 10 columns of Life Power even though the conversion rate was 100%. Aside from the Ultimate and Holy Life Skill, most of the Life Skills had a conversion rate of 30% to 60%. That said, a Life Crystal that was worth a hundred years could only fill three to six columns of Life Power.

However, even with sufficient Life Crystals, the level-up from iron-level rank-1 to iron-level rank-2 could not be done within a couple of days as it would take a large amount of time for Life Skill to convert Life Light into Life Power. With sufficient Life Crystals, it would usually take around two hours to convert one Life Power. Time spent on eating and sleeping aside, it would be good if a person could convert seven or eight Life Power a day. 360 columns of Life Power would take at least more than a month for the conversion to complete itself.

Of course, some people with unique body physiques would have a faster conversion rate which would result in a shorter conversion time. As for Lin Huang, the cycle was shorter. Whenever Bai and Charcoal killed monsters, they would absorb Life Light which would be converted into Life Power immediately and sent to Lin Huang's Life Wheel. As long as Bai and Charcoal killed sufficient monsters, Lin Huang could easily level up to iron-level rank-3 without needing to do anything.

Considering that he would need to be with Li Yanxing and the rest during the return trip, Lin Huang had to maintain his level at iron-level rank-1 so that they wouldn't find out. After disconnecting his Life Wheel, Lin Huang brought Charcoal and Bai to the borders of the forest to fight bronze-level monsters.

Since Lin Huang was leveled-up to iron-level, he could use his Life Power and had more combat skills now. Aside from the Blood Power wings, he had a couple of weapon rings on his fingers. A black armor, a sword, and a BlackEagle33 gun. The BlackEagle33 gun was especially useful – it can morph between a rifle and a pistol. It was no less powerful than a bronze equipment. It could easily kill a bronze-level monster when it was in the form of a rifle.

He used to be very careful wherever he was because of abrupt monster attacks but now, he feared nothing in the forests. He had only one goal at the border of Wangyou Forest – accumulate as many card pieces as he could.

Chapter 75: Leng Yuexin is Missing!

At the border of Wangyou Forest, a three-meter-long dragon attacked a group of bronze-level Viridian Wolves. A smirking young man who looked to be 15 or 16 rode on the back of the Dragon. He looked at the pack of Viridian Wolves that was running for their lives, seemingly unable to defend themselves in any way. Running on the ground was a young man with a pair of crimson wings in the shape of blades chasing after the wolves as well.

The dragon in the air was the Undying Baby Dragon, Charcoal that Lin Huang had just obtained not too long ago. It was Lin Huang who was riding on the back of the dragon and the young man on the ground was his partner, Bai. They were chasing after this group of Viridian Wolves as Lin Huang wanted a cool ride. Their bodies were muscular and they had fantastic muscles. Such monsters were in high demand.

Within 20 minutes, more than 30 Viridian Wolves were killed by Bai and Charcoal. Lin Huang combined the 30 card pieces into a complete Monster Card and took a look at it.

"Monster Card"

"Rarity: Normal"

"Monster Name: Viridian Wolf"

"Type of Monster: Mutated monster"

"Combat Level: Bronze-level 1 Star"

"Skill 1: Robust (Intermediate)"

"Skill 2: Blood Hunt (Beginner)"

"Summoning Limit: Activated"

"Card Remarks: Useless"

"Blood hunt? This seems like a tracking skill." Lin Huang's eyes lit up, he then read the skill description.

"Blood hunt (Beginner): After the skill is activated, the monster will obtain an enhanced ability to smell, allowing it to differentiate different odors within a 10-kilometer range. The monster will be extra sensitive to blood. In the presence of blood, the range of its ability would be enhanced and cover a distance of up to 30 kilometers."

"Xiao Hei, extract card skill!"

Lin Huang was excited about the extraction. A single monster could only go through one extraction. If he extracted *Robust*, his existing skill would be upgraded and if he extracted *Blood Hunt*, he would obtain a tracking skill. He wanted either one of those skills.

"Skill extraction activated... Randomly selecting one skill... Random selection completed... Congratulations, you have obtained – *Blood Hunt (Beginner)*."

"Cool, I finally got a tracking skill!" Lin Huang knew that after hunting monsters in the wild for such a long time that it would help him in battle. It would also help him in surviving in the wild in the future. Lin Huang kept the card and brought Charcoal and Bai to his next destination.

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Time passed and Lin Huang had been in Wangyou Forest for seven days but had yet to receive a message from Leng Yuexin. If he did not know her himself, he would think that Li Yanxing and the rest ditched him here on purpose. Fortunately, Lin Huang was different from who he was a few days ago. With Bai and Charcoal, he was unstoppable.

Within the few days since he leveled-up to iron-level, he got busy killing various monsters at the border of Wangyou Forest. Within five days, he had already managed to collect more than 3,000 bronze-level card pieces and combined three Monster Cards. He even obtained a complete Rare Monster Card from killing a monster. During this time, he used three Double Cards during crucial times and obtained double rewards from 10 cross-ranking kills, giving him 20 Function Cards. The only bummer was that the Rare Monster Card only dropped after he finished all his Double Cards.

It was the seventh day Lin Huang had stayed in the forest. Seeing that the sun was setting, he set up a tent in an empty plot. After that, he started a fire nearby and took out the meat slices that he prepared a few days back for a barbecue. He sat next to the fire with his legs crossed and he watched as the meat slices cooked on the grill as he relaxed with a drink in his hand. He had just bought the grill a few days back. Ever since he saw Fatty's complete set of kitchen tools, Lin Huang began thinking about taking good care of himself, even in the wild. It was ridiculous if he had to survive on snacks every single day so he got himself simple kitchen equipment and the grill was one of them.

The sky was getting dark as the meat slices on the grill turned a golden brown, smelling incredible. While he flipped the meat slices over on the other side on the grill, Lin Huang said to Xiao Hei, "Xiao Hei, please do an inventory of all the cards I have now."

"You have Function Card x25, Concrete Cards – Advance Card x3, Provisional Transformation Card x5, Mission Card x3, Treasure Card x3, Life Power Storage Card x2, Prop Card x3, Limitless Card x1, Flawless Card x2, Healing Card x3."

"Monster Card x9 – Charcoal (Epic), Bai (Rare), Tyrant (Rare), Alexandrian Eagle (Rare), Ox Demon, Lion-Headed Troll, Viridian Wolf, Demonic One-Eyed Ape, Spectre"

"Card pieces – Iron-level pieces x1027, Bronze-level pieces x3051"

"Take a look at my Exclusive Card." Lin Huang instructed.

His Exclusive Card popped up immediately.

"Host: Lin Huang"

"Gender: Male"

"Age: 15"

"Combat Strength: Iron-level rank-1"

"Life Seed: Sly Hands (Rare)"

"Combat Skill 1: Great Sword Scripture (Sword Skill)"

“Combat Skill 2: Spectral Snowsteps (Body Movement)”

“Monster Skill 1: Blood Power (Level-2)”

“Monster Skill 2: Robust (Intermediate)”

“Monster Skill 3: Immense Strength (Intermediate)”

“Monster Skill 4: Magic Eye Deterrence (Intermediate)”

“Monster Skill 5: Absolute Defence (Beginner)”

“Monster Skill 6: Blood Hunt (Beginner)”

“Monster Skill 7: Boundless Vision (Beginner)”

“Monster Skill 8: Third Eye (Beginner)”

“Monster Skill 9: Supreme Breath (Beginner)”

“Summon Authority: Activated”

“Available Number of Summons: 2”

“Remark: Still wandering in iron-level?”

The additional four skills were extracted within these few days. *Blood Hunt* was obtained from the Viridian Wolves, *Boundless Vision* was obtained from the Alexandrian Eagle, *Third Eye* from the Demonic One-Eyed Ape and *Supreme Breath* from Spectre.

Lin Huang was familiar with the new skills but he did not use them often. He kept his Exclusive Card and was ready to gobble up the meat slices. Just when he was enjoying the food, a warning came from Xiao Hei.

“Warning: There’s a situation, the content of your Mission Card has been changed!”

“New Mission: Enter deep into Wangyou Forest to look for Leng Yuexin who’s currently missing. Return her back to Carefree City! Mission time limit: 20 days.”

“Mission Completion Reward: Prop Card (Relic Level) x1, Advance Card x1”

“Punishment If Mission Is Incomplete: Two Monster Cards will be randomly removed.”

Chapter 76: Running Away After A Tease

“Oh my God, that’s insane! Do you want me to die that badly?!” Lin Huang shouted. He did not expect to get such a difficult mission. It was basically suicide after having enjoyed himself for the past few days.

“Xiao Hei, don’t you feel uneasy? What does your conscience say?!” he asked Goldfinger.

“No. I don’t have a conscience,” it replied, unphased by his panic.

“...” Lin Huang did not know what to say. He then said loudly, *“I decline this mission!”*

“You cannot decline, you can only surrender. Giving up on a mission would mean the mission failed and you will be punished,” Xiao Hei said.

“Are you sure you want to give up the mission?”

“I’m not giving up...” he muttered angrily under his breath.

Lin Huang held back from swearing out loud. Even if he did not have Charcoal, his Epic dragonkin card, he would not want to go into the Wangyou Forest. However, if he was to give up the mission, the price he had to pay would be too high as there was a 20% chance he would lose Charcoal. As long as he had cards like Bai and Tyrant he would be alright as they were Rare cards that could be easily cultivated and only needed one Advance Card to upgrade them. As for Charcoal, not only was it an Epic Card, it was a dragonkin. With his terrible luck in gambling, if he was to lose this card, he had no idea if he’d ever get such a card again.

“Xiao Hei, can I return the pending Mission Cards that I have? If returning them is not allowed, it should be okay for me to trade them with other cards right?” Lin Huang was now afraid of Mission Cards.

“No returns are allowed for all cards produced!” Xiao Hei replied.

“How about I throw them away? Maybe, you can crush them into card pieces for me?” Lin Huang asked.

“All cards are bonded to you. Once these cards are a certain distance away from you, they’ll be teleported back to you. Mission Card are to functional cards and cannot be crushed!”

“I can’t even get rid of it... This is ridiculous!” Lin Huang was speechless.

He had to accept the reality. He then looked at the Mission Card and was shocked to find out that he was only left with two Mission Cards. Based on Xiao Hei’s calculations earlier, there should be three of them. Now one was activated and another had yet to be activated.

“What happened to my Mission Card? I seem to remember having one that was activated and two that are inactive.” Lin Huang mumbled.

“Whenever there are changes to the mission, it will consume one unactivated Mission Card. After the changes happen, you’ll receive double rewards if you complete the mission and the penalty would be doubled if you fail.”

Xiao Hei explained immediately.

“Luckily I still have one Mission Card. After this mission has needed, I’ll activate the remaining Mission Card once I am back in the foothold.” Lin Huang made his decision.

He then took out the active Mission Card and read the description.

There was a flirtatious blonde lady in a black maid attire on the golden Mission Card.

“Congratulations, there are changes to your Mission Card due to unforeseen circumstances!”

“Now, let me announce your new mission!”

“Details of the new mission as follows: Venture deep into the Wangyou Forest. Look for the missing Leng Yuexin and bring her back to Carefree City! Mission time limit: 20 days.”

“Mission Completion Reward: Prop Card (relic) x1, Advance Card x1.”

“If you fail to complete the mission within the given time frame, you’ll be penalized: Two existing Monster Cards will be taken away at random!”

“Mission announcement complete. Mission details such as the mission map can be found behind the card.”

After completing the announcement, the blonde lady became motionless once more.

“There’s a Mission Map?” Lin Huang was just thinking how he would find Leng Yuexin in the vast Wangyou Forest until he heard the part of the mission announcement from the blonde lady.

He turned the card around and tapped on it and a three-dimensional map appeared before him.

There were two coordinates on the map. He was the white spot and the yellow spot had a description – Leng Yuexin’s last seen location before she went missing.

There were several coordinates with question marks that had the following description – Areas Leng Yuexin has been before’.

“Can you show me the location of Li Yanxing and the rest?” Lin Huang asked.

“Invalid. Not mission target, coordinate request denied.”

Lin Huang frowned, “How about showing the time Leng Yuexin last appeared on the marked locations chronologically?”

The question marks then turned into the numbers ‘1’, ‘2’, ‘3’ and ‘4’.

Looking at the last coordinates she was last seen at, Lin Huang confirmed that Leng Yuexin and the rest were looking for something.

“Mark the distance between us and map a path to the coordinates.”

Soon, a red arrow appeared on the map.

“Oh my god. It’s 300 kilometers away...” Lin Huang frowned again.

He looked at the three-dimensional map that appeared from the Mission Card for a while before noticing the roasted meat slices on his plate that was getting cold.

He then kept the Mission Card and heated the sliced meat once again. He proceeded with his dinner. While he thought about the mission he just received, he ate his dinner slowly. When he was done with dinner, it was already eight o’clock at night and was completely dark outside. After cleaning up, Lin Huang summoned the Viridian Wolf and Specter to stand watch for the night while he went into his tent. Lying in the tent, he did not sleep but instead, studied the map on the Heart Network, comparing it with the one he saw on the Mission Card. At the same time, he browsed news articles that were related to Wangyou Forest to see if there was anything more he could learn about it.

He then sent Yi Yeyu a message at 11 o'clock at night, "Are you asleep?"

"What's up?" Yi Yeyu replied almost immediately.

"Nothing much, I just have something to ask you," Lin Huang replied her message.

"Haha, you must've failed to level up to iron-level, am I right?! I told you not to go after the Six-Armed Demon for you Life Seed, but you wouldn't listen!" Yi Yeyu sent back a wall of text with a mocking emoji at the end.

"You're wrong, I have successfully leveled-up. I need to ask you something else," Lin Huang replied. After he obtained the Life Seed – Sly Hands, he realized that his typing speed had improved.

"Yeah right. Go on, continue with your made-up story," Yi Yeyu left an uninterested emoji after her reply.

"I want to know if anything happened in Wangyou Forest recently?" Lin Huang finally got the chance to ask his question, side-stepping her ego provoking replies. "I can't find anything on the Heart Network and Hunter Network. You're a Gold Hunter, you must have more access in terms of information so I thought I'd ask you," he continued.

"Let me take a look," she replied. After Yi Yeyu sent that message, she requested for a video call shortly after.

Lin Huang hesitated and accepted the video call. In the video, Yi Yeyu was seen sitting on a luxurious couch with a red drink in her hand. Seeing the environment Lin Huang was in, she was stunned. "Are you in the wild?" she asked.

"I'm still in Wangyou Forest," Lin Huang nodded and smiled.

"You're in a tent inside the level-4 Wangyou Forest? Are you crazy?!" Yi Yeyu did not expect Lin Huang to have the audacity to do something so foolish.

"I'm only at the border, I'll be fine," Lin Huang said with a smile.

"I think you should get out of the Wangyou Forest as soon as possible. It's not safe now. I've checked about the thing you asked me earlier, but I didn't get much information. I didn't think I had much access anyway so I got my brother to check it out as well. There was an unconfirmed report.." Yi Yeyu trailed off, and her tone of voice became serious.

"What is that?" Lin Huang frowned, he could sense that the news must be bad.

"The monitoring bureau recently discovered that there was an unusual shockwave coming from the center of Wangyou Forest. It could be a monster that is in the midst of leveling up into a transcendent. From the intensity of the wave, the monster is at least a mutated monster or could even a monster that had gone through a double mutation! No matter how accurate the information is, you best leave Wangyou Forest now. Don't stay there even if you fail to level up to iron-level." Yi Yeyu told Lin Huang the news that Yi Zheng had discovered.

"Okay, I understand," Lin Huang nodded. "Thank you, beautiful. I need to wake up early tomorrow, I'm hanging up now."

He waved to Yi Yeyu who was in the video and hung up the phone straight away.

“How dare he hang up my call?!” Yi Yeyu scream when she realized Lin Huang hung up her phone as the screen turned black.

Lin Huang did not think much about the matter. The reason he did not look for Yi Zheng was that he always thought Yi Zheng would ignore calls 90% of the time if the caller ID showed a male caller or rather... That’s what Lin Huang would do. That was why he decided to call Yi Yeyu instead. Yi Yeyu was pissed because she did not expect Lin Huang to hang up right after he got what he wanted. After the call, Lin Huang looked into the incidents that involved unusual shockwaves on the Heart network but he found nothing. Since it was quite late, he decided to sleep...

Chapter 77: Tracking Footsteps

It was a peaceful morning in the Wangyou Forest. The sun was shining through to the leaves on the ground and the drops of morning dew could be seen on the leaves, colorful from the refraction of light. Whiffs of a fresh green fragrance were sent by the wind into Lin Huang’s tent. He was awake early that day and he had a good night sleep all through the night. Although he had Leng Yuexin’s news on his mind, he did not worry about it as that would have been unnecessary.

He had breakfast and departed after dismantling his tent and packed it away. He chose Bai and the Viridian Wolf as his companions this time. If he summoned Charcoal, monsters that were below silver-level would run away from him but gold-level monsters might consider it a challenge. Moreover, there was a possibility that there was a transcendent monster in the forest. Lin Huang was mistaken as god’s descendant the last time and that had attracted a transcendent monster. If Charcoal, his dragonkin monster was discovered by the transcendent, he could not imagine what kind of trouble that would bring him.

Moreover, flying above the Wangyou Forest would make him an easy target for an attack by powerful monsters as there would be no trees around. Although it would have been a different story with the Viridian Wolf. Its keen nose gave it a useful advantage against any lurking dangers as it could detect enemies from a distance. With its speed, the 300 kilometers to the coordinates where Leng Yuexin was last seen would only take the beast a mere two hours run.

Lin Huang and Bai rode on the back of Viridian Wolf. They made stops in between to rest up so in case a monster attacked them midway, they’d all still have the energy to fight even after the long journey. Whenever the Viridian Wolf caught the scent of a nearby strong monster, it would deviate to another route and continue. When it was close to noon, they finally arrived at the first coordinate where Leng Yuexin was last seen.

Lin Huang then activated *Blood Hunt* and caught the scent of Leng Yuexin and Li Yanxing. He followed the odor and arrived in front of a giant rock. It was a black rock that was 10 meters high, and a small part of it was buried in the ground while the top was showing. The smell was strongest near the giant rock so Lin Huang was sure that they made a stop at the giant rock or at least touched it as they traveled.

He walked around the rock but he could not find anything. However, it was absurd for such a huge rock to be lying there in the middle of Wangyou Forest. If it was a meteorite, there should have been craters

around it, but the terrain was flat and undisturbed. With a few doubts in mind, Lin Huang browsed through the Heart Network for anything that mentioned a giant rock in the forest. Surprisingly, there was quite a lot of information about it and it was once a hot topic in Division7. How the topic of this black giant rock became popular was peculiar as it all started when many claimed that no one could move the rock. People saw the thread on the network and tried to move the rock but even a Gold Hunter who was among the top 10 on the leaderboard tried his best to no avail. The rock remained firmly planted in its position. That was why it became one of the hot topics for quite some time in Division7 as many were guessing the origins of the rock itself. Many of them thought it was a meteorite while others thought it was moved there by a transcendent out of boredom. There were even some that said it was a seal for the back luck of the city buried beneath it...

After browsing through the many speculated theories of the topic, he realized that it was totally unrelated to the transcendent monster. He turned off the network and looked around the place again. He could not find anything and left. 10 minutes later, Lin Huang and Bai found the second spot where Leng Yuexin was last seen. He activated *Blood Hunt* again and found the exact location where Leng Yuexin and the rest had been.

It was scorched ground – dead earth with cracks that looked like spiderwebs that spread as far as 10 kilometers. The burnt soil bulged around the cracks, seemingly cracking from the inside out. Lin Huang found a crack that was as wide as a palm and tossed a stone in to find out how deep it was. He did not hear any sound to confirm if the stone had touched the ground so he was not able to tell how deep it was. He browsed the Heart Network again but there was nothing about it.

“It seems like these cracks just appeared recently...” Lin Huang took a couple of photos of the cracks, looked around the area and left. Within half an hour, he found the third and fourth coordinates where Leng Yuexin and the rest were last seen and both had the similar strange cracks like the second location. Aside from that, he did not discover anything else. He took some photos once again and left. This time, he headed to the last location Leng Yuexin was seen at before she went missing.

Within 20 minutes, the Viridian Wolf brought Lin Huang and Bai to the final destination. They got off the Viridian Wolf’s back and Lin Huang activated *Blood Hunt* again. Following the scent he was familiar with, he found the exact coordinates where Leng Yuexin had last been. The Mission Card showed that the coordinates were 300 kilometers to the north and Lin Huang found the location easily. It was a giant waterfall with a giant pool beneath the waterfall. Leng Yuexin and Li Yanxing’s scent completely disappeared around the waterfall.

“There must be something here. Perhaps there’s a cave behind this waterfall?” Lin Huang thought and frowned as he looked around the waterfall but there did not seem to be anything unusual.

He then recalled the Viridian Wolf and summoned the Specter. As it was a spirit, it was similar like the crows he saw previously, lacking a physical form so it was able to pass through objects.

“Specter, see what’s behind the waterfall,” Lin Huang instructed the Specter. The black phantom floated on top of the lake and disappeared into the waterfall. Soon, it came out from the waterfall.

“Is there a cave or cavern that connects to another location?” Lin Huang asked.

The Specter shook its head.

“No cave?” Lin Huang was skeptical. “It doesn’t look like there’s anything else nearby...”

Lin Huang then looked at the quiet pool and thought, “Could it be under this pool?”

“Specter, go underwater to see if there’s an underground cave beneath the pool!” Lin Huang gave his instruction immediately.

The Specter dived into the water without making a single ripple on the surface.

Lin Huang sat by the pool and anxiously waited for the results. If there was no clue under the pool, he would have no idea how he would find Leng Yuexin at all.

It took more than half an hour this time. If it was not for Xiao Hei who would notify him if the Specter was dead, he would have thought that it had been killed by an underwater beast. 40 minutes in, the Specter finally emerged from the pool.

“Is there an underwater cave?” Lin Huang asked immediately.

The Specter nodded.

“That’s it!” Lin Huang concluded that Leng Yuexin and the rest had dove down under the pool and prepared himself for the descent.

Chapter 78: Encountering A Transcendent Monster Again!

Looking at the quiet pool before him, Lin Huang frowned. Since the Specter needed more than 40 minutes to get to the bottom of the pool, that meant the pool was deep. Although he got a diving suit from Xue Jie during the Reserve Hunter assessment, he was not sure if he could dive that deep even with the suit. Furthermore, there was no way for him to breathe underwater. With his iron-level rank-1 body, the air pressure at such great depths could be an issue for him.

After much thought, Lin Huang came up with a plan. He would use a Provisional Transformation Card to transform himself into the Specter. As long as he was in spirit form, he could pass through things and even dive deep into the water without a worry.

“I still have five Provisional Transformation Cards, each card will allow me the ability to transform for an entire day. Even if this takes more than a day, the most I’d use up would only be two cards,” he thought. After figuring out how many Provisional Transformation cards he needed, he took out one of them.

“Transform into the Specter,” Lin Huang confirmed the monster that he was transforming into and crushed the card. After the card was crushed, it turned into a white glow that enveloped his body. Soon there were changes to his body. Within seconds, he became grayish black, translucent cloud. He looked exactly the same as the Specter. He recalled Bai and instructed the Specter, “Lead the way, I’ll follow you into the water.”

the Specter floated slowly to the middle of the pool and dove in the water. Lin Huang hesitated for a moment, but then followed suit. Although he knew that the form he was currently transformed into would not be affected by water, it was still uncomfortable for him. After successfully diving into the water, Lin Huang did not feel any pressure at all. He could only sense that the temperature around him

was dropping. As he followed the Specter into the pool, there were no obstacles before them. It felt the same as when he was floating into the air. He also realized that in this form, breathing was unnecessary and he had no heartbeat. As he dove deeper, he began getting the hang of his new body.

More than 10 minutes later, Lin Huang arrived at the bottom of the pool with the guidance of the Specter. He noticed that the size of the pool was much bigger than the one he saw from above. The Specter then pointed in a direction and led the way for Lin Huang. Following the Specter, Lin Huang saw a slope towards an underground cave after about six minutes. Undercurrents were flowing into the cave.

“Let’s take a look.” Lin Huang instructed the Specter. It dived into the cave and Lin Huang followed.

The underground cave was long and narrow. Lin Huang followed the Specter for almost half an hour before they arrived at the other side of the cave. Coming out on the other side, he realized that they were at an underground river. He got out at the water and into an underground world. There was dry land next to the river with countless stalactites above, hanging almost 10 meters from the ground. There were so many caves around the place and Lin Huang had no idea which way he should go.

Lin Huang got out of the water. He then recalled the Specter and summoned Bai. Bai could attack at the longest distance and he was the second strongest among Lin Huang’s monsters right after Charcoal. Moreover, his size was perfect for the mission. Although he knew that the river water had washed away most of the scent for Leng Yuexin and the rest, Lin Huang decided to activate anyway. He wanted to see if he could find even the slightest clue with it, which was better than nothing.

Lin Huang did not catch their scent after was activated, but he caught a whiff on the intense iron-like scent of blood in the air. Aside from blood, he caught the scent of an unfamiliar odor that was similar to a plant but was very unpleasant. Although his expression could not be seen as he was transformed into the Specter, Lin Huang was frowning. The pungent smell made him uncomfortable.

He hesitated for a while and decided to look for the source of the bloody smell to get to the bottom of the mystery. That was the one and only clue that might lead him to Leng Yuexin.

“Here...” Lin Huang pointed towards the direction of the smell. Bai nodded and led the way while Lin Huang followed behind him. In the complicated underground cave, Lin Huang and Bai made many turns as they followed the scent. Almost an hour later, they finally arrived near their destination.

“Slow down, be careful,” Lin Huang said to Bai. Bai then slowed down after he heard Lin Huang’s instructions. 10 minutes later, he saw a light after a turning. He peered around at the light source. It was a massive cave that was nearly 100 meters high. In the middle of the cave, there was a light blue semi-transparent monster that floated in the air. The light was coming from the monster’s body. This monster looked like a deep-sea jellyfish from Earth. To be exact, it was more like a deformed deep-sea jellyfish. Not only was it many times bigger, there were countless eyeballs of different color on its body. Some were closed while some were opened. Those that were closed were filled with spots of various colors. Its tentacles were swaying in the air like the flowing dress of a lady during the summer festival.

Lin Huang recognized it as the transcendent monster immediately as the aura coming off the monster was even stronger than the black python that he encountered earlier. The unpleasant scent that he caught from *Blood Hunt* was coming from this monster together with the smell of blood. Lin Huang then

activated *Boundless Vision* and looked around the transcendent monster. Aside from blood on the ground, he did not see Leng Yuexin and the rest.

“Could they have been eaten by the monster?” Just when Lin Huang was thinking, the transcendent monster seemed to sense a disturbance. Its light blue tentacles darted towards the cave entrance where Lin Huang was located at the speed of light. Lin Huang recalled Bai immediately and flattened himself against the wall. The light blue tentacles seemed to detect Lin Huang even though he went through the cave walls. It looked around the cave and retracted its tentacles. Since it did not find anything at all, the transcendent monster thought it was being too sensitive to its surroundings.

Lin Huang was drenched in cold sweat. If he was a second too late, he would have been crushed to death by the monster. The attack of transcendent monsters worked on spirit-type monsters. He did not dare look in the monster’s direction anymore.

“Leng Yuexin and the rest should still be alive, if they were dead, Xiao Hei would definitely notify me that I failed the mission. The blood on the ground could possibly be theirs as they might have been hurt as they entered the underwater cavern. There were only two possibilities, they might be hidden by the monster somewhere else or they may have already escaped...” he thought.

“But if they’ve managed to escape, the description on the mission card would not ask me to look for Leng Yuexin and bring her back to Carefree City. The description was clear – Leng Yuexin was in some kind of trouble, so the first possibility was more likely. However, there’s another possibility where they may have managed to escape the battle but were badly injured so they were unable to leave Wangyou Forest...”

Lin Huang analyzed the situation and came up with the two most likely scenarios.

Chapter 79: Li Yanxing’s True Colors

In the massive underground cave, a light blue deep-sea transcendent monster floated in the air. Its body occupied a third the space within the cave and its long tentacles swayed mid-air, looking relaxed, waving gently to no apparent breeze. The blue light emitted from its body lit up the entire cave. Behind the wall, at a corner of the cave, Lin Huang was hiding in his spectral form, planning his next move.

“Now, the only clue I have is the blood on the ground. Although I can’t confirm if it belongs to Leng Yuexin and the rest, there are no other options left,” Lin Huang thought to himself before investigating the only clue he had.

He passed through several layers of granite through the wall to a corridor. He then activated *Blood Hunt* to look for any traces of the scent of blood that remained in the air. Before this investigation, he was worried that he would not get any results at all as hunters would usually take care of their wounds whenever they were injured to prevent monsters from tracking them down. Many monsters were sensitive to the smell of blood. If Leng Yuexin and the rest had already taken care of their wounds, then the scent should have been weak.

However, Lin Huang was lucky as he managed to catch a whiff of the remaining scent of blood in the air. The scent was far from where the transcendent monster was at. Lin Huang was relieved when he found out and headed towards the direction immediately.

Along the way, he noticed that there were bloodstains on the ground. It seemed like the person was clumsy when they ran, not having enough time to cover up their trails.

Following the scent, Lin Huang walked along the corridors for more than an hour. He then found a dead body. The dead body was leaning on the wall of the corridor, completely burnt to a crisp. Lin Huang recognized that the corpse as the young man in the hat that was with Leng Yuexin. From his dead body, it seemed like he was burned with a hot flame but Lin Huang could not detect any burnt odor. The smell coming from the corpse was the pungent, unpleasant smell of poison. There was a wound on his waist which seemed like he was slashed with something sharp.

“There’s a high possibility that the wound was caused by the transcendent monster’s tentacles which released poison powerful enough to burn him to a crisp. If Leng Yuexin and the rest were injured, they may be poisoned in a similar way...” he thought. Seeing the dead body, Lin Huang knew that if Leng Yuexin was poisoned, she would not have long to live. He had to find her as soon as possible or his mission would fail once she was dead.

Time passed quickly. Half an hour later, Lin Huang finally found Leng Yuexin lying by the underground river. He panicked when he saw her but since there was no notification from Xiao Hei, he was relieved as that meant Leng Yuexin was still alive. Lin Huang then walked to the riverside and saw Leng Yuexin’s face. Her face and most of the skin on her hands were black. Only half of her fingers remained unharmed. She was unconscious when Lin Huang approached her. If she remained in this condition, she would die very soon.

“She made it to the underground river. As long as she followed the river against the flow, she would have been able to make it to the entrance. It shouldn’t have been a problem for her to swim her way out of this place,” Lin Huang concluded. However, Lin Huang did not see Li Yanxing and the rest. He guessed that they were either eaten by the monster or they had escaped.

“Xiao Hei, can my Healing Card act as the antidote to this poison?” Lin Huang looked at the cards that he had and hoped the Healing Card might help.

“The Healing Card can cure all diseases, including poison victims,” Xiao Hei replied.

“That’s great, use one Healing Card on her,” he instructed. Although it was a waste that Lin Huang had to use his card on her, he had to. If he did not do that, he would lose two Monster Cards.

“Are you sure you want to use your Healing Card on somebody else?”

“Confirmed!” Lin Huang nodded.

“Please identify the user.”

“Leng Yuexin,” Lin Huang pointed at Leng Yuexin.

“One Healing Card has been used, healing in progress...”

As Xiao Hei's notification popped up, a white glow shot out of Lin Huang into Leng Yuexin's body. Soon, there was a dim white glow enveloping her body. Lin Huang stood aside and mumbled to himself, "It wasn't easy to find you here and now I've to use my Healing Card on you. You don't need to repay me but I would appreciate it if you bring me back to Carefree City and help me complete my mission."

Seeing the black fade from Leng Yuexin's face, Lin Huang did not want to stay at his present location. He hid behind the wall not far away while he waited for Leng Yuexin to wake up from her knocked-out state. Soon, the poison in Leng Yuexin's body was completely cleared and she woke up, dazed from the sights around her.

"Eh?" Leng Yuexin opened her eyes and sat up in confusion. She looked at her arms that were not black anymore and looked at her reflection in the water, her face was normal again.

"What happened? I thought I was poisoned?" Leng Yuexin frowned, she seemed to be contemplating on ways the poison in her body could have faded on its own. Lin Huang who was hiding was worried. Fortunately, Leng Yuexin did not dwell upon it. She quickly stood up and patted the soil from her body away and ran against the river's flow. Lin Huang held his breath while he followed behind her, passing through wall after wall.

When they were near the entrance, Leng Yuexin suddenly stopped. Lin Huang saw there was a person lying on the ground not far away, and from the attire, it seemed like Li Yanxing.

"Brother Li!" Leng Yuexin shouted and ran towards him. Lin Huang frowned as he did not like Li Yanxing. He left the monster's carcass for him earlier and attempted to kill him. To him, this guy was someone that was always up to no good. However, since Li Yanxing managed to make it here, he was not as heavily poisoned as Leng Yuexin was.

As expected, Li Yanxing was still conscious. Seeing Leng Yuexin coming towards him, he shouted to her immediately, "Save me..."

Although his voice was weak, he still managed to stay awake.

"Brother Li, I will carry you out of this place!" Leng Yuexin attempted to carry him.

"I don't have much time... I need the antidote..." Noticing that the poison in Leng Yuexin's body had faded, Li Yanxing thought she had the antidote so he asked her for it.

"I don't have the antidote, I have no idea how I was cured," Leng Yuexin told him. She did not know how to explain.

"Then... Help me replace my blood... In my current condition, I'd never make it to the ground above..." Li Yanxing begged.

"Blood replacement..." Leng Yuexin hesitated. She did not want Li Yanxing to die here so she agreed to do it.

Lin Huang who was watching from a distance was frowning. He knew what a blood replacement was. It meant Li Yanxing would release the poisonous blood in his body and needed somebody else to replace a part of the lost blood. This would usually happen between family and close friends but not others. For Li

Yanxing to ask for such favor, he was totally crossing the line. Li Yanxing knew Leng Yuexin very well and knew well that she would not say no, that was why he dared to request such a favor.

“Please help me...” Li Yanxing said to Leng Yuexin.

“Okay,” Leng Yuexin nodded. A dagger appeared on her palm and she cut open the artery along his wrist. The black, poisonous blood flowed out fast along with an unpleasant stench. Leng Yuexin then cut open the artery in her wrist and fresh blood spouted out of the wound.

She then performed a hand seal and a moment later, her blood was like a thick thread connected to the wound on Li Yanxing’s wrist. Leng Yuexin’s blood was being transferred into him and his black blood stopped flowing.

“Why would Li Yanxing request something like this? This is just a temporary solution, the poison in his body would only be diluted but not completely cleared. Even if he manages to get out of this cave, he would only live for another couple of hours. There’s no way that he would be able to get to Carefree City in time, unless...” Lin Huang knew the reason for the blood replacement. “Unless he cleared out all the poisonous blood in his body but... That would mean he would need all the blood of another person in exchange...”

He sensed that something was wrong. As time passed, Leng Yuexin started to look pale, she had replaced a third of her blood to Li Yanxing.

“Brother Li, I need to stop now.”

“Okay, that’s enough,” Li Yanxing nodded.

Just as Leng Yuexin was going to perform the hand seal to disconnect the blood transfer, Li Yanxing glared straight at her and pierced through her chest with a short knife he had in his wounded right hand that came out of nowhere.

Lin Huang who was watching from the back did not even have the time to react as it happened so fast. It was worse for Leng Yuexin. She looked at Li Yanxing in shock, “Brother Li...”

“Silly girl, if you don’t transfer all your blood to me, how would I clear the poison in my body? If I only get to dilute a third of the poison, I would never make it to Carefree City. So, you’ll need to sacrifice yourself...” Li Yanxing smiled, devilishly.

Chapter 80: Killing Li Yanxing

Everything happened so fast. Although Lin Huang figured Li Yanxing was up to no good, he did not expect him to take Leng Yuexin’s life right away.

“You... Bastard...” Leng Yuexin’s chest was pierced straight through by Li Yanxing’s knife. She said that as she spat blood, not expecting Li Yanxing to be such a horrible person.

Lin Huang panicked as he watched the scene transpire from a distance. If Leng Yuexin died, that would mean his mission had failed. Not only would he not obtain the two mission reward cards but he would also lose two of his Monster Cards. He would be at a great loss if Leng Yuexin died.

“Bai, Charcoal, let’s kill him!” Lin Huang shouted and summoned both his monsters.

Although Li Yanxing was poisoned and his body was weak, he was a Gold Hunter and almost a transcendent after all. Lin Huang knew he was not to be underestimated so he summoned his strongest monsters.

Lin Huang then returned to his own body from his spectral form and took out his BlackEagle33. He morphed his gun to a sniper and aimed at Li Yanxing’s left eye. Fortunately, the underground river was spacious and allowed Charcoal’s full form to show. It flapped its wing and flew to the top of the cave and spat black fire at Li Yanxing. The *Black Dragon Flame* did not cover much ground, it was more like a focused jet of water directed towards Li Yanxing.

At the same time, Bai attacked from 10 meters away. His crimson gold *Blood Power* wings turned into a pair of sharp blades that plunged towards Li Yanxing.

Lin Huang who was standing 10 meters away channeled all his Iron Life Power. A Life Power bullet was formed in his gun chamber and he then pulled the trigger. The Iron Life Power bullet shot forward. It was a laser beam that shot at Li Yanxing’s left eye, creating sparks in the air. Facing various attacks that were coming for him, Li Yanxing was stunned. He did not expect Lin Huang to appear out of nowhere with his two bronze-level monsters. Even if that had happened on a normal day, he knew he was in trouble as Lin Huang was also an Imperial Censor, Lin Huang and his two bronze-level monsters were nothing to him at full health and power. However, he was poisoned and had exhausted all the Life Power in his body to kill Leng Yuexin. As a Gold Hunter, his physique was strong, but without Life Power, he could not use any of his defensive skills at all. No matter how powerful he was, he could not defend against attacks from the two bronze-level monsters. Furthermore, he was also targeted and shot at with a BlackEagle33 that was almost a bronze-level weapon.

Many Gold Hunters from the Hunter Association were killed by higher level monster hordes each year. Usually, there would only be iron-level and bronze-levels monsters as there were hardly any silver-level monsters. Those Gold Hunters who died were usually killed because they exhausted their Life Power, preventing them from being able to defend themselves against monster attacks with their physical body.

The triple attacks from Lin Huang were almost upon him and he was helpless. To save himself, he had to let go of Leng Yuexin. Although his Life Power was exhausted, his body was still agile. He took a step back and he was already a few meters away, enough for him to get out of the attack area of Charcoal’s dragon flame. Bai’s blades were coming at him like tarsal bone maggots, but Li Yanxing did a backflip and avoided that fatal attack. Just then, the Life Power bullet grew close. He slammed his palm against the ground to somersault up in the air and avoided the bullet.

The blood replacement was interrupted. After he avoided the attacks from Lin Huang and his monsters, he stood firmly on the ground and stared a deathly stare, shouting, “Hey! Do you want to die!?”

“It’s you who’s asking for it!” Lin Huang shouted back, “Bai, don’t let him escape!”

Bai knew what Lin Huang wanted. His *Blood Power* blades transformed into long whips and he attempted to strangle Li Yanxing. Even though his Life Power was exhausted, with his strong body, he was surprisingly agile. Lin Huang could not do anything to him. Lin Huang knew very well that the most

effective way to tackle people like him was to tie them up so that he would not be able to escape from his attacks.

Seeing the long whips coming for him, Li Yanxing was shocked. If he was to be tied up by the vampire, it would take mere seconds for Lin Huang and his monsters to kill him. The reason he did not run away in the first place was because he was unwilling to give up the blood replacement from Leng Yuexin. However, now that he saw the vampire activating his combat mode, he needed to escape. On the other hand, Leng Yuexin had passed out due to major blood loss and there was nothing more he could get from her.

Lin Huang frowned and morphed his BlackEagle33 to a black pistol while he walked towards Leng Yuexin. Seeing Lin Huang getting close to Leng Yuexin and himself, Li Yanxing who was attempting to run, grinned. If Lin Huang was close to him, he could strike a fatal attack. If an Imperial Censor was dead, his monsters would automatically lose control and possibly fight each other. During the chaos, he could run away together with Leng Yuexin and finish the process elsewhere. So he gave up on his plan to run and waited patiently for Lin Huang to approach him.

With his gun, Lin Huang moved closer to Leng Yuexin and Li Yanxing. Just when he arrived next to Leng Yuexin and attempted to carry her, Li Yanxing made his move and attacked. He took a few steps towards Lin Huang, his body became strange, like a slithering. A deep crevasse was created between Charcoal and Bai. Soon, he stood in front of Lin Huang. He did not hesitate for a moment as he transformed his hand into a blade and aimed it at the back of Lin Huang's neck. Even without Life Power, his gold-level ability would make that attack a fatal strike.

Just when the blade reached Lin Huang's neck, a pair of crimson gold wings grew out of Lin Huang's back. Li Yanxing froze with shock, and one of Lin Huang's wings transformed into a blade and pierced through Li Yanxing's chest. When Lin Huang looked up, Li Yanxing saw a vampire with red eyes and silver hair stare up at him.

"Do you really think I am here to save her? Seems like you're not as smart as you thought," Lin Huang said, his bloodshot eyes wide open. "I knew you would attempt to run so I used myself as a bait for you to come closer," he continued.

"You... are a vampire..." Li Yanxing said as he spat blood. He did not expect things to be like this. He totally underestimated this little guy.

"Sorry, you're wrong. I'm human," Lin Huang said with a sinister smile.

"Now, you can rest in peace..."

The other wing on Lin Huang's back transformed into a lively crimson gold giant python. It strangled Li Yanxing's body and made its way all the way up to his head. When it reached his eyes, the snake's head transformed into a sharp prick and pierced through his left eyeball through to the back of his head.

Instantly, Li Yanxing was dead.

"Ding!"

"You have performed a cross-ranking kill by killing a gold-level human. You've obtained the rare skill cards *Thunder Sword* and *Cloud Steps*," Xiao Hei informed him.

“I can get skills from killing people?!” Lin Huang was stunned when he heard the notification.

The two cards were turned into light spheres that moved from Li Yanxing’s dead body and dissolved into Lin Huang’s chest. Lin Huang searched Li Yanxing corpse but he could not find anything. He guessed that all his equipment would probably be stored in his ring but since he was dead, his ring was sealed. Lin Huang then chopped off his finger to retrieve his ring and kept it in his storage space. The reason he wanted the ring was to prevent anyone from activating the ring to find any evidence should his dead body ever be found. After using Charcoal’s dragon flame to incinerate Li Yanxing’s dead body, Lin Huang dumped his body in the underground river and went to check up on Leng Yuexin.